

empowered daily

THE DAILY DEVOTIONAL
FOR LIVING WITH
CERTAINTY & INTENSITY

*"Have not I written to thee excellent things
in counsels and knowledge, That I might
make thee know the certainty of the words
of truth; that thou mightest answer the
words of truth to them that send unto thee?"*

- Proverbs 22:20-21

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Keys for other translations used:

TPT The Passion Translation (TPT)

YLT Young’s Literal Translation

AMP The Amplified Bible

EXB The Expanded Bible

ISV International Standard Version

NKJV New King James Version

NIV New International Version

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 1

Another Happy New Year



It's a new year and the call of hope is in the air. Everyone is hoping that this year will be filled with good things, even better than the years before. Man is a creature of hope: a creation sent into the world to make the future brighter than the past.

Adam was sent into a world that needed to be replenished. That's why God told them, "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion..."

Under this mandate, man moved into the earth and into each new year he had in front of him. We salute each other yearly at this season with, "Happy New Year!" It conveys our best wishes for the other person and more so our hope for ourselves. Of course, you would not wish your neighbour well and yourself ill.

Yet the world's hope is anchored in weak and fleeting things. These will motivate them and become their goal. The Christian's hope is secure and unshakable. And this is our blessedness. As it is written, "Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is."

The Lord Jesus is our hope. A more unshakeable hope none can find! Your new year has this secure promise of being truly happy. You have nothing to be worried about.

Happy New Year!

SCRIPTURE READING: JEREMIAH 17:7-8

BLESSED IS THE MAN THAT TRUSTETH IN THE LORD, AND WHOSE HOPE THE LORD IS. FOR HE SHALL BE AS A TREE PLANTED BY THE WATERS, AND THAT SPREADETH OUT HER ROOTS BY THE RIVER, AND SHALL NOT SEE WHEN HEAT COMETH, BUT HER LEAF SHALL BE GREEN; AND SHALL NOT BE CAREFUL IN THE YEAR OF DROUGHT, NEITHER SHALL CEASE FROM YIELDING FRUIT.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2

One Year



The new year offers you another opportunity to grow in spirit, character and purpose: an opportunity to continue the unfolding of your destiny and the securing of your eternal reward. Man is an economic creature who is inherently always looking to gain something even if it is the next meal, a new experience, fulfillment or some kind of wealth. The world has much to gain although of little true value. The Lord Jesus said, “For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”

At the end many of the greatest gainers in this world, lose their own souls. They have their priorities mixed up. However, you O child of God, is not like that. You have your Priority and His name is Jesus. You are living to gain Jesus in this new year. A certain man of God has a famous saying, “One life for Jesus is all you have.” It is a true saying, worthy of all acceptance.

This year for Jesus is what you now have immediately in front of you. You are living it to please Him. You are living it to fulfil His milestones for you. You are walking by faith. You are walking in the Spirit.

You are pursuing the first thing. By the faith of God you are capturing this year’s prize in its fullness. Are you fired up for it?

SCRIPTURE READING: PHILIPPIANS 3:12

NOT AS THOUGH I HAD ALREADY ATTAINED, EITHER WERE ALREADY PERFECT: BUT I FOLLOW AFTER, IF THAT I MAY APPREHEND THAT FOR WHICH ALSO I AM APPREHENDED OF CHRIST JESUS.



SATURDAY, JANUARY 3

The Right Foundation



Jesus taught that we should build our lives upon His words by hearing and doing these. That is the only sound foundation.

However, men do not obey God's words because there is no need in their minds. They checked and they already have foundations and don't see a need for any more foundation work.

Every good building inspector should notice that there are weak points in their foundation. Many people built their lives on weak thoughts and beliefs. The apostle Paul calls these fables, old wives tales and weak arguments. These are often taught by parents to their children. They themselves have in turn inherited these weak reasonings from their own parents. It then becomes the generally accepted material on which every generation will build.

Decide today that you will break the tradition and build only on the truths of God's word. Believing and acting on God's word only. Your foundation stone will never be broken. He is the Rock of Ages. Jesus Christ the Living Stone.

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 7:24-25

THEREFORE WHOSEVER HEARETH THESE SAYINGS OF MINE, AND DOETH THEM, I WILL LIKEN HIM UNTO A WISE MAN, WHICH BUILT HIS HOUSE UPON A ROCK AND THE RAIN DESCENDED, AND THE FLOODS CAME, AND THE WINDS BLEW, AND BEAT UPON THAT HOUSE; AND IT FELL NOT: FOR IT WAS FOUNDED UPON A ROCK.



Our Children And Theirs



Get a vision for your generation. More specifically, get God's vision for your generation and the next.

God is a multi-generational God. He is the One Who was, is and is to come. He identified Himself as the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The grandfather, father and son worshiped the same God. The faith was passed on from generation to generation.

Today, few can say that. Maybe you are a first generation christian? Your grandparents or parents may not have been Blood-washed, Spirit-filled, miracle-working, wonder-performing, demon-ousting, prophesying, culture-changing Christians: maybe you are the first one. This seems to be a common trend.

Our children and theirs depend on us to be the holy torchbearers of our generation and to pass this torch successfully onto them.

Decide to be that torchbearer.

SCRIPTURE READING: HABAKKUK 2:2

AND THE LORD ANSWERED ME, AND SAID, WRITE THE VISION, AND MAKE IT PLAIN UPON TABLES, THAT HE MAY RUN THAT READETH IT..

Not Without Vision



The Lord asked Jeremiah, "... Jeremiah, what seest thou?" What you see is important. The scripture says, "...Where there is no vision, the people perish..."

Vision is an imperative. The absence of vision is the region of failure and destruction. Everyone wishes to succeed this new year. Nobody plans to fail. To avoid failure, we must see clearly. We thus need prophetic vision: that prophetic picture and outline of our future.

The Lord Jesus lived, stimulated by prophetic vision. He lived with purpose and prophetic foresight.

We too, should not live without foresight but with a clear perception of the path that lays ahead. The Holy Spirit came for this purpose, to lead you into tomorrow. As the Lord Jesus said that He would, "...he will shew you things to come."

Today, make the decision not to live without a clear perception of this week, this month and this year. Provoke your soul to demand of the Holy Spirit, to illuminate your mind with spiritual perceptions about tomorrow.

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 16:13

HOWBEIT WHEN HE, THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH, IS COME, HE WILL GUIDE YOU INTO ALL TRUTH: FOR HE SHALL NOT SPEAK OF HIMSELF; BUT WHATSOEVER HE SHALL HEAR, THAT SHALL HE SPEAK: AND HE WILL SHEW YOU THINGS TO COME.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

The Secret Of The Beginning!



You have been appointed to be on earth for a time and year such as this. Now, here you are: at the beginning of 2026.

For some people, what follows the beginning is uncertain. They have no guarantee of a happy outcome for this new year.

However, the secret of the beginning is no secret. The scripture says, “In the beginning God...” There it is! The rich secret of your new beginning.

Let this beginning of yours follow the same divine script from the ancient manuscript. Do this and your happy new year is guaranteed.

If God is in the beginning, He will be in the venture throughout.

So may the story of your new year go something like this, “In the beginning of 2026, God...”

SCRIPTURE READING: GENESIS 1:1
IN THE BEGINNING GOD CREATED THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

God's Secret



Recently we said that the beginning has a rich secret. And that the secret is God. As the scripture says, “In the beginning, God...” God is the open secret of the beginning. Yet God had His own secret in the beginning. That secret was His sacred possession and He would rely on it. Do you know what God's secret was?

The secret was wisdom. It is written, “The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth: While as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world.”

God possessed wisdom at the beginning of His venture. He had a firm grasp on wisdom. Before you plan your way, get a firm grasp on the wisdom needed for your way. God set up wisdom first. So should you setup wisdom before you setup your business. Before God brought forth anything, He brought forth wisdom. So should you. Before God settled the mountains or made the earth or its contents, He ensured that wisdom was present with Him first.

As a child of God, imitate Him this year. Secure wisdom first before you make any move. Do you get this?

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 4: 7

WISDOM IS THE PRINCIPAL THING; THEREFORE GET WISDOM: AND WITH ALL THY GETTING GET UNDERSTANDING.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

Use Wisdom



We mentioned yesterday, that wisdom was God's secret. He secured wisdom before He made any move. Wisdom was both the witness and instrument by which God did and made everything. Wisdom testifies this, as it is written, "When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth: When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep: When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth: Then I was by him, as one brought up with him: and I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him; Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth; and my delights were with the sons of men. Now therefore hearken unto me, O ye children: for blessed are they that keep my ways. Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not."

Wisdom instructs those who rejoices in the same. Can you see how, by wisdom, God laid the foundation of the heavens, earth and everything that was created, even you and I? Everything was perfectly planned and executed by using wisdom. Use wisdom for everything. Never make a move or plan without wisdom and its guidance. Wisdom was God's daily delight. It should be your daily delight too: be glad and shout when wisdom is around you. Don't refuse wisdom. Use wisdom! It will bring you great delight and show you what to do and how to do it. Your way will be blessed as you keep to his instructions and ways for your life.

Child of God, this year make sure that you possess, delight, rejoice and hearken to wisdom. Do not refuse wisdom. This year is the year to, above all, use wisdom.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 8:27-33

WHEN HE PREPARED THE HEAVENS, I WAS THERE: WHEN HE SET A COMPASS UPON THE FACE OF THE DEPTH: WHEN HE ESTABLISHED THE CLOUDS ABOVE: WHEN HE STRENGTHENED THE FOUNTAINS OF THE DEEP: WHEN HE GAVE TO THE SEA HIS DECREE, THAT THE WATERS SHOULD NOT PASS HIS COMMANDMENT: WHEN HE APPOINTED THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE EARTH: THEN I WAS BY HIM, AS ONE BROUGHT UP WITH HIM: AND I WAS DAILY HIS DELIGHT, REJOICING ALWAYS BEFORE HIM; REJOICING IN THE HABITABLE PART OF HIS EARTH; AND MY DELIGHTS WERE WITH THE SONS OF MEN. NOW THEREFORE HEARKEN UNTO ME, O YE CHILDREN: FOR BLESSED ARE THEY THAT KEEP MY WAYS. HEAR INSTRUCTION, AND BE WISE, AND REFUSE IT NOT.



FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

Exercise Righteousness



We are not talking about self-righteousness which is produced by works and is actually just vanity and of zero value in the spiritual realm. The righteousness which we speak of was imputed to the human spirit when we, through the spirit of faith, confessed Jesus Christ Lord.

This rightness within, is the place from which dominion is exercised. It is this rightness that gives us boldness before the throne of God and before the gates of hell. It is because of this rightness that we can petition heaven and command hell. Therefore, it is written that “the righteous are as bold as a lion but the wicked flee when no one is chasing them.” This is a spiritual truth often overlooked: wicked spirits flee before righteousness.

This is the moment to put the wicked to flight and dominate the powers of darkness in your sphere of influence. Christ was made sin that you might be made the righteousness of God in Him. Begin to live out that righteousness in your words and actions.

Today, awake to righteousness and disbelief no more. The devil must know it and the world needs you to show it.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 28:1
THE WICKED FLEE WHEN NO MAN PURSUETH: BUT THE RIGHTEOUS ARE BOLD AS A LION.



Sound Speech



We are told in the Epistle to Titus to show “sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of us.”

This is especially of importance in the marketplace and in our communities.

A lack of sound speech on the part of the Christian is an opportunity for others to speak evil of us.

What many Christians mistakenly call persecution in the work place, is merely a reaction to corrupt speech uttered by the Christian?

Remember, someone is always listening to you. So always release sound speech through your mouth. Through this God is glorified and the hearer edified.

Just as Jesus taught us in the gospels, a sound heart always brings forth sound speech.

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 5:16

LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE BEFORE MEN, THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD WORKS, AND GLORIFY YOUR FATHER WHICH IS IN HEAVEN.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

Avoid The Foolish



Avoiding the foolish is one way to help secure your future.

Scripture tells us, “...a companion of fools will be destroyed.” What “a more sure word of prophecy” that is. Avoid fools.

Furthermore, the Apostle Paul, told his spiritual sons, Timothy and Titus to avoid foolish questions because it is unprofitable, vain and stirs up strife. And off course, you know from the New Testament scripture that strife is accompanied by confusion and every kind of evil [evil spirit/thing/practice].

All this brought on by foolish questions. It is therefore wisdom to vehemently avoid foolish people and [their] foolish questions.

Start today and have a “foolish free” day.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 13:20
HE THAT WALKETH WITH WISE MEN SHALL BE WISE: BUT A COMPANION OF FOOLS SHALL BE DESTROYED.



Words Of The Wise



Solomon said, “The words of the wise are as goads, and as nails fastened by the masters of assemblies, which are given from one shepherd. And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh.”

What was he saying? The words of the wise are like nails firmly fixed in masterful array, by a master craftsman: nails provided by one shepherd. These words of the wise are certain in their outcome and although given at different times and in diverse sayings, are perfectly arrayed to form a single clear structure, put together by a master assembler and by the commission of a single shepherd.

In other words, Jesus, the Great Shepherd, will provide an array of wise sayings to be given to you at diverse times. These sayings, when fastened into your heart and way of life, will form a single array to support the structure of your life’s purpose and destiny. It may look random at first, but with closer inspection and most definitely in retrospect, will prove to be the work of the master assembler, the Holy Spirit. The wise will continue to coin their wise sayings but your study and pursuit of the same may weary you, but the fruits are worth every bit of it.

Importantly note that your purpose and destiny will be undergirded and secured by wise sayings. As it is written, “Every purpose is established by counsel...” Are the words of the wise finding your heart and life?

SCRIPTURE READING: ECCLESIASTES 12:11-12

THE WORDS OF THE WISE ARE AS GOADS, AND AS NAILS FASTENED BY THE MASTERS OF ASSEMBLIES, WHICH ARE GIVEN FROM ONE SHEPHERD. AND FURTHER, BY THESE, MY SON, BE ADMONISHED: OF MAKING MANY BOOKS THERE IS NO END; AND MUCH STUDY IS A WEARINESS OF THE FLESH.



TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

Be The Wise One



It is written, “And moreover, because the preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yea, he gave good heed, and sought out, and set in order many proverbs. The preacher sought to find out acceptable words: and that which was written was upright, even words of truth.”

The scripture says that because the preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge. Wise people teach other people knowledge. As a parent, you should not defer to a school teacher to teach your child. A wise parent should take it upon themselves to teach their own child knowledge. A wise husband, mother, boss and the like does the same.

To be able to do that you must:

Take good heed. The ability to have an ear to hear is vital.

Seek out acceptable words. You must be a miner and collector of acceptable words.

Set the sayings in order. You may not hear the sayings in order but to use these in building and ordering a life, it must first be set in order.

Recognize that acceptable words are upright words: it will avoid the formation of a crooked and tottering life.

The words of truth are the acceptable words. These are words which outcomes are guaranteed: the words of the wise.

From today be the wise one and teach people knowledge by spreading the words of truth.

SCRIPTURE READING: ECCLESIASTES 12:9-10

AND MOREOVER, BECAUSE THE PREACHER WAS WISE, HE STILL TAUGHT THE PEOPLE KNOWLEDGE; YEA, HE GAVE GOOD HEED, AND SOUGHT OUT, AND SET IN ORDER MANY PROVERBS. THE PREACHER SOUGHT TO FIND OUT ACCEPTABLE WORDS: AND THAT WHICH WAS WRITTEN WAS UPRIGHT, EVEN WORDS OF TRUTH.



Turning Hopeless Situations



As Christians we have to learn how to turn hopeless situations around. The Lord sent His servant, the prophet Isaiah, to tell Hezekiah to set His house in order for he is about to die. Hezekiah did not argue with the prophet but turned his face to the wall and engaged the God of the prophet.

He gave God strong reasons why he should live and not die.

The Lord was persuaded and before the prophet Isaiah could leave the courts of the palace, he received instruction from the Lord to turn back and deliver a new word of fifteen more years. The prayer of Hezekiah fascinates us. It is so short, yet so potent. What a mystery! Spiritual champions are able to change spiritual matters like this. Bringing forth spiritual utterances and arguments that provokes the Holy Lord to act for them.

Today, begin to pray like a spiritual champion with the help of the Holy Spirit. Every dire and confusing situation will change as you enter the Throne Room on your knees. And of that we are certain of for the eyes of the Lord is on the righteous and His ears open to their prayers: their effectual fervent prayer will without fail avail much. Now go ahead and pray!

SCRIPTURE READING: JAMES 5:16

CONFESS YOUR FAULTS ONE TO ANOTHER, AND PRAY ONE FOR ANOTHER, THAT YE MAY BE HEALED. THE EFFECTUAL FERVENT PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN AVAILETH MUCH.



Don't Assume. Ask for Wisdom



Why did Hezekiah miss interpret the proverbs of Solomon? Why armed with such knowledge and spiritual weapons, did the man fail to use it effectively?

He lacked the discernment needed to benefit from the proverbs of Solomon. He thought the Babylon emissaries was coming to refresh his soul with the well wishes. They would later return to bring hell.

Unfortunately Hezekiah lacked the insight that Solomon prayed for and received. This prohibited him from accurately applying the wisdom.

Hezekiah upon reading the Proverbs of Solomon should have prayed for the wisdom of Solomon. May that be a lesson for all of us.

Wisdom without inspiration lacks activation. It remains paralyzed knowledge. You need the breathing of God to make wisdom come alive in you.

Dear brother and sister, do not just read the Book. Pray to the God of the Book to infuse you with the Spirit of the Book. Only then will you walk the Book as it walks in you!

SCRIPTURE READING: JOB 32:8
BUT THERE IS A SPIRIT IN MAN: AND THE INSPIRATION OF THE ALMIGHTY GIVETH THEM UNDERSTANDING.



Wisdom Is Transferable



King Solomon, told us “He who walks with wise men will be wise...” Here is hidden a wonderful truth: wisdom is transferable. We can thus safely deduct that there is surely impartation in association. It is also therefore wise to keep wise company! Watch your associates this Saturday. Who do

you spend time with over the weekends? Who and what is eating up your “free” time? Is it worthy of you? There is impartation in association.

Let us take this impartation truth a step further by looking at another way wisdom is transferred. Do you know that Joshua was full of the spirit of wisdom because Moses had laid his hands on him? People underestimate the laying on of hands. Carnal men no longer discern its value.

The truth is, Joshua not only served and succeeded Moses; he was empowered to lead by being filled with supernatural wisdom, through spiritual impartation. Some people on earth can impart such a grace by the laying on of their hands...if only you can find and associate with those ones.

Wisdom is transferrable. Let that truth sink into your heart.

SCRIPTURE READING: DEUTERONOMY 34:9

AND JOSHUA THE SON OF NUN WAS FULL OF THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM; FOR MOSES HAD LAID HIS HANDS UPON HIM: AND THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL HEARKENED UNTO HIM, AND DID AS THE LORD COMMANDED MOSES.



SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

Working For God



Every Christian should work for God. Many work for money. Others work for a brighter future. Others work for self-fulfillment or self-esteem. Some work just to keep busy. How many actually work for God? We are not talking about being a pastor or a preacher.

We talking about the motive, the motivation, the way the effects and the quality of the output. Are these in, with and for God? Work is the means of how the energy, supplied by God, is expressed creatively and productively, for His glory.

All work should be unto God. As it is written, “From Him are all things and for Him are all things.” And again, “Whatever may be your task, work at it heartily (from the soul), as [something done] for the Lord and not for men.”
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Peter said, “That we must show forth God’s “arete.” This means God’s excellence, virtues, moral excellencies and goodness.

This week, in all your work, show God’s “arete.”

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 PETER 2:9

BUT YE ARE A CHOSEN GENERATION, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, AN HOLY NATION, A PECULIAR PEOPLE; THAT YE SHOULD SHEW FORTH THE PRAISES OF HIM WHO HATH CALLED YOU OUT OF DARKNESS INTO HIS MARVELLOUS LIGHT;



Pearl Of Great Price



Jesus spoke of pearls and the pearl of great price. These were His words, “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.” He likened the kingdom of heaven to a man seeking and collecting valuable pearls, until he one day found the pearl of great price. To purchase the pearl which had such a great price, he had to sell all his other pearls.

What are you willing to pay to walk in the deep things of the kingdom of heaven? The realms of God is of great price. There are no discounts and no specials. The price remains the same throughout the ages.

The things of God will cost you everything. Jesus said, “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.” Peter and his friends paid that price. The scripture records Peter’s words to the Lord Jesus, “Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee...”

What price are you willing to pay, to follow Jesus all the way? Are you willing to pay that much? After all, it is called the pearl of great price.

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 13:45-46

AGAIN, THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE UNTO A MERCHANT MAN, SEEKING GOODLY PEARLS: WHO, WHEN HE HAD FOUND ONE PEARL OF GREAT PRICE, WENT AND SOLD ALL THAT HE HAD, AND BOUGHT IT.



MONDAY, JANUARY 19

Guard Those Pearls



Jesus said, “Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.” What a strong command! It sounds hard core.

However, King Hezekiah made that mistake and was also rebuked by Isaiah, the prophet. It is recorded, “At that time Merodachbaladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah: for he had heard that he had been sick, and was recovered. And Hezekiah was glad of them, and shewed them the house of his precious things, the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the precious ointment, and all the house of his armour, and all that was found in his treasures: there was nothing in his house, nor in all his dominion, that Hezekiah shewed them not. Then came Isaiah the prophet unto king Hezekiah, and said unto him....Hear the word of the LORD of hosts: Behold, the days come, that all that is in thine house, and that which thy fathers have laid up in store until this day, shall be carried to Babylon: nothing shall be left, saith the LORD. And of thy sons that shall issue from thee, which thou shalt beget, shall they take away; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.”

Hezekiah disproportionately responded to the kind gestures and friendliness. He exposed generational treasures to these strangers. And with that inadvertently sacrificed his children’s future and security. They would later become slaves in the stranger’s land. Some people are not worthy of your precious God-endowed secrets. The king of Babylonian surely was not.

Don’t make the same mistake. Don’t sacrifice your future. Whatever your treasure may be, guard those pearls.

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 7:6

GIVE NOT THAT WHICH IS HOLY UNTO THE DOGS, NEITHER CAST YE YOUR PEARLS BEFORE SWINE, LEST THEY TRAMPLE THEM UNDER THEIR FEET, AND TURN AGAIN AND REND YOU.



The Wise Investment



The world is in crisis and the losses of the multitude will increase. Financial storms are about to dominate the news media and this will cause further upheaval.

During these times, financial advice will be in abundance. They will tell you to hedge your risks, to shift your wealth into this precious metal and that one, etc. Some of this advice is sound and needed. Business Journalist will once again feel important as the crescendo of “free” financial advice explodes.

Yet, few will give you the actual investment advice that is most needed and rewarding during these times. And that is to invest in truth, to stock up on it. Truth is the rarest commodity on earth, at this time. Yes, truth is scarce. Merchants of truth have almost become extinct.

You see, gold, silver, platinum, currencies, bitcoin and the stock market may fail. Truth never does. Truth always grow in value and never expires. God defends truth. All truth is in Jesus. Jesus said, “I am the truth.” Jesus said to the Father, “Thy word is truth.”

From today, become a buyer of truth; also wisdom, instruction and understanding. It will prove to be money, time and energy well invested.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 23:23

BUY THE TRUTH, AND SELL IT NOT; ALSO WISDOM, AND INSTRUCTION, AND UNDERSTANDING.



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

A Certain Place



We want to talk to you today about the wisdom of “a certain place.” You see the Lord appeared to Jacob in a certain place. Jacob said “God was in this place...”

Jesus knew the wisdom in going to “a certain place”. Therefore it is written “And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.” And again “And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed.”

Jesus found “a certain place” Luke testifies that the disciples found Jesus praying in a “certain place” not just any place. It is there that they asked Him to teach them to pray.

What is your “certain place”? To some it is their bedroom and to others their garden etc. To Peter, it was a roof terrace. There is wisdom in having a certain place where you meet with God daily. For Adam it was the garden of Eden in the cool of the day.

A certain place helps you to regularize and maintain your daily meetings with God. In our experience, as with Jesus, it works.

SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 11:1

AND IT CAME TO PASS, THAT, AS HE WAS PRAYING IN A CERTAIN PLACE, WHEN HE CEASED, ONE OF HIS DISCIPLES SAID UNTO HIM, LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY, AS JOHN ALSO TAUGHT HIS DISCIPLES..



Quality Counsel



The following story and bible passage [1 Kings 12: 8-19], contains a powerful lesson: “But he [Rehoboam] rejected the advice which the old men had given him, and consulted the young men who had grown up with him, and who stood before him... Then King Rehoboam sent Adoram...but all Israel stoned him with stones, and he died...Therefore King Rehoboam mounted his chariot in haste to flee to Jerusalem. So Israel has been in rebellion against the house of David to this day.” The Rehoboam story is a case of peer to peer counsel gone wrong.

In life, it matters who you listen to. Reliance on peer to peer counsel is what ails this generation. We have seen too many lives and destinies derailed this way. It ain't “funny” anymore. Foolish counsel triggers the crumbling of empires. Some people think that there is strength in numbers or many voices. Not so. The strength is in God's voice. Not all counsel is equal or sure. Only the counsel of the Lord is sure and stands [forever]. To seek counsel is a wise thing but the wisdom of it pivots on whom you seek it from.

The very wise seek wise counsel from wise people. Note, that we said ‘wise’ people and not ‘clever’ people. In fact, the scriptures says that “He catches the clever people in their cleverness.” On the other hand, wise counsel is indispensable and wise counsellors even more so. Wise counsellors are a priceless gift from God: every enduring throne is surrounded by such.

From today, may the Lord favour you with wise counsel through wise counsellors.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 33:10-11

THE LORD BRINGETH THE COUNSEL OF THE HEATHEN TO NOUGHT: HE MAKETH THE DEVICES OF THE PEOPLE OF NONE EFFECT. THE COUNSEL OF THE LORD STANDETH FOR EVER, THE THOUGHTS OF HIS HEART TO ALL GENERATIONS.;



FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

The Fear Of The Lord



The importance of the fear of the Lord in provoking God to deliver by His angels. The fear of the Lord also brings wisdom. Wisdom brings abundant prosperity. But how does the fear of the Lord come?

The fear of the Lord is taught. The Lord, through Moses, commanded the fathers in Israel to teach their children to Fear the Lord, that He might preserve them in perpetuity.

We are also committed to teach our children and spiritual children the fear of the Lord. The fear of the Lord is taught.

Even wisdom teaches the fear of the Lord and defined the Fear of the Lord as follows, “The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.”

Do you desire life, love many days to experience God’s goodness in this life? Learn the fear of the Lord.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 34:11-12

COME, YE CHILDREN, HEARKEN UNTO ME: I WILL TEACH YOU THE FEAR OF THE LORD. WHAT MAN IS HE THAT DESIRETH LIFE, AND LOVETH MANY DAYS, THAT HE MAY SEE GOOD?



In Thy Youth



The Preacher said, “Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment. Therefore remove sorrow from thy heart, and put away evil from thy flesh: for childhood and youth are vanity.”

The preacher exhorts the following for the days of your youth:

Let your heart cheer you.

Walk in the ways of your heart.

Walk in the ways of your eyes.

Know that God will bring you into judgment for all of the above.

Remove sorrow from your heart.

Put away evil from your flesh.

Know that childhood and youth passes like the wind.

What the preacher was actually eluding to, is that youth is the season of life where you set the course and outcome for the rest of your life. The challenges and calamities you will face in adulthood is largely determined by the days of your youth. A man reaps what he sows. The decisions you make, the relationships you form, the things you do and the words you speak in your youth, will determine where you land later. Hearts are broken, souls scarred and destinies crushed during youth. For most people the rest of adulthood is then spent dealing with the consequences and in attempts to recover from the damage. The wise young person avoids sowing sorrow of heart and evil deeds during their youth. The wise joyfully live their youth with the rest of their lives in mind, purposely sowing seeds that will bring harvests of even greater joy later in life. Today reevaluate your path and set firm paths for the future.

SCRIPTURE READING: ECCLESIASTES 11:9

REJOICE, O YOUNG MAN, IN THY YOUTH; AND LET THY HEART CHEER THEE IN THE DAYS OF THY YOUTH, AND WALK IN THE WAYS OF THINE HEART, AND IN THE SIGHT OF THINE EYES: BUT KNOW THOU, THAT FOR ALL THESE THINGS GOD WILL BRING THEE INTO JUDGMENT. THEREFORE REMOVE SORROW FROM THY HEART, AND PUT AWAY EVIL FROM THY FLESH: FOR CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH ARE VANITY.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

Map Your Journey



Have you seen those bibles which contain the map of Paul's journeys at the back of the bible? One of the reasons why these were included, was to give us an overview or snapshot of Paul's path from start to finish. In other words, his point of departure and destination. We are given a similar picture of Jesus in the gospels and are told that He started in Galilee and ended at the right hand of God. Have you mapped your journey? Do you have an idea of where you are going? One can map different aspects of life's journey's on such a map. This would give you a macro view of where God brought you from and where He is taking you to. It helps to understand the dots and the bleeps in between.

Paul knew that he was on a journey and said of himself, "Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Later he told Timothy, "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness..." He kept track of his journey and knew what was next. We encourage you today, to start compiling a map of your life's journey (major assignments, locations, prophecies, answers etc). Keep track of your movements in God.

SCRIPTURE READING: ECCLESIASTES 8:5-6

WHOSO KEEPETH THE COMMANDMENT SHALL FEEL NO EVIL THING: AND A WISE MAN'S HEART DISCERNETH BOTH TIME AND JUDGMENT. BECAUSE TO EVERY PURPOSE THERE IS TIME AND JUDGMENT, THEREFORE THE MISERY OF MAN IS GREAT UPON HIM.



Move Like A Lion



Solomon, the wise, described the lion as one of the four, which are comely in going. The lion moves in a certain way. The Lord likened His focus and resolve to that of a lion. Isaiah said, “For thus hath the Lord spoken unto me, Like as the lion and the young lion roaring on his prey, when a multitude of shepherds is called forth against him, he will not be afraid of their voice, nor abase himself for the noise of them: so shall the Lord of hosts come down to fight for mount Zion, and for the hill thereof.” Jesus is called the Lion of the tribe of Judah!

Why move like a lion? A lion is bold in his movement. He moves with confidence, pace and certainty. The scripture says, “The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but the righteous are bold as a lion.” Righteousness is lion-like in nature and expression. Peter tells us that even the devil tries to imitate the lion’s ways. We have news for you: know that you are more lion-like than the devil. He is no lion because he flees when you resist him, steadfast in the faith. You don’t flee.

Solomon said about the lion, “A lion...turneth not away for any.” From now on, be comely in your going. Walk with holy boldness. Be focused, certain and rhythm-ed in all you do. Move like a lion. Let your roar be heard and felt. Go well.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 30:29-30

THERE BE THREE THINGS WHICH GO WELL YEA, FOUR ARE COMELY IN GOING: A LION WHICH IS STRONGEST AMONG BEASTS, AND TURNETH NOT AWAY FOR ANY;



TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

Clay



Paul the apostle released a profound admonition, “For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence. But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.” God chooses certain categories of people to become His choicest vessels. He selects the foolish, the weak, the base, the despised and the nothing. He prefers these types of clay. They don’t have a tendency to protest against His remaking of them.

The book of Jeremiah records, “The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, Arise, and go down to the potter’s house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words. Then I went down to the potter’s house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels. And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it. Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying, O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the LORD. Behold, as the clay is in the potter’s hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel.” God wants us pliable. What cannot He do with you? He should be able to remodel you into anything. He is the potter and you are His clay. Yield to Him. Using His word, He will yet resculpt you into a master piece.

SCRIPTURE READING: JEREMIAH 18:1-6

THE WORD WHICH CAME TO JEREMIAH FROM THE LORD, SAYING, ARISE, AND GO DOWN TO THE POTTER’S HOUSE, AND THERE I WILL CAUSE THEE TO HEAR MY WORDS. THEN I WENT DOWN TO THE POTTER’S HOUSE, AND, BEHOLD, HE WROUGHT A WORK ON THE WHEELS. AND THE VESSEL THAT HE MADE OF CLAY WAS MARRED IN THE HAND OF THE POTTER: SO HE MADE IT AGAIN ANOTHER VESSEL, AS SEEMED GOOD TO THE POTTER TO MAKE IT. THEN THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO ME, SAYING, O HOUSE OF ISRAEL, CANNOT I DO WITH YOU AS THIS POTTER? SAITH THE LORD. BEHOLD, AS THE CLAY IS IN THE POTTER’S HAND, SO ARE YE IN MINE HAND, O HOUSE OF ISRAEL

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What Will You Respond?



Luke records, “And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.”

Mary receives an unexpected visit from God’s messenger and he salutes her by saying that she is highly favoured. She might not have felt highly favoured nor could see signs of favour, leading up to this visitation. Hence, she was troubled by his saying. Yet her response was wise: she responded with internal wonder. She cast it in her mind. The Greek word is ‘dialogizomai,’ which ‘means to muse, rotate and discuss within the mind.’ She had an internal dialog and responded out of that meditation. Mary responded in faith.

How many people would have questioned or resisted such a prophetic introduction? Here we recall the man who audibly doubted, Elisha’s prophecy about God breaking the back of famine in Samaria, within twenty-four hours. He never got to enjoy the feast. Mary knew how to ‘dialogizomai’ in faith. The scripture would later say that she continually kept all these sayings (‘rhema’) of Jesus in her heart. No wonder she generated such faith-filled responses.

Learn in life to ‘dialogizomai’ the ‘rhema’ of God. To be ready for the Lord’s prophetic salutations, you must muse and rotate within the mind, His word. Mary’s ultimate respond was, “Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.” What will yours be?

SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 1:28-29

AND THE ANGEL CAME IN UNTO HER, AND SAID, HAIL, THOU THAT ART HIGHLY FAVOURED, THE LORD IS WITH THEE: BLESSED ART THOU AMONG WOMEN. AND WHEN SHE SAW HIM, SHE WAS TROUBLED AT HIS SAYING, AND CAST IN HER MIND WHAT MANNER OF SALUTATION THIS SHOULD BE.



THURSDAY, JANUARY 29

Think Independently



At one time, we looked at the following account, “Now the disciples had forgotten to take bread, neither had they in the ship with them more than one loaf. And he charged them, saying, Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod. And they reasoned among themselves, saying, It is because we have no bread. And when Jesus knew it, he saith unto them, Why reason ye, because ye have no bread? perceive ye not yet, neither understand? have ye your heart yet hardened? Having eyes, see ye not? and having ears, hear ye not? and do ye not remember?”

Jesus made one statement and the disciples immediately began to apply group thinking, by reasoning among themselves. Group thinking is yoke-thinking: It equalizes. All discoveries and advancement demands an independent thinker. The Lord’s disciple, Peter, was an independent thinker. When asked, “...whom say ye that I am?” He answered, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.” He did not consult, he knew and answered. His opinion of Jesus was not formed by group thinking. He knew by revelation. He drew his own conclusion by inner knowings. How do you draw your conclusions? Consultation or revelation?

Jesus gave the very important prophecy as a result of Peter’s expressed revelation. Jesus said, “I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” Hell overcoming prophecies are not released because of group thinkers. The independent thinker is the one who will lead the prevailing.

Are you the independent thinker among your peers or just a group thinker? Think independently. It is time to seek the Lord.

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 8-14-18

NOW THE DISCIPLES HAD FORGOTTEN TO TAKE BREAD, NEITHER HAD THEY IN THE SHIP WITH THEM MORE THAN ONE LOAF. AND HE CHARGED THEM, SAYING, TAKE HEED, BEWARE OF THE LEAVEN OF THE PHARISEES, AND OF THE LEAVEN OF HEROD. AND THEY REASONED AMONG THEMSELVES, SAYING, IT IS BECAUSE WE HAVE NO BREAD. AND WHEN JESUS KNEW IT, HE SAITH UNTO THEM, WHY REASON YE, BECAUSE YE HAVE NO BREAD? PERCEIVE YE NOT YET, NEITHER UNDERSTAND? HAVE YE YOUR HEART YET HARDENED? HAVING EYES, SEE YE NOT? AND HAVING EARS, HEAR YE NOT? AND DO YE NOT REMEMBER?

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Again, Listen To Instructions



A spiritual ear is the most important working faculty you need in your walk with God. How else are you going to hear Him? Next, you need to hear and obey. The more you obey the more you will hear. This is the trend throughout scripture.

Following instructions is very important. Samuel told King Saul, “Obedience is better than sacrifice.” To obey fully, you must hear the instructions clearly. You thus have to listen carefully or attentively. Therefore God said through the prophet Isaiah, “Incline thine ear.”

The following scripture passage illustrates the importance of following instructions. The Lord interacts with Peter in the following way, “Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net. And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake”

Did you see that? Jesus instructs Peter, to let down his nets (plural) for a catch. He answers, “I will let down my net (singular).” He caught the fish but the single net almost lost him all the catch, when it began to break. Never risk losing it all by mis-following instructions. Incline your ear and follow the directives fully.

SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 5:4-6

NOW WHEN HE HAD LEFT SPEAKING, HE SAID UNTO SIMON, LAUNCH OUT INTO THE DEEP, AND LET DOWN YOUR NETS FOR A DRAUGHT. AND SIMON ANSWERING SAID UNTO HIM, MASTER, WE HAVE TOILED ALL THE NIGHT, AND HAVE TAKEN NOTHING: NEVERTHELESS AT THY WORD I WILL LET DOWN THE NET. AND WHEN THEY HAD THIS DONE, THEY INCLOSED A GREAT MULTITUDE OF FISHES: AND THEIR NET BRAKE



SATURDAY, JANUARY 31

Hear The Conclusion



After all the preacher's wise sayings, he uttered the following, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."

Solomon was recording many observations and sayings, concerning man's natural life here on earth. At the end he decided to sum up the sayings with the above statement. The whole duty of man is to "fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."

When Jesus comes, we will appear before the judgment seat of Christ. Paul put it this way, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." A man who has this outlook and vision of the future, is a truly wise man. He thus, in every he deed and saying of his, "fear God, and keep his commandments."

We, at the end of January 2026, in the same vein say. What is the conclusion of all these daily devotionals and sayings?: "Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." Do you understand this?

SCRIPTURE READING: ECCLESIASTES 12:13-14

LET US HEAR THE CONCLUSION OF THE WHOLE MATTER: FEAR GOD, AND KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS: FOR THIS IS THE WHOLE DUTY OF MAN. FOR GOD SHALL BRING EVERY WORK INTO JUDGMENT, WITH EVERY SECRET THING, WHETHER IT BE GOOD, OR WHETHER IT BE EVIL.

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Expect the Unexpected



A key in moving with God into the new is not to expect the same. We must train ourselves to expect the unexpected. We all know a new month dawns. However, few know what it holds in its fullness. In other words, few know what each day of the new month will have in store for us. Hence, why expect the

same ol' same ol'?

Expect something fresh. The Lord enjoys foretelling the future to create expectation for His 'suddenlies' and gives us the opportunity to prepare and "dream" with Him.

However, the precise moment and way of the new thing no one but God exactly knows. As God explained via His prophet, "Long ago I told you what would happen [the former things]. I said these things and [they went out from my mouth and I] made them known; suddenly I acted, and these things happened."(AMP)

God likes to act suddenly and catch everyone by surprise. Be ready to be surprised...ready to experience the "suddenlies" of God.

Expect the "unexpected."

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 48:3

I HAVE DECLARED THE FORMER THINGS FROM THE BEGINNING; AND THEY WENT FORTH OUT OF MY MOUTH, AND I SHEWED THEM; I DID THEM SUDDENLY, AND THEY CAME TO PASS.



You Are Free



Freedom is a precious gift and grace afforded to us of our Father. Nothing is as precious as a soul free from the entanglements of their world and its ways.

There is a promise of a higher life for humanity. A life free from sin. Free from the slavery of the law.

A new life is on offer to every man. This new life is an “in-breathed” life, a life energized with the energy of God.

This life is yours now dear brother and sister. No more waiting, it is yours now. The Holy Spirit dwells in you as a Christian. He is God’s grace and energy manifested in you. We want you to see that every prison door has already been opened.

Today, just walk out of that habit, that limiting situation, that condemnation. Look to Jesus. He that the Son has set free is free indeed.

SCRIPTURE READING: ROMANS 8:21

BECAUSE THE CREATURE ITSELF ALSO SHALL BE DELIVERED FROM THE BONDAGE OF CORRUPTION INTO THE GLORIOUS LIBERTY OF THE CHILDREN OF GOD.



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Be Not Entangled Again



The bible tells us that we are children of the free. There is a glorious liberty we have been bought into. Freedom that is tangible. An evidenced freedom. This type of freedom should never be surrendered. How is it possible for one to give something like this up?

Men begin to falter when they begin to take for granted their freedoms and begin to compromise its values, its truisms. We see it in society where many societies are giving into threats and manipulations and compromising its hard fought freedoms.

Take free speech, it is being redefined and ancient boundaries or landmarks being removed. New ideas are telling men that the right to express biblical views is hate speech. Whereas speaking against the Bible is considered freedom of speech, and these kinds of acts should be protected. Jesus earned your freedom to walk free from sin, bondage and the tyranny of satan and the world. For purposes of manifesting and enjoying your liberty, He gave you His Spirit.

Decide today, that you will always follow the promptings and directives of the Spirit of Liberty and never slip into bondage again.

SCRIPTURE READING: GALATIANS 5:1

STAND FAST THEREFORE IN THE LIBERTY WHEREWITH CHRIST HATH MADE US FREE, AND BE NOT ENTANGLED AGAIN WITH THE YOKE OF BONDAGE.



Freedom to Behold



There was a time and a generation that was not free to behold the glory of God. The ark was hidden within a thick veil and everyone who dared to breach that veil, was met with instant death.

God dwelt in thick darkness and men were not free to approach. A few men could from time to time catch a glimpse of God's beauty. Moses was such a man. For forty days and forty nights he dwelt with God on a mountain. He came out of that encounter with his face shining like that of an angel. Yet man could not look on his face without the darkness of their hearts being pierced. They were afraid.

In steps Jesus! And now we have a recreated spirit, regenerated in heaven. Now we can look upon His glory with unveiled face. All of us are now looking on God by looking at the word of Christ, through the inspiration of the Spirit of liberty.

We can now stare at God all day long and come out transformed. We have the liberty. Yes, you have the liberty! Today, enjoy the freedom. Pick up your bible and say "Come up on me Holy Spirit and show me Jesus!"

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 3:16-18

NEVERTHELESS WHEN IT SHALL TURN TO THE LORD, THE VAIL SHALL BE TAKEN AWAY. NOW THE LORD IS THAT SPIRIT: AND WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS, THERE IS LIBERTY. BUT WE ALL, WITH OPEN FACE BEHOLDING AS IN A GLASS THE GLORY OF THE LORD, ARE CHANGED INTO THE SAME IMAGE FROM GLORY TO GLORY, EVEN AS BY THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD.



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Do It Again



Do not be ashamed to do it again. Jesus was once ministering healing to a blind man. After spitting on the man's eyes and putting His hands on him, the man could only see vaguely. Jesus did not panic. He simply laid hands on him again and asked the man to look again. The man then saw clearly.

Whatever God has led you to do; it may not work out the way you expected during your first attempt. Do not be ashamed of this. Even Jesus had to do it again to get the right results the second time around.

Be inspired to do it again and again until there is a clear result.

Elijah prayed for rain seven times and we were told to consider his kind of praying and imitate him. The man failed to get an answer the first six times but he did not quit. The seventh time he received the answer he was praying for.

You are in good company: do it again.

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 8:23-25

AND HE TOOK THE BLIND MAN BY THE HAND, AND LED HIM OUT OF THE TOWN; AND WHEN HE HAD SPIT ON HIS EYES, AND PUT HIS HANDS UPON HIM, HE ASKED HIM IF HE SAW OUGHT. AND HE LOOKED UP, AND SAID, I SEE MEN AS TREES, WALKING. AFTER THAT HE PUT HIS HANDS AGAIN UPON HIS EYES, AND MADE HIM LOOK UP: AND HE WAS RESTORED, AND SAW EVERY MAN CLEARLY.



Keep Your Life: Guard Your Words



It is so important that you guard the words that come out of your mouth. By doing so, you keep your life. You shorten your life by thinking and speaking evil. You can lengthen your life by speaking the good thoughts of the heart.

The mouth utters what the heart is full of, just as the Lord Jesus said. Why not think and speak good things over your life?

When you look at yourself in the mirror, speak God's word over your life. Do not utter words contrary to God's word over your life. Even in contrary situations, do not speak what you feel.

Get His Word to come out of your mouth. Speak it out aloud! The Holy Spirit will aid you with this. You will instantly feel change when you speak God's word over yourself. Stop talking satan's deadly words and his plan of evil for your life.

The true life is in God's Word. Speak life. Start today.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 13:3

HE THAT KEEPETH HIS MOUTH KEEPETH HIS LIFE: BUT HE THAT OPENETH WIDE HIS LIPS SHALL HAVE DESTRUCTION.



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Unimaginable Famine



The bible says, “Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God...” It is written, “All things were made by Him (the Word) and without Him was not anything made that was made.” Imagine a world without this creative force, a world absent of the words of God that made it. The words of God have always been within the world and even now burns within the DNA of every living thing.

It is written, “Blessed are the ears of them that hear...” You and I are blessed to hear the words of this creator God. Yet the Spirit of the Lord said through the prophet Amos, “Behold, the days come,” saith the Lord God, “that I will send a famine... of hearing the words of the Lord.”

It is written in Psalm 107 that when His people were afflicted, “He sent His word” to deliver them, to heal them and to restore them. A period without the words of God would effectively mean a period without the divine interventions of God. A permanent global boycott by the words of God would be unimaginable.

The Lord Jesus said, “Take heed what you hear. With the same measure you use, it will be measured to you; and to you who hear, more will be given.” A famine of the words of God comes because of how men receive it in the first place. Let us today determine to treasure the words of God in our hearts. For the more we do that, the more we will receive.

SCRIPTURE READING: AMOS 8:11

BEHOLD, THE DAYS COME, SAITH THE LORD GOD, THAT I WILL SEND A FAMINE IN THE LAND, NOT A FAMINE OF BREAD, NOR A THIRST FOR WATER, BUT OF HEARING THE WORDS OF THE LORD:



God Starts Small



The bible says, “For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth.” Who have despised small things? The word, ‘despised’ there is the Hebrew word, ‘bûz’ which means ‘to hold as insignificant or show despite toward.’

God was saying, “Who hold as insignificant and show despite toward small beginnings?” The Spirit of God was already rejoicing at the small beginning. Mankind tend to discount small beginnings and hold in high esteem established things. God, on the other hand, is not so. He rejoices at the little seed sowed. Farmers hold as significant, favorable conditions for sowing. The farmer knows that the sowing of the seed is the beginning of a new season and the start of a new harvest. Likewise, your parents rejoiced at your conception. It filled their heart with expectation, for the new life that they were being mandated with.

Likewise, when God gives you a small beginning, don’t show despite towards it: It is the way of the kingdom of heaven. As it is written, “The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and cometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof.”

God is big. God starts small. Don’t despise His small beginnings in your life.

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 13:31-32

ANOTHER PARABLE PUT HE FORTH UNTO THEM, SAYING, THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE TO A GRAIN OF MUSTARD SEED, WHICH A MAN TOOK, AND SOWED IN HIS FIELD: WHICH INDEED IS THE LEAST OF ALL SEEDS; BUT WHEN IT IS GROWN, IT IS THE GREATEST AMONG HERBS, AND BECOMETH A TREE, SO THAT THE BIRDS OF THE AIR COME AND LODGE IN THE BRANCHES THEREOF.



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Enlighten My Darkness



The bible tells us that in the last days, “For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people...” Darkness is the force to be overcome in these last days. It is brought on by the god of this world. The scripture says, “In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not...”

Darkness is brought on by the devil and his cohorts. Paul calls them, “the rulers of the darkness of this world.” These demons rule the darkness. You may find yourself correcting or speaking wisdom to someone and they would say, “I simply do not see it that way.” What is happening to them? The god of this world is blinding them, so that they do not believe that you are providing an accurate assessment or sound counsel. They are under the rulership of the rulers of the darkness of this world.

This kind of state will become even more prevalent in our day, as “the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people.” What are we to do? David declared to the Lord, “For thou wilt light my candle: the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness.” He never wanted his light to go out. David always wanted to see everything God’s way. And in every situation, always find the way out to higher ground. God can light up your candle, so that you always navigate your way forward and pierce the threatening darkness.

Escape the powers of darkness today: pray and declare David’s words, “For thou wilt light my candle: the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness!”

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 18:28

FOR THOU WILT LIGHT MY CANDLE: THE LORD MY GOD WILL ENLIGHTEN MY DARKNESS.



Your True Value



We previously said, “Mis-valuing’ things is the habit of fools but accurate appraisal the skill of champions. What is value? Oxford Languages states value to first of all be, “the regard that something is held to deserve; the importance, worth, or usefulness of something.”

Men ascribe an “objective” worth to a thing, to determine its value compared to something else. Yet, true value is first of all subjective or of a personal nature. As an example, the value (expressed in \$) of one kilogram of gold is far greater than a kilogram of wood. Most would agree. Yet that kilogram of wood, may have been your great grandmother’s favourite ornament. She may have given it to you before she passed on, requesting that you treasure and take good care of it. To us that piece of wood may be worthless but to you it is priceless. In your heart it is an expression of your great grandmother’s love for you and your care of that item, your reciprocation.

This is a truth, worth appreciating. It does not matter what worth men ascribe to you. It is the value God ascribed to you and your worth in your own heart that matters. Men may mis-value and undervalue you, yet to God your redemption cost Him the suffering and death of Jesus. You are most valuable in the eyes of God. It now remains for you to fix your self worth to the price that He paid for you. Furthermore, to bless humanity, you carry a treasure trove of grace on the inside of you. It will take countless lifetimes to ascertain your true value.

When you look in the mirror today, determine that you will, from now on, begin to unleash your true value and share the rich grace that God has given you, with others.

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 4:7

BUT WE HAVE THIS TREASURE IN EARTHEN VESSELS, THAT THE EXCELLENCY OF THE POWER MAY BE OF GOD, AND NOT OF US.



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

He's Changing You



There is an old chorus which says, “He’s changing me. He’s changing me. By the power of His word, He’s changing me.” The chorus lyrics are simple and yet its truth profound. God uses His word to transform us. Apostle Paul, wrote, “...be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind...”

Why is it then that so few Christians find the bible exciting, energy generating and let alone life transforming? Many find themselves distracted when they read it and some even fall asleep, whilst reading the bible. These are common symptoms of a widespread spiritual deficiency and a root cause of innate spiritual darkness, within the souls of Christians. Why is this so? The answer is simple. We have not turned. Paul said, “...for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.”

We need to turn to the Holy Spirit again, in our private and public Christian walk. The Holy Spirit is absolutely necessary in our reading, hearing and preaching of the holy bible. His private and public ministry to us, is indispensable. We need to turn to the Holy Spirit again, when we are about to read or listen to the Word. He is the conveyor of the words and voice of God. Without Him, we will simply not get the message nor have power to live it. Paul preached and taught in demonstration of the Spirit and of power. He called himself and his colleagues, in his own words, “able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit.”

We are changed when we turn to the Spirit of the Lord in our reading, hearing and communicating of the bible. When you turn to the Holy Spirit, He will change you, by the power of His Word. The words of the bible, when quickened by the Spirit, converts the soul. Right now, He’s changing you. Do you perceive this?

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 3:16-18

NEVERTHELESS WHEN IT SHALL TURN TO THE LORD, THE VAIL SHALL BE TAKEN AWAY. NOW THE LORD IS THAT SPIRIT: AND WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS, THERE IS LIBERTY. BUT WE ALL, WITH OPEN FACE BEHOLDING AS IN A GLASS THE GLORY OF THE LORD, ARE CHANGED INTO THE SAME IMAGE FROM GLORY TO GLORY, EVEN AS BY THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD.



The Faith



Jude said, “Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.” He thought it needful to exhort the Christians to contend for ‘the faith.’ Not just any faith but ‘the faith’ which was once and for all delivered to the sacred people. This was an ancient faith wielded by the ancients. The scripture says, “And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets: Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.”

It is an unshakable, supernatural faith which demands and commands the impossible. It’s a faith uncorrupted, unscathed from this world’s limitations and cravings. Jude was concerned that the believers were beginning to take on another diluted version of faith: shaped and permeated with human limitations and sentiments. He wanted them to ‘epagōnizomai’, which means ‘to struggle for’, the faith of Jesus. The word of the kingdom of God in power, was preached by Jesus and the apostles and transmitted ‘the faith’ to the early believers.

In these modern times, men have preached a subpar message to deliver a subpar faith, which cannot exhibit the power of His resurrection and ascension. What do you possess, ‘a faith’ or ‘the faith’?

SCRIPTURE READING: JUDE 1:3

BELOVED, WHEN I GAVE ALL DILIGENCE TO WRITE UNTO YOU OF THE COMMON SALVATION, IT WAS NEEDFUL FOR ME TO WRITE UNTO YOU, AND EXHORT YOU THAT YE SHOULD EARNESTLY CONTEND FOR THE FAITH WHICH WAS ONCE DELIVERED UNTO THE SAINTS.



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13

He Is Longing, Are You?



A man full of leprosy came to beseech Jesus to cleanse him, if Jesus was willing to do it. Luke records, “And it came to pass, when he was in a certain city, behold a man full of leprosy: who seeing Jesus fell on his face, and besought him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And he put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will: be thou clean.”

The man found out that Jesus indeed was willing and instantly cleansed him. Jesus also later cried out, “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not!” The Greek word translated, “would”, in the above passage is ‘thelō’ which means ‘to desire, to purpose to, to wish to, love to, like to do, be fond of doing and long to, to take delight in, have pleasure.’

Jesus was longing to gather Jerusalem but Jerusalem did not have the same longing to be gathered by Him. How sad a story! Jerusalem would later be decimated just because she did not have the reciprocal desire to be saved, as was Jesus’ desire to save the city. He told the Jewish leaders, “Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.”

Let us not imitate the behaviour of the Pharisees and Jerusalem, having a lack of desire. Today, be like the leper, who in his desperation, besought Jesus and found out that He is longing. Indeed He is longing, are you?

SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 13:34

O JERUSALEM, JERUSALEM, WHICH KILLEST THE PROPHETS, AND STONEST THEM THAT ARE SENT UNTO THEE; HOW OFTEN WOULD I HAVE GATHERED THY CHILDREN TOGETHER, AS A HEN DOTHT GATHER HER BROOD UNDER HER WINGS, AND YE WOULD NOT!



He Expects You To Understand



Mark records these words from Jesus, “When I brake the five loaves among five thousand, how many baskets full of fragments took ye up? They say unto him, Twelve. And when the seven among four thousand, how many baskets full of fragments took ye up? And they said, Seven. And he said unto them, How is it

that ye do not understand?”

Jesus expects you to know and understand the things of the Spirit. We have received the mind of Christ that there might be spiritual discernment and instruction. Every intervention by God should serve as a spiritual eye opener. The disciples were receiving many such opportunities, yet were not allowing themselves to see into God’s kingdom.

Many want to see into the Spirit but when the opportunity comes they miss it. The manifestations of the Spirit are the windows of heaven being opened. When we pay attention, with soft hearts, to what God is doing around us, we will see into the spiritual realm and manifestly experience God where He is, in the invisible.

Heaven becomes real to us when we pay attention to and value its manifestation here on earth. Whatever He is doing around you, He expects you to understand. Open your heart.

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 8:19-21

WHEN I BRAKE THE FIVE LOAVES AMONG FIVE THOUSAND, HOW MANY BASKETS FULL OF FRAGMENTS TOOK YE UP? THEY SAY UNTO HIM, TWELVE. AND WHEN THE SEVEN AMONG FOUR THOUSAND, HOW MANY BASKETS FULL OF FRAGMENTS TOOK YE UP? AND THEY SAID, SEVEN. AND HE SAID UNTO THEM, HOW IS IT THAT YE DO NOT UNDERSTAND?



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

The Asking Price



It is written, “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.”

Jesus spoke of pearls and the pearl of great price. He likened the kingdom of heaven to a man seeking and collecting valuable pearls until he one day found the pearl of great price. To purchase the pearl which had such a great price, he had to sell all his other pearls.

The kingdom of heaven and the things of God are very precious. What are you willing to pay to walk in the deep things of the kingdom of heaven? The realms of God is of great price. There are no discounts and no specials. The price remains the same throughout the ages. Money cannot buy any of it. It costs the full surrender of the heart and whatever the heart treasures. As the scripture records, “Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me. But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.”

In history, very few had to sell all they had but all of God’s true servants had to surrender full control of their hearts and lives to Him. In this sense, the things of God will cost you everything. It is written, “He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it. “ Are you willing to pay that much?

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 13:45-46

AGAIN, THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE UNTO A MERCHANT MAN, SEEKING GOODLY PEARLS: WHO, WHEN HE HAD FOUND ONE PEARL OF GREAT PRICE, WENT AND SOLD ALL THAT HE HAD, AND BOUGHT IT.



With Him: For Him



The first response to the call of God should be self-denial. Without self-denial, God will never accept your following nor your pursuit of Him. Jesus said, “Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel’s, the same shall save it.”

Self-denial is the prerequisite for the communication of God’s true will for your life. ‘Self’ is never the right lens to use in surveying the landscape of God’s plan for you.

We mentioned the ‘bible-truth’ before, that there are many false followers of Jesus. Many false Christians. They never denied anything about themselves for Him. They are Christians out of convenience and for self-gain. Also, many attend church for entertainment, and not sacrifice and service. You cannot grow without sacrifice and there can be no true lasting service without sacrifice. Therefore the apostle Paul told the church, “Present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto Him. This is your reasonable service in order to be accepted.”

Start every journey with Him: for Him. Start in God’s word: therein is His will, desire and way. And yes don’t start without denying yourself. Paul said, “I die daily.” So should you. And then live by Him.

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 8:34-35

AND WHEN HE HAD CALLED THE PEOPLE UNTO HIM WITH HIS DISCIPLES ALSO, HE SAID UNTO THEM, WHOSOEVER WILL COME AFTER ME, LET HIM DENY HIMSELF, AND TAKE UP HIS CROSS, AND FOLLOW ME. FOR WHOSOEVER WILL SAVE HIS LIFE SHALL LOSE IT; BUT WHOSOEVER SHALL LOSE HIS LIFE FOR MY SAKE AND THE GOSPEL’S, THE SAME SHALL SAVE IT:



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Can You Do Without Peace?



Apostle Peter saluted the church, “Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus.” Apostle John said, “Peace be to thee.” The apostles Paul and Jude did similar. Such is the importance of peace. Jesus, before His crucifixion, eluded to the necessity of peace with His words, “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

The world gives false peace and is a generator of wars. There is always one battle or the other being fostered by mankind. There seems to an overt effort to keep in constant anxiety and distress. There are no authentic sources of joy. Jesus is the only true source of peace. Whilst you are in this world, He gives you peace that is from out of this world. The peace that emanates from the Prince of Peace and His kingdom. The kingdom of God which is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Again so important is peace that Jesus, after His resurrection, did the following: John records, “Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.” Can you do without peace? Off course not. The world wants to drown you in fear, unbelief and distress.

Refuse to surrender your peace. Recall the words of Jesus, “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 20:21

THEN SAID JESUS TO THEM AGAIN, PEACE BE UNTO YOU: AS MY FATHER HATH SENT ME, EVEN SO SEND I YOU



Get Up



The scripture says, “Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.” The righteous can and do experience unfavourable and disagreeable happenings. In fact, many of them.

The word of God, furthermore, says that a righteous man can fall seven times, yet he will rise up again. Did you see that? Even a just man can fall but what counts is that you get up, every single time. No matter how much you stumble, just get up again.

David said, “But thou, O LORD, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.” God indeed is the lifter up of your head. He lifts up your head so that you can look up at Him, from whence comes your help. Now get up!

You defeats and failures will not determine your future. Your getting up will. Remember, “Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.” He delivers you out of them all.

This is our exhortation to you today: Don’t give up. Look up and get up! He is delivering you out of them all.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 24:16

FOR A JUST MAN FALLETH SEVEN TIMES, AND RISETH UP AGAIN: BUT THE WICKED SHALL FALL INTO MISCHIEF.



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Hold Your Peace



In the face of foolish people, one can many times be tempted to speak but to give in to that urge, would be foolishness in itself.

Wisdom knows how to control the tongue against all pressure not to.

Jesus found Himself before a face of a very foolish man but gave him no answer. As it is written, “Then he questioned with him in many words; but he answered him nothing. And the chief priests and scribes stood and vehemently accused him. And Herod with his men of war set him at nought, and mocked him, and arrayed him in a gorgeous robe, and sent him again to Pilate.” Herod tried hard to provoke the Lord but He answered not a word.

Do not fear evil and foolish men. Answer them not a word. The Holy God is by your side and will defend you against such foolishness. At the end, God will speak and darkness will flee.

Moses told the people of God not to fear but to stand still and see God at work. God does not speak for those who can speak for themselves.

Learn to provoke the living God, to come to your aid: Hold your peace!

SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 23:9-11

THEN HE QUESTIONED WITH HIM IN MANY WORDS; BUT HE ANSWERED HIM NOTHING. AND THE CHIEF PRIESTS AND SCRIBES STOOD AND VEHEMENTLY ACCUSED HIM. AND HEROD WITH HIS MEN OF WAR SET HIM AT NOUGHT, AND MOCKED HIM, AND ARRAYED HIM IN A GORGEOUS ROBE, AND SENT HIM AGAIN TO PILATE.



Imitate The Inheritors



The book of Hebrews admonishes us not to be sluggish but imitate those who inherit promises. The bible is full of heroes. They are not heroes because they were anointed. They are heroes because they inherited or took possession of the promise, made to them by God. Consider Abraham, Sarah, Joseph, David, and

Paul, to name a few.

David after his anointing and prophecy by the prophet Samuel, had to exhibit both faith in God and patience before becoming king of Israel. Joseph endured both betrayal and hardship in Egypt, before getting into the top job.

God prophesied to Abraham, “Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.” Abraham then did not just automatically walk into the fulfillment of that prophecy. No, God required that he patiently endure and grow strong in faith. He requires the same of you. What prophecy was given to you? What is your dream or vision? Perhaps it is success in business, a ministry, a child, a husband or a platform of great influence? You will need both faith and patience to see it fulfilled.

Do not become sluggish. Diligently put both faith and patience into action. Though the vision carries. Wait for it. It will not be cut off. It will come to pass.

SCRIPTURE READING: HEBREWS 6:9-12

BUT, BELOVED, WE ARE PERSUADED BETTER THINGS OF YOU, AND THINGS THAT ACCOMPANY SALVATION, THOUGH WE THUS SPEAK. FOR GOD IS NOT UNRIGHTEOUS TO FORGET YOUR WORK AND LABOUR OF LOVE, WHICH YE HAVE SHEWED TOWARD HIS NAME, IN THAT YE HAVE MINISTERED TO THE SAINTS, AND DO MINISTER. AND WE DESIRE THAT EVERY ONE OF YOU DO SHEW THE SAME DILIGENCE TO THE FULL ASSURANCE OF HOPE UNTO THE END: THAT YE BE NOT SLOTHFUL, BUT FOLLOWERS OF THEM WHO THROUGH FAITH AND PATIENCE INHERIT THE PROMISES.



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21

How To Believe



Many exclaim “I believe!” but still don’t see results, even though the Lord Jesus said “All things are possible to him who believes.” Why is this? Could it be that you do not know how to believe the right way. Is your believing true believing or is it mental assessment.? Someone coined a truism, “Believing is not feeling but with true believing comes feeling.” In other words, true believing produces tangible results. If there are none, then check if you are believing right.

To believe in the right way you must:

Believe quickly. Jesus chastised the disciples for being slow to believe. “Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:” Luke 24:25

Believe with the heart. Mental assessment is counterfeit believing. The heart is the instrument to believe with. For a right spiritual disposition. “For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” Romans 10:10

Believe with all your heart. You must believe with all of your being. Settle all your doubts. “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.”

Proverbs 3:5

Believe to action. Your believing must lead to and produce faith filled action. “We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;” 2 Corinthians 4:13

Believe God in the right way. True believing procures results.

SCRIPTURE READING: MARK 9:23

JESUS SAID UNTO HIM, IF THOU CANST BELIEVE, ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE TO HIM THAT BELIEVETH.



Not Out Of Emotion



The scripture says to be angry and sin not. Emotions are powerful and move the entire human being. Emotions can bypass the human reasoning structure. Many a destiny have been altered irreversibly, by unbridled emotions. How many people have lost careers or even made enemies by speaking in err, fueled by spur of the

moment emotions?

The story was told of someone doing an apprenticeship, who out of emotion, once told their boss to do the work themselves if they are not satisfied by how it is being done. The boss reacted by asking the person to leave the company, with immediate effect. The person was never allowed back into another apprenticeship anywhere else. And did not fulfill their dream. Imagine spending all your life dreaming and studying to enter a certain field, then needlessly cutting yourself off from it. How many people have found themselves there?

The scripture tells us that the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God. Righteousness is one of the key ingredients that enables a triumphant life, aided by God. The scepter of the Lord's kingdom is a scepter of righteousness.

Never inhibit yourself from moving in righteousness. Unbridled emotion is surely a way to that kind of inhibition. Be angry and sin not. Give the devil no place. Do not speak out of emotions. Release faith fueled speech. Its called holy utterance.

SCRIPTURE READING: EPHESIANS 4:26-27

BE YE ANGRY, AND SIN NOT: LET NOT THE SUN GO DOWN UPON YOUR WRATH: NEITHER GIVE PLACE TO THE DEVIL..



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Send Forth



It is written, “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said...”

God created the heaven and the earth. God is our Prolific Creator. Who is like Him? Only you! His children made in His likeness. Fashioned after His likeness. Filled with His Spirit. The new creation. The first fruits of His creature.

What is it that you want to create? Is it a business? A product? Or even a new job or promotion? Do it God’s way. Send forth His Spirit. You ask “How?” It’s quite simple, “Speak it.”

It is written that the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said. The scripture tells us, “For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.” Today, why not brood over that matter by the Spirit of God? Then say, “I create this new product. Now it stands forth!”

Such a command will release the fountain of spiritual wisdom and favor to enable and sustain your physical progress and forming of your endeavor or product.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 104:30

THOU SENDEST FORTH THY SPIRIT, THEY ARE CREATED: AND THOU RENEWEST THE FACE OF THE EARTH.



It Is Impossible



It is written, “Then said he [Jesus] unto the disciples, It is impossible but that offences will come: but woe unto him, through whom they come!”

If you open your heart or commit with your heart amongst people, there is a strong possibility that you will be hurt.

Dwelling amongst people can be dangerous to your feelings. Something or someone is bound to offend you.

In fact, Jesus said that “It is impossible but that offences will come.” The coming of offences is impossible. Offences will come for sure. Even if you live with no one but your pet dog. She will offend you at some point in time. King Saul took offence at what some women said about David, his son-in-law, in their silly comparison of David with him. The offence turned into hatred of a man that did him no harm. He spent most of the ensuing years, unsuccessfully trying to kill David. He should not have taken the offence.

How you deal with offence makes all the difference. When offence comes, refuse to take it. Say with your mouth, “I refuse to be offended!” Never take offence. It will block you from answered prayers. Again, the coming of offences is unavoidable, the taking of offence is not.

SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 17:1

THEN SAID HE UNTO THE DISCIPLES, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE BUT THAT OFFENCES WILL COME: BUT WOE UNTO HIM, THROUGH WHOM THEY COME!



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Working For God



Many go to God. Many seek counsel of God. However, many do not go to God and seek of God first. God through the prophet Isaiah called that rebellion. It is recorded, “Woe to the rebellious children, saith the Lord, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin: That walk to go down into Egypt, and have not asked at my mouth; to strengthen themselves in the strength of Pharaoh, and to trust in the shadow of Egypt...”

We saw in a previous devotion that rebellion is witchcraft. Rebellion opens the rebel to a spirit of witchcraft. The person can then be misled, manipulated and eventually be destroyed. Always seek God first. Ask counsel from the Holy Spirit first. As prophetic strategists and spiritual leaders, it has been our experience that some seek counsel from us last, after having consulted everybody else from their friends to strangers. That is a foolish error because the spirit of counsel will not speak freely, if He has been left as a last resort.

Seek God first. Never inhibit yourself from moving in righteousness. Unbridled emotion is surely a way to that kind of inhibition. Be angry and sin not. Give the devil no place.

Do not speak out of emotions. Release faith fueled speech. Its called holy utterance.

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 30:1-3

WOE TO THE REBELLIOUS CHILDREN, SAITH THE LORD, THAT TAKE COUNSEL, BUT NOT OF ME; AND THAT COVER WITH A COVERING, BUT NOT OF MY SPIRIT, THAT THEY MAY ADD SIN TO SIN: THAT WALK TO GO DOWN INTO EGYPT, AND HAVE NOT ASKED AT MY MOUTH; TO STRENGTHEN THEMSELVES IN THE STRENGTH OF PHARAOH, AND TO TRUST IN THE SHADOW OF EGYPT! THEREFORE SHALL THE STRENGTH OF PHARAOH BE YOUR SHAME, AND THE TRUST IN THE SHADOW OF EGYPT YOUR CONFUSION.



Stay Heart-Aware



In the world there are many voices. So much is being said by so many people. It is nearly impossible to ignore or avoid the countless opinions of others. That said, it is just as difficult to be self-aware because of the continuous pull to be aware of the other people and their view points or circumstances. Most people are not aware of their own internal chatter or the goings-on of their own hearts.

It is important to daily drown out the external voices and listen to what is happening within your own heart. Jesus withdrew to the solitary places. Isaac went to the field to meditate. Jesus counseled to go into the secret place. Out of your own heart comes your life's experiences and boundaries. As it is written, "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."

To keep the heart, you must be heart aware. Allow your heart to be searched daily. David prayed, "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts." And furthermore, "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."

Jesus said, "...the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience." Keep your heart honest and good, by staying aware of what is happening within. Stay heart-aware.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 4:23
KEEP THY HEART WITH ALL DILIGENCE; FOR OUT OF IT ARE THE ISSUES OF LIFE.



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Multiply The Peace



Peter wrote in 1 Peter, “Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.” He released an apostolic prayer that peace be multiplied. We recently saw from the scriptures the importance and vitality of peace. It is thus wonderful to find out that not only do you have peace but that peace can be multiplied.

You would here do well to recall a recent theme scripture, “Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,”

Peace just like grace, can be multiplied through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord. You can just accumulate peace at the same time that you accumulating grace. Jesus, in His pre-crucifixion words explains how this is possible. He said, “These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.”

He said, “these things have I spoken unto you that you may have peace.” So peace is imparted by His sayings! The more you hear His sayings the more peace is activated within you. The greater the knowledge of what He said, knowing Who said it, the greater the volume of peace you possess. Do you get that? A heart increasingly saturated in the sayings of Jesus will increasingly be imbued with peace. Such an one will become unshakable. Will that be you?

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 PETER 1:2

ELECT ACCORDING TO THE FOREKNOWLEDGE OF GOD THE FATHER, THROUGH SANCTIFICATION OF THE SPIRIT, UNTO OBEDIENCE AND SPRINKLING OF THE BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST: GRACE UNTO YOU, AND PEACE, BE MULTIPLIED.



Gratefulness



The Cambridge Dictionary defines gratefulness as ‘showing or expressing thanks, especially to another person.’ The Oxford Dictionary says its, ‘Feeling or showing an appreciation for something done or received.’ The expressing and showing of thanks is a vital spiritual component of prayer and was extensively taught, practiced and encouraged by Jesus and His Apostles.

We do not have the space here to reference the vast number of scriptures talking about thanksgiving.

Few stories, if any, illustrate the difference between the grateful and the ungrateful like the story of the ten lepers whom Jesus healed. These ten men cried out to Jesus to have mercy on them. He told them to go and show themselves to the priests and as they went they were healed. However, only one of them turned back, to go and glorify God and give Jesus thanks. Jesus marveled that the other nine did not join him and enquired about their whereabouts. The one grateful man was rewarded for his gratefulness and had all his missing limbs restored to him. Well, the ungrateful nine, we never heard of them again. The apostle Paul indicated that ungratefulness would be a sign of the last days and more specifically of perilous times. One could conclude that the ungrateful are, ‘Exposed to imminent risk of disaster or ruin’ which is the definition for “perilous.”

Never be ungrateful in life. Be grateful even in the little things and boldly express your gratitude. The ungrateful live broken lives, missing essential connections, always having a sense of ‘something is missing.’ God makes the grateful whole.

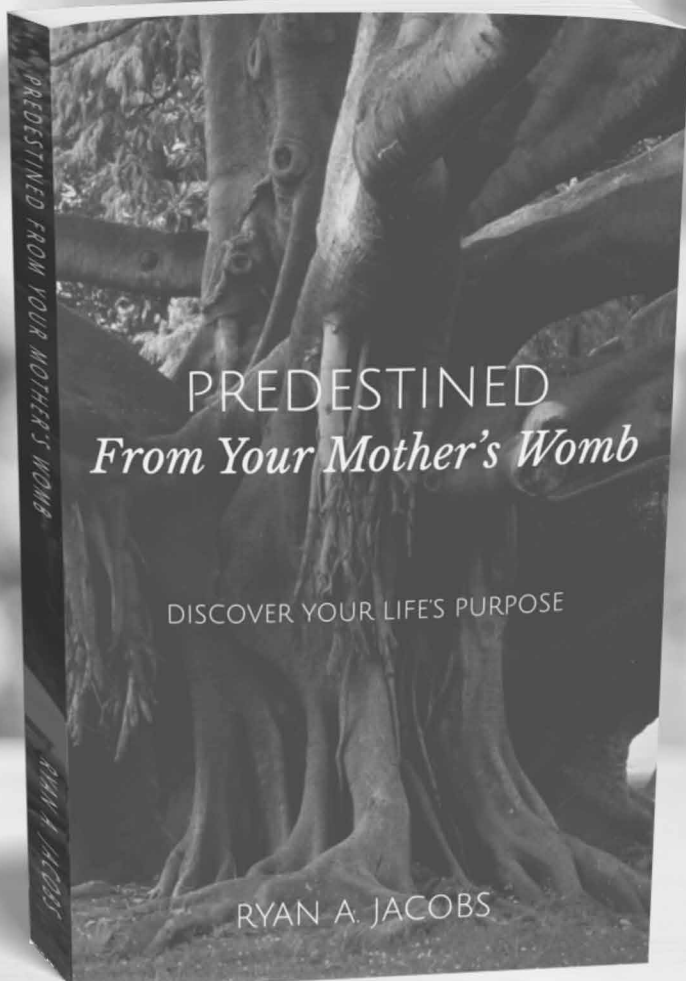
SCRIPTURE READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 5:18

IN EVERY THING GIVE THANKS: FOR THIS IS THE WILL OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS CONCERNING YOU..

GET YOUR COPY

TODAY

"Nothing matters more than knowing
God's purpose for your life."

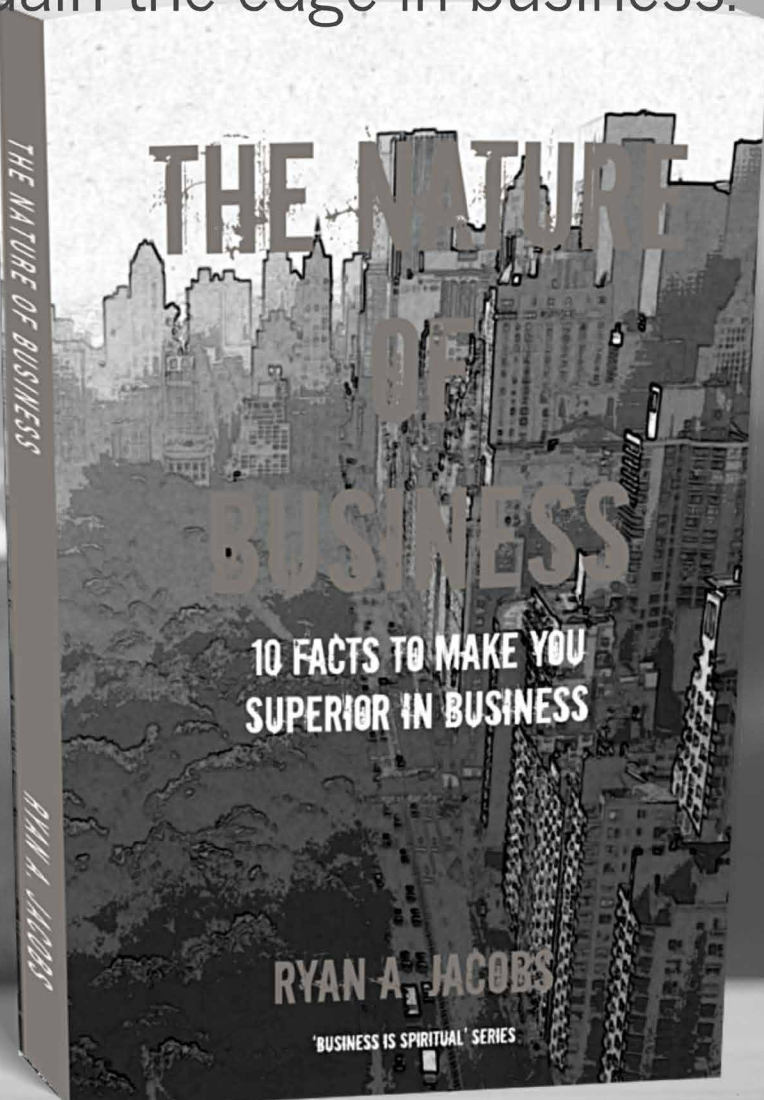


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SUNDAY, MARCH 1

Worship Jesus



The apostle John said, “And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.”

None was found worthy in all the worlds, in all the times and among all men, except Jesus. He earned the right to unveil and unleash the eons. That same Jesus is our Redeemer, as it is written, “And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.”

This Sunday, worship Jesus. Sing unto Him a new song, for He alone is worthy. Obey Jesus for His word is true. He said, “And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

SCRIPTURE READING: REVELATION 5:14

AND THE FOUR BEASTS SAID, AMEN. AND THE FOUR AND TWENTY ELDERS FELL DOWN AND WORSHIPPED HIM THAT LIVETH FOR EVER AND EVER.



Where Dwellest Thou?



Being followed by John's disciples, Jesus turned around and asked them, "What seek ye?" They answered, "Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou?" He in turn answered, "Come and see."

The disciples of John hit the nail on the head with their question, "Rabbi, where dwellest thou?" They desired to locate Jesus' dwelling place. They understood the significance of the dwelling place. Their teacher John, the prophet, taught them very well. The scripture said about John himself, "And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel." John dwelt in the deserts until his showing and the word of the Lord came unto him there.

You will encounter God in your dwelling place. David said, "One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life..." What was David's motive? He said, "...to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple." David knew that his dwelling place mattered. He knew there were benefits in dwelling, in his desired dwelling place. He confessed, "For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock."

So important is the dwelling place, that Jesus said to his disciples, "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places...I go to prepare a place for you." And let us not forget Moses who also said, "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."

Where you dwell and with whom you dwell is paramount. Where dwellest thou?

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 1:35-39

AGAIN THE NEXT DAY AFTER JOHN STOOD, AND TWO OF HIS DISCIPLES; AND LOOKING UPON JESUS AS HE WALKED, HE SAITH, BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD! AND THE TWO DISCIPLES HEARD HIM SPEAK, AND THEY FOLLOWED JESUS. THEN JESUS TURNED, AND SAW THEM FOLLOWING, AND SAITH UNTO THEM, WHAT SEEK YE? THEY SAID UNTO HIM, RABBI, [WHICH IS TO SAY, BEING INTERPRETED, MASTER,] WHERE DWELLEST THOU? HE SAITH UNTO THEM, COME AND SEE. THEY CAME AND SAW WHERE HE DWELT, AND ABODE WITH HIM THAT DAY: FOR IT WAS ABOUT THE TENTH HOUR.



TUESDAY, MARCH 3

Not Mine But Thine



“Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.” These were the words of Jesus, just before He voluntarily experienced the greatest torment and death on behalf of the world. He was totally conformed to God’s will, obedient even to the point of death. He was totally sold out to the cause. Few can be committed unto their own hurt. Most are only committed out of convenience. When inconvenience is reached, their commitment is lost. Their commitment to the cause is only until the perceived benefit is outweighed by discomfort. When sacrifice begins their commitment comes to an abrupt end. The rich young ruler, which Jesus encountered, was like that. He was pledging life and soul, only until He found out Jesus’ price to become a follower was too high for him to pay.

Where does your commitment end? For some it is when they have to leave their warm blanket to go and pray on a cold winter’s night or when the commitment requires the sacrifice of a long-term friendship or affiliation. For Judas, it was thirty pieces of silver. Everyone has his or her boundary. Only for some it is more convenient than for others. In our day the bar is getting lower by the hour. For Jesus, His disciples and the prophets it was commitment to the death. Many believers had their blood shed, so that you and I can know Jesus today. And so that you and I could hold a bible in our hands. Jesus said that He lived to do the Father’s will.

What are you living for? Is it that cup of coffee? Perhaps for your children? Is it your job or your car? Perhaps, the euphoria you experience when with those friends you so idolize? Again, one life for Christ is all you have. What is energizing your day? For Jesus it was doing the will of the Father? He lived a “not my will but Thine” life. Do you?

SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 5:4-7

A NOW WHEN HE HAD LEFT SPEAKING, HE SAID UNTO SIMON, LAUNCH OUT INTO THE DEEP, AND LET DOWN YOUR NETS FOR A DRAUGHT. AND SIMON ANSWERING SAID UNTO HIM, MASTER, WE HAVE TOILED ALL THE NIGHT, AND HAVE TAKEN NOTHING: NEVERTHELESS AT THY WORD I WILL LET DOWN THE NET. AND WHEN THEY HAD THIS DONE, THEY INCLOSED A GREAT MULTITUDE OF FISHES: AND THEIR NET BRAKE. AND THEY BECKONED UNTO THEIR PARTNERS, WHICH WERE IN THE OTHER SHIP, THAT THEY SHOULD COME AND HELP THEM. AND THEY CAME, AND FILLED BOTH THE SHIPS, SO THAT THEY BEGAN TO SINK.

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He Despised The Shame



The book of Hebrews says, “looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.” The passage tells us that Jesus for the joy set before Him, despised the shame. What shame?

He preached a message that few believed. His treasurer, Judas betrayed the “all knowing Jesus”. He even publicly usurped Him by questioning His attitude towards the poor and His seeming wastage of money that could have been better spent according to Judas. All His disciples forsook Him in His time of need.

The Jewish leaders lied against Him and incited the same people whom He helped to cry, “Away with him! Crucify him!” They beat Him, plucked out His beard, spat on Him, blindfolded Him and mocked Him to prophesy. They marred Him until He did not look like a human being anymore. They put a mock crown of thorns on His head to torture and humiliate Him. They stripped Him naked and publicly paraded Him through the streets of Jerusalem and hung Him that way on a cross. Then still taunted Him, daring Him to save Himself from the cross.

His own creation shamed Him. Yet He despised the shame so that He could see the joy in His Father’s eyes for redeeming the fallen creation. God stripped Himself of Glory to be shamed by and for man. They tried and condemned Him to death as a common criminal. Yes, He despised the shame because He thought we were worth it all! Jesus bore the shame of our sins on that cross. For this we ought to be eternally grateful.

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 53:3-5

HE IS DESPISED AND REJECTED OF MEN; A MAN OF SORROWS, AND ACQUAINTED WITH GRIEF; AND WE HID AS IT WERE OUR FACES FROM HIM; HE WAS DESPISED, AND WE ESTEEMED HIM NOT. SURELY HE HATH BORNE OUR GRIEFS, AND CARRIED OUR SORROWS; YET WE DID ESTEEM HIM STRICKEN, SMITTEN OF GOD, AND AFFLICTED. BUT HE WAS WOUNDED FOR OUR TRANSGRESSIONS, HE WAS BRUISED FOR OUR INIQUITIES: THE CHASTISEMENT OF OUR PEACE WAS UPON HIM; AND WITH HIS STRIPES WE ARE HEALED.



THURSDAY, MARCH 5

Despise The Shame



Yesterday, we saw how Jesus despised the shame. In other words, He thought it worth it to suffer humiliation on our behalf. By His humiliation we have been redeemed. Today, men are still trying to scorn and shame Him by denying and ridiculing His death, burial, resurrection and ascension. You see it is impossible to follow Christ and not be expected to despise the shame. It started with Mary the mother of Jesus. To conceive and carry Jesus,

Mary had to despise the shame of being impregnated by the Holy Spirit, out of wedlock. She was unjustly looked at in society as a fornicator - a loose woman. It was a great shame in her day. Joseph in still marrying her had to despise the shame in order to cover her shame.

This is a profound spiritual reality to be experienced by all close to Jesus. Remember Elizabeth, the mother of the prophet John, who was the forerunner for Jesus. She had to despise the shame of being called “barren”, for many years in order to partake in the story of Jesus when the time came. Consider the apostles of Jesus and how the Jewish leaders and the Roman government treated them as pariahs. And even despised and betrayed by the people in the churches they founded and led. Read the book of Acts and the Epistles.

As Christians, we are called to follow in the footsteps of Jesus and other followers of Christ before us. That means that the Lord Jesus may ask of us to do and say things that will provoke others to talk about and against us. And to consider us as shameful or having no shame or dignity. Such persecutions pursue the godly in Christ Jesus. Continual obedience to Christ would then require of us to despise the shame for the joy set before us. To be joyful when others consider us shameful for obeying Jesus. Those who do, will hear those most longed for words, “Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Enter the joy of your Lord.” In order to hear those words, we have decided to despise the shame. Have you?

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 4:10-13

WE ARE FOOLS FOR CHRIST'S SAKE, BUT YE ARE WISE IN CHRIST; WE ARE WEAK, BUT YE ARE STRONG; YE ARE HONOURABLE, BUT WE ARE DESPISED. EVEN UNTO THIS PRESENT HOUR WE BOTH HUNGER, AND THIRST, AND ARE NAKED, AND ARE BUFFETED, AND HAVE NO CERTAIN DWELLING PLACE; AND LABOUR, WORKING WITH OUR OWN HANDS: BEING REVILED, WE BLESS; BEING PERSECUTED, WE SUFFER IT: BEING DEFAMED, WE INTREAT: WE ARE MADE AS THE FILTH OF THE WORLD, AND ARE THE OFFSCOURING OF ALL THINGS UNTO THIS DAY.



His Face Was As Though



Jesus, knowing that His exit from this world was drawing nigh, steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem. As we previously mentioned, without Jerusalem He would not fulfill His purpose and destiny. Jerusalem was on the critical path to His destiny, which was the throne of Heaven.

As part of His forward and upward movement, He sent messengers ahead, who thought it good to enter a Samaritan village. The village received the messengers. Preparations for His arrival were under way. However, upon His arrival the Samaritans saw that He had Jerusalem on His face. He had so contemplated and focused on Jerusalem that His face began to emanate it. The Samaritan villagers became offended at His focus and refused to welcome Him into their village. Jesus was not offended by this because they were not His focus: Jerusalem was. His focus would not allow His heart such distractions. Neither should yours.

Your steadfast focus on your Jerusalem should be a cause for provocation. It should be impossible not to notice it, in your outlook. Have a noticeable outlook. People may become offended at that but never you at them. Imitate Jesus in your steadfastly set face. Let it be said of you, as observed about Jesus, “And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go...”

Where are you going?

SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 9:51-53

AND IT CAME TO PASS, WHEN THE TIME WAS COME THAT HE SHOULD BE RECEIVED UP, HE STEDFASTLY SET HIS FACE TO GO TO JERUSALEM, AND SENT MESSENGERS BEFORE HIS FACE: AND THEY WENT, AND ENTERED INTO A VILLAGE OF THE SAMARITANS, TO MAKE READY FOR HIM. AND THEY DID NOT RECEIVE HIM, BECAUSE HIS FACE WAS AS THOUGH HE WOULD GO TO JERUSALEM.



SATURDAY, MARCH 7

Apprehended To Apprehend



The Lord Jesus told His twelve disciples, “Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.” Their destinies were edged into God’s intentions. God thought about them before they did about Him. He was so moved by His foreknowledge that He intentionally set them apart. The apostle Paul described himself also as having been apprehended. He said, “Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.”

The word ‘apprehend’, used by Paul, is the Greek word, “katalambanō” which means, ‘to lay hold of, to take eagerly, to detect and catch, to seize and possess with intent and intensity, to receive decisively.’ Paul knew that Jesus had decisively taken a hold of him, with intent and intensity. All he had to do is respond to the Lord in kind and decisively lay a hold of his calling, with the same contagious spirit. This makes a world of difference! It changes how you approach life.

Jesus grabbed Paul. Paul in turn grabbed the destiny that Jesus had for him. None was going to let go, until the destiny is fulfilled and Paul stands before Jesus, to receive his crown. Paul’s energy, to remain focused in his spiritual race, flowed from that reality and ongoing experience. So should yours. You have been apprehended to apprehend.

Jesus grabbed you. Now, go ahead and grab His future for you.

SCRIPTURE READING: PHILIPPIANS 3:12

NOT AS THOUGH I HAD ALREADY ATTAINED, EITHER WERE ALREADY PERFECT: BUT I FOLLOW AFTER, IF THAT I MAY APPREHEND THAT FOR WHICH ALSO I AM APPREHENDED OF CHRIST JESUS.



Encountering Jesus In The Gathering



Discerning and yielding to the move of God in a corporate setting is an art that few are practiced in. Knowing the Holy Spirit is moving in a corporate gathering and receiving from Him is so vital. A corporate gathering is us making room for and preparing an atmosphere for the Lord Jesus to step into the room.

Five keys for encountering Jesus when He enters the room: Make room in your heart for Him by your hunger and thirst for Him. For He satisfies the longing soul, and fills the hungry soul with goodness.

We must engage Him diligently. Casual enquirers get nothing. Press in and touch the hem of His garment. An earnest heartfelt cry will stop Jesus in His tracks and turn His face and attention towards you. The gospels are full of such examples.

He shows up as He wills, speaks as He wills and touches in the way He wills. Let Him do it His way.

Expect and catch the “suddenlies” of God. He loves to show up suddenly at unexpected times in an unexpected way. When you perceive Him moving: say to Him, “Holy Spirit I receive what you have for me. Thank you for not passing me by.” Then you go ahead and yield to His response.

Reverence the move of God. In the presence of a dignitary, people are always mindful of their actions, words and attitudes exhibited: always putting their best foot forward. The Holy Spirit is the Dignitary of dignitaries. When He is moving refrain from vain conversations, beware of distractions and carnal agendas.

SCRIPTURE READING: GENESIS 18:1-5

AND THE LORD APPEARED UNTO HIM IN THE PLAINS OF MAMRE: AND HE SAT IN THE TENT DOOR IN THE HEAT OF THE DAY; AND HE LIFT UP HIS EYES AND LOOKED, AND, LO, THREE MEN STOOD BY HIM: AND WHEN HE SAW THEM, HE RAN TO MEET THEM FROM THE TENT DOOR, AND BOWED HIMSELF TOWARD THE GROUND, AND SAID, MY LORD, IF NOW I HAVE FOUND FAVOUR IN THY SIGHT, PASS NOT AWAY, I PRAY THEE, FROM THY SERVANT: LET A LITTLE WATER, I PRAY YOU, BE FETCHED, AND WASH YOUR FEET, AND REST YOURSELVES UNDER THE TREE: AND I WILL FETCH A MORSEL OF BREAD, AND COMFORT YE YOUR HEARTS; AFTER THAT YE SHALL PASS ON: FOR THEREFORE ARE YE COME TO YOUR SERVANT. AND THEY SAID, SO DO, AS THOU HAST SAID.



MONDAY, MARCH 9

The Power Of His Resurrection



The resurrection is power! The resurrection is victory! Never forget that. Paul, the apostle, wrote, "Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised

up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins...But now is Christ risen from the dead..." And again, "... Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? -- The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

If Christ was not risen, our faith would be in vain, trusting for eternal life in a dead man. However, glory hallelujah, He is alive! And lives forevermore! To prove it, He has given us His Spirit and with the Spirit, His resurrection power. Our faith is not in vain but rests in the power of God. Paul wrote, "And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God." And again, "For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power." It does matter who provides you challenge, you have the proof through the indwelling Holy Spirit. The proof being resurrection power to demonstrate. As it is written, 'Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead...'

Jesus is alive! And you been given the power of His resurrection, to preach the good news with. Do it boldly from today. You too are a son of God with power. He made you so!

SCRIPTURE READING: EPHESIANS 1:19-22

AND WHAT IS THE EXCEEDING GREATNESS OF HIS POWER TO US-WARD WHO BELIEVE, ACCORDING TO THE WORKING OF HIS MIGHTY POWER, WHICH HE BROUGHT IN CHRIST, WHEN HE RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD, AND SET HIM AT HIS OWN RIGHT HAND IN THE HEAVENLY PLACES, FAR ABOVE ALL PRINCIPALITY, AND POWER, AND MIGHT, AND DOMINION, AND EVERY NAME THAT IS NAMED, NOT ONLY IN THIS WORLD, BUT ALSO IN THAT WHICH IS TO COME: AND HATH PUT ALL THINGS UNDER HIS FEET, AND GAVE HIM TO BE THE HEAD OVER ALL THINGS TO THE CHURCH, WHICH IS HIS BODY, THE FULNESS OF HIM THAT FILLETH ALL IN ALL.

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Invest With Jesus



Today we looking at the story of the rich young ruler. One of the greatest eternal thrones was beckoning him. Jesus told His apostles that they will sit on twelve thrones and judge Israel in the world to come. This young man was being afforded that priceless opportunity but he failed to see the value of the opportunity being presented to him. All because he did not cast his eyes long and look deep into the future.

Jesus was a sure investment. His great wealth was a bad one in comparison. He could not take his wealth with him into eternity. We must add that Jesus, in response to a question Peter asked immediately afterwards, said that all who gave things up for His sake and for the gospel would receive it back one hundred fold in this life and in the life to come, eternal life. That young man who refused his moment of great destiny most definitely blew it!

What priceless opportunities are being presented to you? Are you perhaps missing it? Are you casting your eyes long or are you casting longing eyes? It boils down to a decision. Do not be like that young man and fail to cast your eyes long.

Today, invest with Jesus and cast your eyes long.

SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 19:21-24

JESUS SAID UNTO HIM, IF THOU WILT BE PERFECT, GO AND SELL THAT THOU HAST, AND GIVE TO THE POOR, AND THOU SHALT HAVE TREASURE IN HEAVEN: AND COME AND FOLLOW ME. BUT WHEN THE YOUNG MAN HEARD THAT SAYING, HE WENT AWAY SORROWFUL: FOR HE HAD GREAT POSSESSIONS. THEN SAID JESUS UNTO HIS DISCIPLES, VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, THAT A RICH MAN SHALL HARDLY ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN AND AGAIN I SAY UNTO YOU, IT IS EASIER FOR A CAMEL TO GO THROUGH THE EYE OF A NEEDLE, THAN FOR A RICH MAN TO ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD.



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

Break The Cycle Of Reasoning



The apostle Paul in the epistle to the Ephesians prayed that the spiritual eyes of the Christians be flooded with light.

In the same letter he recorded that their vain reasoning was cutting them off from the God-kind of life, effectively shutting their spiritual eyes.

As it is written, “This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart”

They were thus trapped in cycles of despair and darkness. You have to break out of unconscious dark reasonings. Maybe you inherited the same from your forefathers or from wrong teaching. It’s time to transition away from the reasonings that blinds your heart.

Today, start by asking the Holy Spirit to point out hindering reasoning in your life.

SCRIPTURE READING: EPHESIANS 4:17-18

THIS I SAY THEREFORE, AND TESTIFY IN THE LORD, THAT YE HENCEFORTH WALK NOT AS OTHER GENTILES WALK, IN THE VANITY OF THEIR MIND, HAVING THE UNDERSTANDING DARKENED, BEING ALIENATED FROM THE LIFE OF GOD THROUGH THE IGNORANCE THAT IS IN THEM, BECAUSE OF THE BLINDNESS OF THEIR HEART:



Forward



Paul the apostle said, “Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are

behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”

As we related previously, we once heard a man of God relate an experience. He said that a woman came up to him and said, “Man of God, prophesy to me. I need a word.” He said that he responded to her by the Spirit and answered, “What is wrong with ‘forward’?”

God’s word is already for you. It is therefore a ‘for-word.’ When you move, opposition may come but you have a ‘for-word’ to provoke you, to keep moving forward. If God be for you, who can be against you? Like Paul keep reaching forward. This year, apprehend that for which Jesus apprehended you.

The year 2026 has a clear milestone: Reach for it! When they ask you, “Where are you going?” Answer, “Forward!”

SCRIPTURE READING: PHILIPPIANS 3:12-14

NOT AS THOUGH I HAD ALREADY ATTAINED, EITHER WERE ALREADY PERFECT: BUT I FOLLOW AFTER, IF THAT I MAY APPREHEND THAT FOR WHICH ALSO I AM APPREHENDED OF CHRIST JESUS. BRETHERN, I COUNT NOT MYSELF TO HAVE APPREHENDED: BUT THIS ONE THING I DO, FORGETTING THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE BEHIND, AND REACHING FORTH UNTO THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE BEFORE, I PRESS TOWARD THE MARK FOR THE PRIZE OF THE HIGH CALLING OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS.



FRIDAY, MARCH 13

Learn And Be Comforted



God wants us to learn. God is a continuous learning provider. God wants you to improve your literacy and knowledge.

That is one of the reasons for which He gave you the scriptures.

These are the words of the apostle Paul, “For whatsoever things were written afore time were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.”

So read and study the scriptures and learn. Don't only learn from the scriptures, be also comforted and have peace.

What He did in the scriptures, He will do for you. He will out do Himself if that is possible.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 10:5-6

BUT WITH MANY OF THEM GOD WAS NOT WELL PLEASED: FOR THEY WERE OVERTHROWN IN THE WILDERNESS. NOW THESE THINGS WERE OUR EXAMPLES, TO THE INTENT WE SHOULD NOT LUST AFTER EVIL THINGS, AS THEY ALSO LUSTED. A FEAST IS MADE FOR LAUGHTER, AND WINE MAKETH MERRY: BUT MONEY ANSWERETH ALL THINGS.



Hearing Weekend



The bible says in the gospel of Luke, “And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret,”

The people were pressing upon Him to hear Him speak. There must have been something that they discovered in His speech. After all, the Lord Jesus said, “...the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.”

Such were the power of His words that the scripture records a few verses later, “...so much the more went there a fame abroad of him: and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by him of their infirmities.” The people discovered that they were being healed as they listened to the words of Jesus. All they had to do is believe. Once they believed, hearing would be given them. Hearing brings faith and faith the answers their need. Paul, the apostle, explained it to the church at Rome, in Romans 10:17.

The words of Jesus, especially spoken by His anointed vessels, minister’s spiritual substance. Paul said, “Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.”

Make this weekend a special one of pressing to hear the word of God. You will discover that you are healed, delivered, answered and changed.

SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 5:1

AND IT CAME TO PASS, THAT, AS THE PEOPLE PRESSED UPON HIM TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD, HE STOOD BY THE LAKE OF GENNESARET,



SUNDAY, MARCH 15

Hearken



God said, through the Prophet Isaiah, “O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea...” The word rendered “peace” in this bible passage, is the Hebrew word “shalom”, which means, ‘welfare, prosperity and peace.’ God is linking the aforementioned benefits to our propensity of hearing and obeying Him.

This reminds us of God’s other words by the mouth of Isaiah, “Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.” The people of God are commanded to hearken diligently. And again, “Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live...” Our ability to hearken, directly affects our soul’s experience of life. Sometimes the words of the Lord are not pleasant to listen to, as they may contain correction, which can cut to the heart. The pharisees stopped their ears at the sharp words of Stephen and proceeded to stone him to death. What would you have done?

The words of God pierce, convict and discern the thoughts and intents of man. As it is written, “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” How do you respond to the piercing? Isaiah said, “The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back.”

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 50:5
THE LORD GOD HATH OPENED MINE EAR, AND I WAS NOT REBELLIOUS, NEITHER TURNED AWAY BACK.



Distracting Things



Jesus, our Lord, told a parable about a sower. It is recorded, “And when much people were gathered together, and were come to him out of every city, he spake by a parable: A sower went out to sow his seed: and as he sowed, some fell by the way side; and it was trodden down, and the fowls of the air devoured it. And some fell upon a rock; and as soon as it was sprung up, it withered away, because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprang up with it, and choked it. And other fell on good ground, and sprang up, and bare fruit an hundredfold. And when he had said these things, he cried, He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.”

He explained the parable to His disciples afterward. The seed is the word of God, the ground is the hearts of men and the sower is the preacher. We find the seed that fell among the thorns most interesting. The Lord explained, “And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection.”

These were people who came to listen to the word of God whilst their inclination was towards the cares of the world, the riches of life and its pleasures. Their hearts were open enough to receive and progress for a long while, yet at the end, all was lost. This is most deceptive, to lose it all at the end. Today, let us not lean towards distracting things, when we sit to hear the words of God. Let the words of God find true and honest hearts, full of endurance and poised towards Him: no ulterior or selfish motives. Just a pure love and faith for Jesus.

SCRIPTURE READING: LUKE 8: 14-15

AND THAT WHICH FELL AMONG THORNS ARE THEY, WHICH, WHEN THEY HAVE HEARD, GO FORTH, AND ARE CHOKED WITH CARES AND RICHES AND PLEASURES OF THIS LIFE, AND BRING NO FRUIT TO PERFECTION. BUT THAT ON THE GOOD GROUND ARE THEY, WHICH IN AN HONEST AND GOOD HEART, HAVING HEARD THE WORD, KEEP IT, AND BRING FORTH FRUIT WITH PATIENCE.



TUESDAY, MARCH 17

Exempt From The System



Pilate said to Jesus, “Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?” Pilate was assessing the situation and was thinking that he had the position and the power. Jesus looked so helpless to him. Pilate expected Jesus to grovel and beg for

His life.

However, Jesus knew the reality and stated it as such, “Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin.”

You see, child of God, the power is with you. God will never leave you at the mercy of this world’s system. As it is written, “For the Lord loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever: but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.”

Just like Jesus, you are not of this world. The servants of your God’s kingdom, the angels, are fighting for you. As it is written, “The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.”

So Relax! God has your back.

SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 37:33
THE LORD WILL NOT LEAVE HIM IN HIS HAND, NOR CONDEMN HIM WHEN HE IS JUDGED.



The Boisterous



John, the apostle said, “I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.” He was telling them that they were strong. He used the Greek word, ‘ischyros’ meaning, ‘forcible, mighty, boisterous, powerful, valiant and being a strong man.’

What did Jesus tell us? He said that no man can plunder a man’s goods because the strong man guards his own. When one stronger than he comes, the stronger binds the strong man and spoils his house. The spiritual young men, which the Apostle John was addressing, was so boisterous, valiant and forceful that they overcame the wicked one. Devils were no match for them. Jesus was like that during His years on earth: He so resisted satan, that the devil had to abandon his attacks and hope to catch Jesus off guard, some time later. At the end, Jesus said, “...the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.”

The Christian life demands you to be strong. You too can be noted in the spirit as ‘valiant.’ It is a certain type of boisterousness because the word of God dwells in you. And is proven to be so because you overcome the wicked one. Many are bold on the outside but the devil knows there is no strength inside. He comes to test what is inside of you. You should be able to say, “the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.” It is what is in you. In you must be, the word of God living and abiding: That is the bread, the revelation of the word of God. So that when the devil comes for you, you will stand. Having done all, you will stand. And the devil will flee. That is how you will be truly and permanently free, from persistent satanic harassments. You are well on your way to becoming a boisterous spiritual storm that the devil will find too volatile to handle.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 JOHN 2:14

I HAVE WRITTEN UNTO YOU, YOUNG MEN, BECAUSE YE ARE STRONG, AND THE WORD OF GOD ABIDETH IN YOU, AND YE HAVE OVERCOME THE WICKED ONE.



THURSDAY, MARCH 19

Time To Change Your Mind



Matthew records, “From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Jesus, picking up from the Prophet John, began to preach the same message, which was to ‘repent’. The word, ‘repent’ is the Greek word, ‘metanoēō’, meaning “to change one’s mind for better, to heartily amend with abhorrence of one’s past condition.”

Jesus so desired the change in the thinking and heart attitude, that He personally preached it. The heart opens when repentance comes. An open heart can receive what God has made available for it. We see an example of this recorded in the book of Acts, “Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

The Holy Spirit, through Peter, was exhorting these Jewish men to evidently ‘metanoēō’ by getting baptised, so that they can receive Him. The Holy Spirit comes to a repentant life. Peter, on another occasion, would again exhort his fellow countrymen, “Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord...” What manifestation of the Holy Spirit do you long to see in your life? It starts with ‘metanoēō’. Are you ready to change? Then you are ready for change. If God can work change in you, then surely He will work change for you. Your circumstances are ready to change, if you are ready to do the same. Your environment awaits your change. It’s time to change your mind.

SCRIPTURE READING: ACTS 17:30

AND THE TIMES OF THIS IGNORANCE GOD WINKED AT; BUT NOW COMMANDETH ALL MEN EVERY WHERE TO REPENT:



Sanctuary



Things don't seem to be as certain as they use to be. We are living in a day where the expert's opinion changes almost daily. And here we are referring to the same expert! This is testament to the instability of the times or rather to man's response to this age, that we are living in and its happenings.

With the volatility of outlook and circumstances, comes anxiety and stress. And the constant fear mongering, masquerading as expert projections, is not helping either.

What we need in this hour is an anchor. The soul of man needs to be anchored to something unchangeable and predictable.

We, as Christians, have such an anchor! And that anchor is the word of God. God's word is unchangeable, and the outcome sure and predictable. We can be certain that God's word will produce the same kind of good results, every single time. In fact, the worlds are upheld by the same word of His power.

You see, the anchor holds and nothing can shake it. We can hope and trust in His unfailing promises and realities. What are you trusting in? What is your expectation for tomorrow based on?

Let it be the word of God and its sure unchangeableness.

SCRIPTURE READING: HEBREWS 6:17-20

WHEREIN GOD, WILLING MORE ABUNDANTLY TO SHEW UNTO THE HEIRS OF PROMISE THE IMMUTABILITY OF HIS COUNSEL, CONFIRMED IT BY AN OATH: THAT BY TWO IMMUTABLE THINGS, IN WHICH IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR GOD TO LIE, WE MIGHT HAVE A STRONG CONSOLATION, WHO HAVE FLED FOR REFUGE TO LAY HOLD UPON THE HOPE SET BEFORE US: WHICH HOPE WE HAVE AS AN ANCHOR OF THE SOUL, BOTH SURE AND STEDFAST, AND WHICH ENTERETH INTO THAT WITHIN THE VEIL; WHITHER THE FORERUNNER IS FOR US ENTERED, EVEN JESUS, MADE AN HIGH PRIEST FOR EVER AFTER THE ORDER OF MELCHISEDEC.



SATURDAY, MARCH 21

Where Error Comes From



God told Isaiah, “Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.” God would be a sanctuary to Isaiah in the then upcoming national crisis, if he would set apart and consecrate the Lord of the angel armies Himself. In other words, God would then dispatch the warring angels to form a sanctuary for Isaiah.

We are here reminded that God did the same for Elisha, “When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. “Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?” the servant asked. “Don’t be afraid,” the prophet answered. “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” And Elisha prayed, “Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see.” Then the Lord opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. As the enemy came down toward him, Elisha prayed to the Lord, “Strike this army with blindness.” So he struck them with blindness, as Elisha had asked.” No enemy could move against Elisha and prevail. His sanctuary was able to act and counter-act on his behalf.

You need a sanctuary for autumn 2026. God wants to be your sure sanctuary this autumn. Only do what Isaiah did and what the Apostle Peter said in his epistle, “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts...” Right now, make that commitment to God, that you will fear only Him, that you will value His opinion and narrative above all other things, and obey Him accordingly. He will surely be to you a sanctuary this autumn and the rest of 2026.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 PETER 3;15

BUT SANCTIFY THE LORD GOD IN YOUR HEARTS; AND BE READY ALWAYS TO GIVE AN ANSWER TO EVERY MAN THAT ASKETH YOU A REASON OF THE HOPE THAT IS IN YOU WITH MEEKNESS AND FEAR:



Remember, Fear Is A Deal Breaker



God is only with the fearless. Therefore the salutation of every heavenly visitor to man is always “Don’t be afraid.”

God sent Moses to deliver His people out of Egypt and unto the land promised to Abraham. Moses demonstration was so emphatic that it brought Egypt to its knees. Culminating in the destruction of Pharaoh’s military in the Red Sea.

However, the Red Sea was not the better way into the promised land. The children of Israel found themselves at the Red Sea because God knew the better route, was through Philistine country. God was concerned that the children of Israel would rather return to slavery than fight the Philistines.

It is written, “And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not through the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, Lest peradventure the people repent when they see war, and they return to Egypt:” God’s people was at risk of fearing, cutting themselves off from the power of God, so God gave them a plan B. It thus took them forty years to reach their promise, instead of a few days.

Never let this be your fate. Be prepared to fight for your promise. Do not take detours. Shun fear. Expedite your destiny.

SCRIPTURE READING: EXODUS 13:17

AND IT CAME TO PASS, WHEN PHARAOH HAD LET THE PEOPLE GO, THAT GOD LED THEM NOT THROUGH THE WAY OF THE LAND OF THE PHILISTINES, ALTHOUGH THAT WAS NEAR; FOR GOD SAID, LEST PERADVENTURE THE PEOPLE REPENT WHEN THEY SEE WAR, AND THEY RETURN TO EGYPT:



MONDAY, MARCH 23

The Yoke Bearer



The scripture says, “It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord. It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth. He sitteth alone and keepeth silence, because he hath borne it upon him.”

Nehemiah was such a man, who bore the burden for God’s people and the city that he grew up in. The bible tells us that Nehemiah was in captivity as the servant to a foreign king, when he heard of the extent of devastation that Jerusalem was experiencing.

He was so provoked that he began to fast and pray. He tells us so in his own words, “And they said unto me, The remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach: the wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire. And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven, And said, I beseech thee, O Lord God of heaven, the great and terrible God, that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him and observe his commandments:”

Your city or company may have experienced economic devastation due to the forced lock downs. What are you going to do about it?

It is high time that you respond spiritually by taking up the yoke, as did Nehemiah.

SCRIPTURE READING: NEHEMIAH 1:4

AND IT CAME TO PASS, WHEN I HEARD THESE WORDS, THAT I SAT DOWN AND WEPT, AND MOURNED CERTAIN DAYS, AND FASTED, AND PRAYED BEFORE THE GOD OF HEAVEN.



Grow In Grace



Through the years we have spoken, preached and taught about grace a whole lot. Grace is very important for the Christian life. In fact, the scripture says that by grace were we saved. Our needs are met at the throne of grace and we are instructed to go there to find grace in time of need. Furthermore, we need grace, mixed with reverence and godly fear to serve God acceptably. The Apostle Peter wrote and instructed the church to grow in grace. These were his words, “Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever.”

He was saying to the church that they live in perilous times, with unsettling things taking place, just as the scriptures prophesied. Therefore, those with like precious faith should avoid being led away with error and falling from their steadfastness as a result. They were then instructed to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. You need to grow in grace. In fact, you can grow in grace so rapidly by having grace multiplied unto you, through the knowledge of God and our Lord Jesus. Remember, Paul admitted that his abilities as an apostle were the outworking of special grace given to him.

Imagine you growing in grace by multiplication. Exponential increase in grace is available to you this month. To reach for it, you need to set your heart and face on growing in the revelation knowledge of God, in the same month. Will you do it?

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 PETER 1:2

SIMON PETER, A SERVANT AND AN APOSTLE OF JESUS CHRIST, TO THEM THAT HAVE OBTAINED LIKE PRECIOUS FAITH WITH US THROUGH THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD AND OUR SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST: GRACE AND PEACE BE MULTIPLIED UNTO YOU THROUGH THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD, AND OF JESUS OUR LORD,



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

Keep Watch, To Hold Forth



The Apostle Paul told his spiritual son Timothy, “Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching.” (ESV)

In other words, he was to pay close attention to himself and be conscientious at living. This included internal chatter, heartfelt beliefs and sentiments. Paul was telling Timothy that the key to saving or preserving oneself, is in taking heed to oneself.

He further urged Timothy to also keep a close watch on what he (Timothy) was communicating to others, regarding his own success. This would determine what others latched on to and imitate. For example, if he said, “I am here today because of my speaking skills.” Others would strive to emulate his success by investing in their speaking skills, which beyond impressing man, is useless. If he on the other hand, cited intimacy with Jesus, others would pursue the same.

We are commanded by scripture to hold forth the Word of Life. This is the mandate of every Christian. However, without us taking heed to ourselves and the word working within us, we will not be any good at holding forth the Word of Life.

Conscientiousness at living the Word of Life within, enables the prolific holding forth of the same without.

Today, allow your salvation to work within so that it can abundantly work out through you.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 TIMOTHY 4:16

TAKE HEED UNTO THYSELF, AND UNTO THE DOCTRINE; CONTINUE IN THEM: FOR IN DOING THIS THOU SHALT BOTH SAVE THYSELF, AND THEM THAT HEAR THEE.



Always Seek God First



Many go to God. Many seek counsel of God. However, many do not go to God and seek of God first. God through the prophet Isaiah called that rebellion. It is recorded, “Woe to the rebellious children, saith the Lord, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin: That walk to go down into Egypt, and have not asked at my mouth; to strengthen themselves in the strength of Pharaoh, and to trust in the shadow of Egypt...”

Rebellion is witchcraft. Rebellion opens the rebel to a spirit of witchcraft. The person can then be misled, manipulated and eventually be destroyed.

Always seek God first. Ask counsel from the Holy Spirit first. As prophetic strategists and spiritual leaders, it has been our experience that some seek counsel from us last, after having consulted everybody else from their friends to strangers. That is a foolish error because the spirit of counsel will not speak freely, if He has been left as a last resort.

Seek God first.

SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 30:1-3

WOE TO THE REBELLIOUS CHILDREN, SAITH THE LORD, THAT TAKE COUNSEL, BUT NOT OF ME; AND THAT COVER WITH A COVERING, BUT NOT OF MY SPIRIT, THAT THEY MAY ADD SIN TO SIN: THAT WALK TO GO DOWN INTO EGYPT, AND HAVE NOT ASKED AT MY MOUTH; TO STRENGTHEN THEMSELVES IN THE STRENGTH OF PHARAOH, AND TO TRUST IN THE SHADOW OF EGYPT! THEREFORE SHALL THE STRENGTH OF PHARAOH BE YOUR SHAME, AND THE TRUST IN THE SHADOW OF EGYPT YOUR CONFUSION.



FRIDAY, MARCH 27

At The Higher Altitude



The book of Exodus records a battle that took place between Israel and Amalek. On the battle field, Joshua was the commander. He led a fierce battle, which Israel won. However, God did not attribute the victory to Joshua but to Moses. The scripture shows whilst Joshua was the commander, he was not the chief.

The Prophet Moses was actually on top of the mountain, with his hands lifted up. The scripture says, that the tide of the battle was being dictated by Moses' hands: When Moses' hands was raised up high, Joshua was winning and when Moses' hands got weary and lowered, Joshua began to lose. Moses, being a man, got weary from holding up his hands. However, the team around Moses saw what was happening and rushed to hold up the hands of Moses.

Joshua was unaware of what was happening on the mountain top. He was consumed by the heat of the battle. Little did he know at the time, that the mystery surrounding the sudden upswing and downswing in the tide of the battle had little to do with him and his army. The battle and its outcome was being determined by what was happening at a higher altitude.

Have you thought about it:? Which of your victories depend on someone else higher up in the spirit, and the proactiveness, serving and diligence of the team surrounding him or her? May God enlighten your understanding.

SCRIPTURE READING: EXODUS 17:11-13

AND IT CAME TO PASS, WHEN MOSES HELD UP HIS HAND, THAT ISRAEL PREVAILED: AND WHEN HE LET DOWN HIS HAND, AMALEK PREVAILED. BUT MOSES HANDS WERE HEAVY; AND THEY TOOK A STONE, AND PUT IT UNDER HIM, AND HE SAT THEREON; AND AARON AND HUR STAYED UP HIS HANDS, THE ONE ON THE ONE SIDE, AND THE OTHER ON THE OTHER SIDE; AND HIS HANDS WERE STEADY UNTIL THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN. AND JOSHUA DISCOMFITED AMALEK AND HIS PEOPLE WITH THE EDGE OF THE SWORD



Where Dwellest Thou?



Being followed by John's disciples, Jesus turned around and asked them, "What seek ye?" They answered, "Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou?" He in turn answered, "Come and see."

The disciples of John hit the nail on the head with their question, "Rabbi, where dwellest thou?" They desired to locate Jesus' dwelling place. They understood the significance of the dwelling place. Their teacher John, the prophet, taught them very well. The scripture said about John himself, "And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel." John dwelt in the deserts until his showing and the word of the Lord came unto him there.

You will encounter God in your dwelling place. David said, "One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life..." What was David's motive? He said, "...to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple." David knew that his dwelling place mattered. He knew there were benefits in dwelling, in his desired dwelling place. He confessed, "For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock."

So important is the dwelling place, that Jesus said to his disciples, "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places...I go to prepare a place for you." And let us not forget Moses who also said, "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty."

Where you dwell and with whom you dwell is paramount. Where dwellest thou?

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 1:35-39

AGAIN THE NEXT DAY AFTER JOHN STOOD, AND TWO OF HIS DISCIPLES; AND LOOKING UPON JESUS AS HE WALKED, HE SAITH, BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD! AND THE TWO DISCIPLES HEARD HIM SPEAK, AND THEY FOLLOWED JESUS. THEN JESUS TURNED, AND SAW THEM FOLLOWING, AND SAITH UNTO THEM, WHAT SEEK YE? THEY SAID UNTO HIM, RABBI, [WHICH IS TO SAY, BEING INTERPRETED, MASTER,] WHERE DWELLEST THOU? HE SAITH UNTO THEM, COME AND SEE. THEY CAME AND SAW WHERE HE DWELT, AND ABODE WITH HIM THAT DAY: FOR IT WAS ABOUT THE TENTH HOUR.



SUNDAY, MARCH 29

Again, Never Turn Back



The gospel of John tells us that many of Jesus' disciples, in one day, turned back and walked no more with Him. This all because of a hard saying which they misunderstood. It is written, "The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us his flesh to eat? Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day... Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it? When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you?... From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him."

Jesus was talking about the communion table but these disciples were thinking cannibalism. They had the capacity to miss conceive because they were caught up with the strivings of the Jews among themselves. Refuse to be caught up with the wrong reasonings. Be like the twelve. It is recorded, "Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life." They knew why they were with Jesus. Never follow Jesus or be involved in any Jesus-project out of convenience or private gain. You will have opportunity to turn back. Neither return to an old bad habit. If you stumble, get up but never go back. It would be folly. Over the past two decades we have seen many turn back from following Jesus. Returners can never move forward.

Always stay the course with Jesus. What future can there be in the past? Push forward, looking unto Jesus.

SCRIPTURE READING: PROVERBS 26:11
AS A DOG RETURNETH TO HIS VOMIT, SO A FOOL RETURNETH TO HIS FOLLY..



Worship Jesus



The apostle John said, “And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.”

None was found worthy in all the worlds, in all the times and among all men, except Jesus. He earned the right to unveil and unleash the eons. That same Jesus is our Redeemer, as it is written, “And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.”

Today, worship Jesus. Sing unto Him a new song, for He alone is worthy. Obey Jesus for His word is true. He said, “And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.”

SCRIPTURE READING: REVELATION 5:14

AND THE FOUR BEASTS SAID, AMEN. AND THE FOUR AND TWENTY ELDERS FELL DOWN AND WORSHIPPED HIM THAT LIVETH FOR EVER AND EVER.



TUESDAY, MARCH 31

Freedom To Behold



There was a time and a generation that was not free to behold the glory of God. The ark was hidden within a thick veil and everyone who dared to breach that veil, was met with instant death.

God dwelt in thick darkness and men were not free to approach. A few men could, from time to time, catch a glimpse of God's beauty. Moses was such a man. For forty days and forty nights he dwelt with God, on a mountain. He came out of that encounter with his face shining like that of an angel. Yet man could not look on his face, without the darkness of their hearts being pierced. They were afraid.

In steps Jesus! And now we have a recreated spirit, regenerated in heaven. Now we can look upon His glory with unveiled face. All of us are now looking on God, by looking at the word of Christ, through the inspiration of the Spirit of liberty.

We can now stare at God all day long and come out transformed. We have the liberty. Yes, you have the liberty! Today, enjoy the freedom.

Pick up your bible and say "Come up on me Holy Spirit and show me Jesus!"

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 CORINTHIANS 3:16-18

NEVERTHELESS WHEN IT SHALL TURN TO THE LORD, THE VAIL SHALL BE TAKEN AWAY. NOW THE LORD IS THAT SPIRIT: AND WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS, THERE IS LIBERTY. BUT WE ALL, WITH OPEN FACE BEHOLDING AS IN A GLASS THE GLORY OF THE LORD, ARE CHANGED INTO THE SAME IMAGE FROM GLORY TO GLORY, EVEN AS BY THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD.

DECIDE

Prayer of Salvation

We trust you have been blessed by this devotional. We invite you to make Jesus Christ the Lord of your life by praying this:

“O Lord God, I come to You in the Name of Jesus Christ. Your Word says, “...whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Acts 2:21).

I confess that I am a sinner, in need of Your forgiveness. I therefore renounce all forms of wickedness that I have been a part of and ask you to forgive me for all my sin. I ask Jesus Christ, the Son of God, to come into my life and to become Lord and Ruler of my life. I receive eternal life into my spirit. I am Yours forever. According to the bible in Romans 10:9, “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved, “I declare that I am now saved; I am born again from above by God’s Spirit; I am a child of the Most High God! I now have Christ dwelling in me! I now walk in the consciousness of my new life in Jesus Christ. Praise the Lord!”

Congratulations! You are now a child of God. To receive more information on how you can grow as a Christian, please contact us:

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Ryan & Debra Jacobs

Ryan is a mentor, advisor and prophetic voice. He stands in the prophetic office and also operates in the marketplace arena. Ryan has been mentoring marketplace people in their vocations and careers for decades. He has served at various national and multinational companies for +20 years. For the past decade he has been running an independent business change and project delivery consultancy; successfully assembling and leading multi-discipline international teams in implementing change and technology initiatives.

Debra is an industrious creative with a strong prophetic gift. She has many years of experience in business administration within a vast array of industries ranging from manufacturing, writing and publishing. Endeared not only for her focus, creativity and ability to turn chaos into order but also for her gentle spirit.

Ryan and Debra Jacobs are also the Founders and Leaders of The Empowered Church.

They are passionate about Jesus, the revelation of His Person, the manifestation of His Presence, the demonstration of His Power and the Perfection of His Church.

Their mission in life is to change the way generations see and know Jesus.

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