

Bread of Life

Devotional Guide

Luke 4:4 "And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God."

October 1, 2009

Fellow Christians,

There is a familiar song that we sing as a congregation, "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing." The text was written by Robert Robinson and adapted by Margaret Clarkson. The last verse says:

*O to grace how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it; seal it for Thy courts above.*

Like the text reads, our hearts are prone to wander due to our sin nature. How do we avoid falling away from Jesus Christ? The key is to be in His Word daily, spending quality time with our Savior. Oh that we would daily give him our hearts to seal and use for His glory!

In Christ,
Pastor Russ Merrin

This devotional is prepared and distributed as a ministry of:

Monclova Road Baptist Church
7819 Monclova Rd., Monclova, OH 43542
(419) 866-0773 — FAX: 419-868-1062
www.monclovabaptist.org

 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

Stewardship of Our Life

“So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.” Psalm 90:12

God is always desiring to teach His people, and one item of great importance is the stewardship of our life. The person who does not plan his life is not very wise.

Many people plan to do wonderful things for God upon retirement, but often, that is too late. Others neglect to do much until they see the end coming, and that is too late.

Even though we do not know the exact time God will take us home, we do know the certainty of His taking us. Therefore, we must do the Lord’s work today; we must prepare our hearts every day, and we must walk daily by faith.

Death is certain and so is judgment. We must number our days and plan our spiritual lives because we will be judged at the end of our lives. There will be rewards for the way we have lived, rewards for good and rewards for evil.

We must plan for the judgment that we know is coming. We must be ready to give an answer to our Judge for the way we have lived.

“God, teach us to number our days.”
~RKM

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN:

“John 17:24-25 “Father, I _____ that they also, whom thou hast given me, be _____ me where I am; that they may behold my _____, which thou hast given me: for thou _____ me before the foundation of the world. O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

True or False. Put a *T* in the blank if the statement is *true* or an *F* in the blank if the statement is *false*, based on Phil. 4:10-23.

- ___ 1. Paul learned to be content with his life in all areas.
- ___ 2. Paul rebuked the Philippians for not helping him.
- ___ 3. Paul wanted the believers to attend to his needs so they would in turn be blessed of God.
- ___ 4. Epaphroditus brought things to Paul from the Philippians.
- ___ 5. God will supply for the needs of His children.
- ___ 6. Paul, the Christians with him, and all the saints sent greetings to the Church of Philippi.

 QUOTE OF THE DAY:

“Anxiety does not empty tomorrow of its sorrows, but only empties today of its strength.”
~Charles H. Spurgeon



 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God.” Romans 5:1

Paul is writing to believers and reminding them that they are justified (just as if I had never sinned) by their faith in Christ. It was not because they followed a list of rituals or traditions. It was not even because they had been a good people or tried really hard. It was their faith alone in the finished work of the cross that saved them.

Paul goes even further by reminding them that they were once at war with this God Who died for them. They lived contrary to His plan and as a result they did not have peace. Before salvation, they were at war with God, and yet they were not living in peace with the world either. No visible beachhead exists for their conflict, but Satan has no intention for them to have peace. Even in the lives of those who follow his sinful lead, his plan is to destroy them.

For those consumed in their sin, there is neither peace with Heaven or with Hell. Sadly, without Christ, the lost will never know the joy of a safe haven from the battle. When their fight here is ended, their fight in eternity will begin.

For the believer this is not the case. Although the battle rages here, as we stand with Jesus, we can have peace with Him. We may raise our shield of faith moment by moment to stop fiery darts, but we can continually find peace with the Father because we trust His Son.

Do you have peace in your life? If not, perhaps you need to surrender to the King and

 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

have peace with the One Who has already won the war. If you are saved and not experiencing peace, you may need to make some changes so that you are at rest with the Prince of Peace. ~DJD

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN:

“John 17:24-25 “Father, I _____ that they also, whom thou hast given me, be _____ me where I am; that they may behold my _____, which thou hast given me: for thou _____ me before the _____ of the world. O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Matching: Match the book of the Bible in column 1 with the author in column 2

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| ___ 1. Ecclesiastes | A. Moses |
| ___ 2. Philemon | B. Luke |
| ___ 3. Acts | C. Paul |
| ___ 4. Numbers | D. Solomon |
| ___ 5. 111 John | E. Apostle John |

 QUOTE OF THE DAY:

“God often comforts us, not by changing the circumstances of our lives, but by changing our attitude toward them.”

~S.H.B. Masterman



Morning: Isaiah 24-26

Evening: Ephesians 4

 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

Paul Admonished Young Titus

“Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.” Titus 2:13

Most great men in history have had difficult times and some “hard knocks” in their lives. One of the most important reasons we are called upon to endure tough times is to make us stronger in our faith. This is God’s training ground in the lives of those through whom He has planned to do great things.

Martin Luther had his problems with the Catholic church. John Huss was persecuted by the church. Charles Spurgeon was voted out of the Baptist Association of London. Jonathon Edwards was voted out of his first pastorate. Dr. John R. Rice lost his mother when he was six years old. Dr. Bill Rice saw his baby daughter lose her hearing. Harold Sighter’s nine year old girl was killed by a drunken driver. Dr. Monroe Parker’s wife was killed in an accident caused by a drunken driver. George Truitt accidentally killed his best friend on a hunting trip. These are just a few examples of influential men of God who experienced difficult times. Just as these men had trials and were made stronger, we must prepare to deal with difficult times in our lives.

Paul knew that Titus needed to experience some tough times in his spiritual life to help him mature. Paul admonished Titus to stay in Crete because the people of Crete needed his Christian influence: the poor, the lonely, the discouraged, the deaf, the blind, the ill, the mentally challenged, the physically challenged, the elderly, and the sinful.

 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

Many preachers and Christians do not want tough times in their lives and would like an easy life without the burdens, trials, heartaches, and the battles of life. However, everyone will experience difficult circumstances. God knows these times help us to grow closer to Him, burden us to help those in need, and demonstrate God’s love for the world. ~OV

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN:

“John 17:24-25 “Father, I _____ that they also, whom thou hast given me, be _____ me where I am; that they may behold my _____, which thou hast given me: for thou _____ me before the _____ of the world. O righteous Father, the _____ hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

True or False: These statements deal with end-times prophecy. Put a *T* in the blank if the statement is true or an *F* in the blank if the statement is false.

- _____ 1. There will be an increase in knowledge. (Daniel 12:4)
- _____ 2. Russia will invade Israel. (Ezekiel 28:8-11, 16)
- _____ 3. There will be rejection of the Word of God. (2 Timothy 4:3-4)
- _____ 4. Russia will become a world power. (Ezekiel 38-39)
- _____ 5. There will be an enormous emphasis on pleasure. (2 Timothy 3:2,4)



How to Get Rid of Your Enemies

by Sumner Wemp

"Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you." Matthew 5:43-44

We are "in the world," though, we are not "of the world." God tells us, *"Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you."* 1 John 3:13. *"Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you."* Matthew 5:11-12. What do you do? *"Do good to them...and pray from them."* Matthew 5:44.

"Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets." Luke 6:26. It is not uncommon to have enemies. You are in good company, for the Lord Jesus and the apostles had enemies. God says, *"Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth: Lest the LORD see it, and it displease him, and he turn away his wrath from him."* Proverbs 24:17-18. What do you do? *Pray for those who despitefully use you for "vengeance is mine says the Lord."*

Friends can spitefully use you. Does this happen in the Christian world? The psalmist very candidly states, *"For it was not an en-*

emy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me; then I would have hid myself from him: But it was thou, a man mine equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company." Psalm 55:12-14. What do you do? *"Pray for those who spitefully use you."*

Families can spitefully use you. Jesus warned us, *"Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household."* Matthew 10:34-36. What do you do? *"Do good to them...and pray from them."* Matthew 5:44. This would solve so many terrible hurts and hates.

A person in ministry, who could not stand me, cut me to pieces behind my back. By faith, I began to pray for them just as the Bible tells us. Months later, the person was in a meeting where I spoke. A few days later, I came face to face with him. To my utter amazement he said, "When you spoke the other day, God unusually blessed me, and I want to thank you." From that day on, he became a real friend to me and whatever the animosity, it was gone. I have seen this happen over and over as I have *"prayed for those who spitefully use"* me. We must live that way; it works.♦

 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN:

Excuse Me

“And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?” Exodus 3:11

What Moses was saying is, “Lord, excuse me. I think you made a mistake when you chose me to carry out your plan to save the people of Israel.”

“Excuse me” is a common expression that means to release from responsibility, obligation or duty. This phrase is also used to ask forgiveness for an offense we have committed. It is proper to say, “Excuse me,” if we have offended, but it is not proper to offer excuses for not doing God’s will for our lives.

Maybe we are guilty of doing as Moses did. His excuses were that he was personally inferior, people would not believe him, and that he was not prepared enough. These excuses were based on wrong evaluations, past failure, lack of trust in God, and too much emphasis on self. When God gives us a job to do, He gives us the power, and He goes with us. 2 Corinthians 3:5 says, *“Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God.”* Also, God says in 2 Corinthians 12:9, *“My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.”*

What is your excuse? ~JWL (from *Balancing Our Lives*, 2004)

Psalm 91:1-2 “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Short Answer: Answer each of the following questions in the space provided. All answers are found in Philippians 4:1-4.

1. Paul gave three instructions in these verses. List them on the blanks provided.
 - a. _____
(verse 1)
 - b. _____
(verse 3)
 - c. _____
(verse 4)
2. Who did Paul urge to be in agreement with one another? _____

3. What did Paul call the Christians at Philippi that shows his deep affection for them?

 QUOTE OF THE DAY:

“The atheist can’t find God for the same reason that a thief can’t find a police officer.”
~Author Unknown



Morning: Isaiah 29, 30

Evening: Ephesians 6

 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

“But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ.” Ephesians 4:15

As the witness takes the stand, he places his hand on the Bible and raises his right hand. “Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?” Everyone knows what it means to “speak the truth.” All too often, we are guilty of speaking the truth.

“Wait a minute! Did I read that right? Did that say ‘guilty’ of speaking the truth? How in the world can someone be ‘guilty’ of speaking the truth? If you speak the truth, is that not a good thing?”

Well, it depends. Just because a fact is true does not mean that it should be spoken. Many times, we “speak the truth,” but not necessarily what needs to be spoken. You have probably heard someone speak the truth this way: “Did you hear what he did,” or “Well, I hear that....” Perhaps you have heard the more “spiritual” approach: “Could you pray for ‘so-n-so.’ his wife left him for another man and....”

Paul encourages the believers of Ephesus not only to “speak the truth” but to do it in love. As a result of using one’s spiritual gift, building up the body of Christ, coming together in unity and being protected from the affairs of the world (vv. 12-14), a Christian should “speak the truth in love.” What words are coming out of your mouth? Are they truthful? Were they spoken in love? Remember, a fact may be true, but that does not mean it needs to be spoken. Speak the truth, yes; but speak the truth in love. ~PMO

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN:

Psalm 91:1-2 “He that _____ in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Short Answer: Answer each of the following questions in the space provided. All answers are found in Philippians 4:5-7

1. Verse five says, “**Let your moderation be known unto all men.**” What is another word for “moderation”? _____
2. Verse six says, “**Be careful for nothing.**” What is another word for “careful” _____
3. When making a request to God, we should ask with what? _____
4. What is beyond all understanding (vs. 7)? _____

 QUOTE OF THE DAY:

“Though true Christianity uniquely involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, it is also a corporate experience...Christians cannot grow spiritually as they ought to in isolation from one another.” ~Gene Getz



 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

Who Shall Stand

“If thou, LORD, shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?” Psalm 130:3

It is humbling to know that the Lord does not mark our iniquities; He does not hold them against us. We have all sinned many times, and many times the Lord has forgiven us. Psalm 103:12 says this: ***“As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.”*** It is noteworthy for us to remember that God’s forgiveness is an outpouring of His abundant grace. Praise His Holy name!

Psalm 130 entreats the Lord to deliver and forgive, and it is a plea for Israel to trust in the Lord. Verses 1-2 tell us to cry out to the Lord. God is faithful to uphold and rescue us. Verses 3-4 tell us that Jesus is our Advocate. ***“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins.”*** (1 John 1:9) Verses 5-6 teach us to wait and hope in His Word. Everything looks brighter in the morning. Verses 7-8 are a picture of God’s great mercy.

My life verses are Proverbs 3:5-6, ***“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”***

It is the strong Christian who will stand. I challenge you to stand against all odds. ~KAT

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN:

Psalm 91:1-2 “He that _____ in the _____ place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Short Answer: Answer each of the following questions in the space provided. All answers are found in Philippians 4:8-9

- 1. What are the eight things that Christians should think about?

- 2. Whose example did Paul urge the believers to follow?

- 3. What did the believer’s have to do in order to have God’s peace?

 QUOTE OF THE DAY:

“To gather with God's people in united adoration of the Father is as necessary to the Christian life as prayer.” ~Martin Luther



 THE WORD FOR TODAY

*“And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.”
Revelation 20:10*

The beast is the antichrist, and the false prophet is the religious leader of the world at the beginning of the great tribulation. The devil is Satan, the destroyer of men.

In the end, they will all be together in the lake of fire, which was created for them and the fallen angels. It is a destiny they have chosen with their rejection of Christ, and it is the destiny they have earned.

How long will it last? The answer is forever and ever. Not only is it a long time, but it is a time in which things will not improve. There will be torment all day, every day and torment all night, every night.

As watchmen, we must warn the unsaved that Jesus is coming, and His reward is with Him. *“Marvel not that I said unto thee, ye must be born again.”*

Only the blood of Jesus can keep us from Hell. ~RKM



 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN

Psalms 91:1-2 “He that _____ in the _____ place of the Most High shall _____ under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Short Answer: Answer each of the following questions in the space provided. All answers are found in Philippians 4:10-23.

1. “For I have learned, in _____ state I am, therewith to be _____.” (vs. 11)
2. “I can do _____ things through _____ which strengtheneth me.” (v. 13)
3. Paul clarifies his desire towards the Philippian believers in verse 17 when he says, “Not because I desire a _____: but I desire _____ that may _____ to your account.”
4. “But my God shall supply _____ your _____ according to His _____ in glory by Jesus Christ.” (v. 19)

 QUOTE OF THE DAY

“It is evident that our conversion is sound when we loathe and hate sin from the heart.”
~Richard Sibbes

 THE WORD FOR TODAY

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” John 17:17

This is a short verse that has a lot of important insight for us to apply to our lives. We can not understand the implication of what Jesus has said in this verse without understanding the context. Jesus was praying to His Father on the night that He was going to be arrested. He knew what was about to happen. He knew that He was about to be put to death. He also knew what His disciples would face after He was gone. The verses before and after this one talk about His disciples being sent into the world to spread the truth about Jesus.

Now that we know the importance of who Jesus was talking to, who He was talking about, when He was talking and what He wanted his followers to do, let’s look at what He said.

“Sanctify them through thy truth.” The word *sanctify* means to set apart or to make holy. Jesus was asking His Father to make His followers holy for the purpose of evangelizing the world. The tool that is effective for setting them apart is the truth. The truth is found in the Word of God. The Word is where we must go to find God’s truth in a world confused by Satan’s lies. As God’s plans and values are constantly distorted by this disobedient generation, we cannot be sanctified without having the Word cleanse our hearts and clear our minds. Fill yourself with the Word. Read it, meditate on it, study it, quote it, sing songs that contain it. For as you do so, God can sanctify you, and you can be the light and salt He intends for you to be. ~DLW

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN

Psalm 91:1-2 “He that _____ in the _____ place of the Most High shall _____ under the shadow of the _____. I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Matching: Match the Biblical character in the left column with his description in the right column

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| _____ 1. Aaron
Num. 17 | A. King of Jerusalem, defeated by Joshua |
| _____ 2. Abel
Gen. 4:1-8 | B. Friend of Daniel, carried to Babylon |
| _____ 3. Abiram
Num. 16:23-32 | C. The first man |
| _____ 4. Adam
Gen. 1-2 | D. Conspired against Moses and was destroyed |
| _____ 5. Absalom
2 Sam. 15 | E. Son of Adam, slain by Cain |
| _____ 6. Abednego
Dan. 1:7 | F. First high priest of Israel |
| _____ 7. Adbeel
Gen. 25:13 | G. Son of David, tried to usurp the throne |
| _____ 8. Adoni-zedek
Josh. 10:1-27 | H. A son of Ishmael |



 THE WORD FOR TODAY: 

Never Lose Hope

“And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.” Genesis 4:25

After Adam and Eve sinned, God pronounced his punishment on mankind. Yet, at the beginning of the curse God gave a promise. Genesis 3:14-15 says, *“And the LORD God said unto the serpent . . . I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.”* God was going to provide a Redeemer to crush Satan’s head and save mankind. In the New Testament, we can see this prophecy fulfilled. God sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, to conquer death and enable mankind to live in perfect harmony with God again in Heaven by putting faith in the work of Jesus on the cross.

This promise must have thrilled Eve’s heart. First, despite her sin, she was still going to be the “mother of all the living.” (Gen. 3:20) Secondly, Satan, who had deceived her, would be destroyed.

It must have been extremely hard for Eve to be banished from a perfect world, to begin to working alongside her husband in an unforgiving land, to endure pain in child birth, and to see the death of her son Abel. Yet, Eve’s faith and hope in God remained strong. In our verse for today, we see that Eve still clung to God’s promise. She said, *“For God hath appointed*

 THE WORD FOR TODAY: 

me another seed instead of Abel.” She did not lose hope and faith that God would redeem mankind.

What promise of God is special to your heart? Put your hope in God; He will never let you down. ~MFM

 SCRIPTURE FILL-INS 

Psalm 91:1-2 “He that _____ in the _____ place of the Most High shall _____ under the shadow of the _____. I will say of the LORD, He is my _____ and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust.”

 BIBLE QUIZ 

Fill in the Blanks: Psalm 5 is called a penitential psalm, meaning a cry of repentance. David is at a very low point in his life, yet He turns to the One who offers hope. Complete verses 3-4 of this psalm.

“My _____ shalt thou hear in the _____, O LORD; in the morning will I direct my _____ unto thee, and will look _____. For thou art not a God that hath pleasure in _____: Neither shall _____ dwell with thee.”

 QUOTE OF THE DAY: 

“The first duty of every soul is to find not its freedom but its Master.” ~Peter T. Forsythe



Morning: Isaiah 41, 42

Evening: Colossians 1

 THE WORD FOR TODAY

The Danger of Lapsing into Legalism

*“Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.”
Galatians 5:1*

The Galatian church has been called “the church of the repaired veil.” Remember, the temple veil was torn from top to bottom by a miraculous unseen hand when Jesus was crucified. This means that now all of us can have access to God without the sacrifices, without the holy days, without holy seasons, etc.

The Galatian people, however, wanted to repair the veil. They were saved, but they wanted to go back to the old ways of worship. They looked up to the priests, and wanted them to wear royal garments again and perform their earlier duties. This was unnecessary.

No longer are we under the bondage of legalism! We have been freed from the law, and we have the joy of being bondservants. A bondservant was one who served as a slave for a set period of time, then he volunteered to be a slave because of his love for the Master. This is the kind of servant God wants us to be. We are not under the old legalism. We have been set free by the penalty Jesus paid on the cross. However, we do have the right to say, “Lord, I’ll serve you; I’ll be your slave.”

A young girl was on a slave block. She was bitter because she did not want to be a slave. An old man kept bidding higher for her, making her more bitter with each bid. Finally, he won and bought the girl. She came to him, cursed him, and said, “I hate to be your slave.”

 THE WORD FOR TODAY

He said, “Young lady, you don’t understand. I did not purchase you to make you my slave. I saw something in your face that made me want to set you free. I bought you in order that you might go free. You may go free.” The girl began to weep. She looked at the man and said, “Oh, sir, then I will be your slave forever!” This is what Christianity is all about. Let us enjoy the grace of God and be His slave! ~OV

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN

Psalm 91:1-2 “He that _____ in the _____ place of the Most High shall _____ under the shadow of the _____. I will say of the LORD, He is my _____ and my fortress: my God; in Him will I _____.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

True or False: Does each of the following prophecies apply to the 1000 year millennium? If the statement does apply, write a *T* for true in the blank, if the statement does not apply, write an *F* in the blank for false.

- ___ 1. The stars, moon, and sun will be darkened. (Isaiah 13:10)
- ___ 2. Peace on earth. (Isaiah 32:18)
- ___ 3. The wolf and lamb lie down together. (Isaiah 11:6-7)
- ___ 4. Unified language. (Zephaniah 3:9)
- ___ 5. Rule by the Anti-Christ.

 QUOTE OF THE DAY

“The word of God is the food by which prayer is nourished and made strong.”
~E.M. Bounds

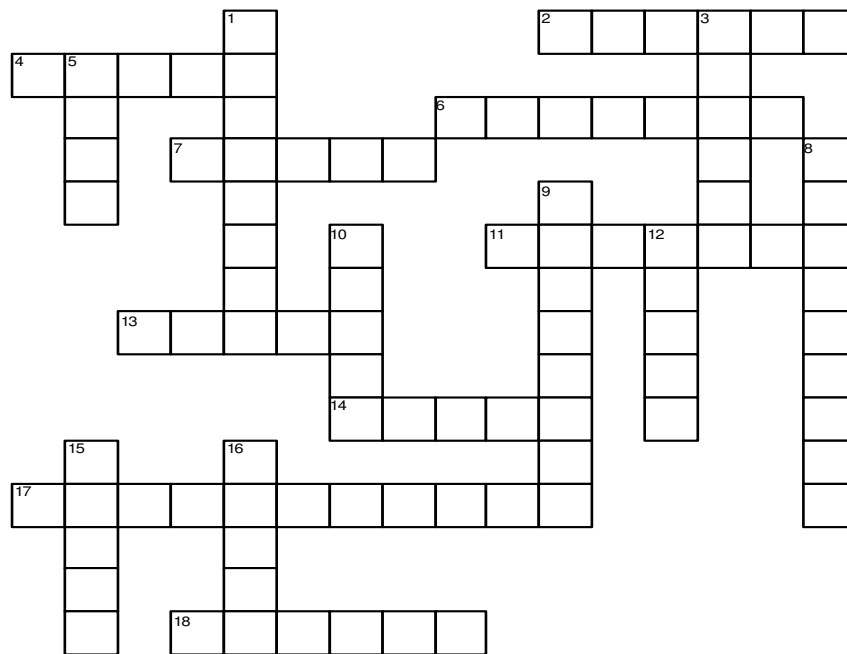


Morning: Isaiah 43, 44

Evening: Colossians 2

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Bible Facts from the Book of Acts



www.CrosswordWeaver.com

ACROSS

- 2 These men carried Stephen to his burial. Acts 8:2
- 4 Peter asked why the people did this to God. Acts 15:10
- 6 Country where Philip first preached. Acts 8:5
- 7 This king was quoted at Pentecost. Acts 2:25
- 11 Another name for Dorcas. Acts 9:36
- 13 John baptized with this. Acts 1:5
- 14 Angel did this to wake Peter. Acts 12:7
- 17 The name Barnabas means son of _____ . Acts 4:36
- 18 Barnabas went here to seek Saul. Acts 11:25

DOWN

- 1 Name of the street where Saul went after his vision of Christ. Acts 9:11
- 3 Jesus ascended from this mountain. Acts 1:12
- 5 What filled the hearts of the Jews when Paul preached at Antioch. Acts 13:45
- 8 Name of the gate where a lame man begged. Acts 3:2
- 9 The disciples were this language group. Acts 2:7
- 10 Stephen was charged with speaking blasphemous _____. Acts 6:13
- 12 Jacob's father. Acts 7:8
- 15 Direction from Jerusalem to Gaza. Acts 8:26
- 16 Dorcas lived in this city. Acts 9:36

 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

Here Am I, Send Me

“Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.” Isaiah 6:8

God is always looking for one with the heart of a volunteer. Isaiah had just seen God in His glory and was immediately humbled. He saw his own impurity when he looked upon the purity of God.

He had also feared for the well-being of Israel after the death of King Uzziah. However, the sight of God on His throne brought Isaiah to an immediate understanding that God is in total control.

Once Isaiah was purged of his sin, he was ready to effectively serve the Lord. God wants to use you, even today. He is ready if you are. Are you saved? If so, are you living a Christ-like life? Is your life pure before the Lord? He will not use a dirty vessel.

Finally, is your heart surrendered to go? God has a plan for your life and a place for you in His army. You will only find it with a submissive heart toward Him and a willingness to follow Him by faith.

If you have never made that commitment, do it today. It will open up God-given opportunities for you that will challenge and stir your heart, and it will make your life count for eternity. ~RKM

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN:

Psalm 100:2-3 “Serve the LORD with gladness: come before His presence with singing. Know ye that the LORD He is God: it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer.

1. What was the pool near the Sheep Gate of Jerusalem known for having healing qualities? (John 5:2-3)
A. Bethesda B. Bethage
C. Bileam D. Beth-peor
2. What was the road Paul was travelling on when he was converted? (Acts 9:1-16)
A. Dalmatia B. Damascus
C. Dor D. Decapolis
3. Where did Can flee after the murder of Abel? (Genesis 4:16)
A. Nebo B. Nezib
C. Nain D. Nod
4. Who was the first person to see the risen Lord? (Mark 16:9)
A. Mary, Martha’s sister
B. Mary Magdalene
C. Mary, the mother of Jesus
D. Mary, the mother of James

 QUOTE OF THE DAY:

“When people are right with God, they are apt to be hard on themselves and easy on other people. But when they are not right with God, they are easy on themselves and hard on others.” ~John Newton



 THE WORD FOR TODAY

*“This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind.”
Ephesians 4:17*

If you type the word *walk* into the search engine Yahoo, you will find 1.1 billion different web sites that contain the word *walk*. You will see: 1. WALK radio station from New York; 2. advice on how to do the moon walk; 3. the location of a walk-in abortion clinic; 4. Walk! Magazine; 5. walk, the definition...and the list goes on.

The Apostle Paul uses the word *walk* to describe the lifestyle of the Gentiles (the unbelievers). He reminds the believers in the Church at Ephesus that they are not to have the same type of lifestyle as an unbeliever. After reminding them that the Holy Spirit has given each believer different spiritual gifts which they are to use in the church to promote maturity and unity among the believers, he shifts gears slightly to remind them to act like Christians. His words, however, are written for us as well. The way we “walk” (live) should be different from the world. So ask yourself a few questions. 1. Is what I listen to on the radio of the world? 2. Am I following role models with lifestyles that are worldly? 3. The places I go, are they natural attractions for an unbeliever? 4. Is what I read advice from the world? 5. If someone would define my lifestyle, would it best be defined as “worldly”?

So, how is your walk? Are you walking like an unbeliever or is your lifestyle godly? What changes do you need to make to your walk?
~PMO

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN

Psalm 100:2-3 “Serve the LORD with _____: come before His presence with singing. Know ye that the LORD He is God: it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Matching: Match the parable in column 1 with the correct Scripture reference in column 2.

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| ___ 1. Lost Sheep | A. Matt. 13:47-52 |
| ___ 2. Mustard Seed | B. Luke 18:1-8 |
| ___ 3. Wheat and Tares | C. Luke 14:15-24 |
| ___ 4. Great Supper | D. Luke 15:3-7 |
| ___ 5. Unjust Steward | E. Matt. 13:24-30 |
| ___ 6. Wedding Feast | F. Matt.22:1-14 |
| ___ 7. Fishing Net | G. Luke 16:1-13 |
| ___ 8. Unjust Judge | H. Matt. 13:31-32 |

 QUOTE OF THE DAY

“To be Biblically evangelistic, we must be certain that what we do leads men to faith, not just to decisions.” ~Jim Ehrhard



 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

Beauty

**“Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.”
1 Samuel 16:7**

Society places so much emphasis on physical beauty. Facials, hair appointments, manicures, pedicures, massages, waxing, spa treatments, gym workouts sessions, and much more have become a normal part of the American lifestyle.

The Lord does not focus on the physical appearance of His children. Instead, He looks at the heart. He is more interested in character and holy living. **“Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.” (Phil. 2:3)**

Eve must have been an absolutely gorgeous woman. After all, she was the only woman ever born into a perfect world. She was fashioned in absolute perfection, yet her beauty is NEVER mentioned in the Bible. In John MacArthur’s book, *Twelve Extraordinary Women*, he addresses Eve’s beauty in the following quote: “Her beauty—splendid as it must have been—is never mentioned or even alluded to. The focus of the biblical account is on Eve’s duty to her Creator and her role alongside her husband. That is a significant fact, reminding us that the chief distinguishing traits of true feminine excellence are nothing superficial.”

Instead of placing so much emphasis on outward beauty, put extra energy into developing good character qualities. Approval from

 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

God is much more important than approval from man. **“Not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts.” (1 Thess. 2:4b)**
~MFM

 SCRIPTURE FILL-INS:

Psalm 100:2-3 “Serve the LORD with _____: come before His _____ with singing. Know ye that the LORD He is God: it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.”

 BIBLE QUIZ:

Multiple Choice: Choose and circle the correct answer.

- Who sold Jesus to the priests for 30 pieces of silver? Matthew 26:14, 15
A. Juda B. Judas
C. Joel D. Jehu
- Which of the twelve tribes of Israel served as priests? Deuteronomy 10:8
A. Ruben B. Benjamin
C. Levi D. Judah
- An angel released this man from prison? Acts 12:7
A. Barnabas B. Mark
C. James D. Peter

 QUOTE OF THE DAY:

“By the cross we know the gravity of sin and the greatness of God’s love toward us.”
~John Chrysostom



Morning: Isaiah 50-52

Evening: 1 Thessalonians 1

 THE WORD FOR TODAY

Suffering for Christ

“For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake.” Philippians 1:29

Modern Christianity would have you believe that you should always be blessed with health and wealth and that God will keep you from all sorrows and sicknesses. Don't be surprised if you are living your life according to the Bible and find that it is not always a bed of roses. Look at Matthew 5:11-12: ***“Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.”*** The Bible says all who live godly shall suffer persecution, but the promise is that we shall be rewarded, if it is for Christ's sake we are persecuted.

Christ suffered for us, the Just for the unjust. Look at Isaiah 53:3: ***“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.”*** If we are going to know Christ, then we must suffer for His sake. Look at Philippians 3:1: ***“That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death.”***

Shallow Christianity endures no suffering.
~JWL (from *Balancing Our Lives*, 2004)

 SCRIPTURE FILL-INS

Psalm 100:2-3 “Serve the LORD with _____: come before His _____ with singing. Know ye that the LORD He is God: it is He that hath _____ us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Fill in the Blank: Psalm 3 has been titled, “the morning psalm.” When David wrote this psalm, he was fleeing from his own son, Absalom, who had overthrown David's kingdom. Fill in the blanks to complete some of the verses of this psalm.

Verse 3 - “But thou, O _____, art a _____ for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.”

Verse 4 - “I cried unto the LORD with my voice, and he _____ me out of his holy hill.”

Verse 5 - “I laid me down and slept; I awaked; for the LORD _____ me.”

Verse 6 - “I will not be _____ of ten thousands of people, that have set themselves against me round about.

 QUOTE OF THE DAY

“There are no crown-wearers in heaven who were not cross-bearers here below.”
~C.H. Spurgeon



Morning: Isaiah 53-55

Evening: 1 Thessalonians 2

 THE WORD FOR TODAY

*“The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.”
John 1:29*

One day a crowd had gathered to hear John the Baptist preach and see him baptize converts. In the midst of everything, John pointed to a figure approaching the crowd and said, **“Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sins of the world,”** and at that moment the prophecy of Isaiah 40:3 was fulfilled.

John said, “Behold the Lamb of God,” two thousand years ago, but we should pause and behold Him afresh today. First, let us behold His deity. He is not just any lamb; He is the only Lamb of God, the only Lamb sent from heaven, the Lamb Who created the universe. No other lamb has seen the sins and suffering of every single person who has ever lived. He is the only Lamb Who loves, regardless of faults and failures. He is the Lamb Who defeated Satan in the wilderness. He is the Lamb seated at the right hand of the Father. He is the Lamb Who is worthy to receive power, and riches, and honor, and wisdom, and strength, and glory and blessing.

Let us also pause to behold His sacrifice. Countless sacrifices have been made throughout the ages. Before the priest could wash the blood off his hands, the collective sins of the nation of Israel required another blood sacrifice. There could be no end to this sin cycle until the spotless Lamb of God allowed His own blood to pour from His own hands. The sinless blood of God’s own Son once and for all paid the price. That sacrifice was sufficient

 THE WORD FOR TODAY

to pay for all of the sins of the world. In the eyes of a holy God, no other sacrifice would ever be acceptable. All sin past, present, and future has been paid for. In the words of Jesus on the cross, “It is finished.” ~DLW

 SCRIPTURE FILL-INS

Psalm 100:2-3 “Serve the LORD with _____: come before His _____ with singing. Know ye that the LORD He is God: it is He that hath _____ us, and not we _____; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Matching: Matthew 1:1-16 gives the lineage of Jesus Christ. Match the fathers in column 1 with their son in column 2.

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| ___ 1. Judas | A. Joseph |
| ___ 2. Salmon | B. Solomon |
| ___ 3. David | C. Manasseh |
| ___ 4. Hezekiah | D. Josiah |
| ___ 5. Amon | E. Abiud |
| ___ 6. Zerubbabel | F. Pharez |
| ___ 7. Jacob | G. Boaz |

 QUOTE OF THE DAY

“The soul’s deepest thirst is for God Himself, Who has made us so that we can never be satisfied without Him.” ~F.F. Bruce



Morning: Isaiah 56-58

Evening: 1 Thessalonians 3

 THE WORD FOR TODAY

The Day of the LORD is at Hand

“Alas for the day! For the day of the LORD is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.” Joel 1:15

The book of Joel is a call to repentance and tells of the punishment for ignoring God’s Word. Joel warned Judah about what was going to happen if they did not take heed.

Chapter one has four instructions:

1. **Listen.** Listen all ye inhabitants, old and young. There is desolation about to occur.
2. **Wake up** you drunkards. A strong, large nation has come up against you.
3. **Lament** like a virgin; be ye ashamed; your joy is withered away.
4. **Cry out** to the Lord.

Chapter two contains a warning, weeping, and a blessing:

1. **Warning.** The day of the Lord is coming, and it is near.
2. **Weeping.** Verse 12 says to turn to God with all your heart, with fasting, and with weeping.
3. **A blessing.** Verse 18 says that the Lord is jealous for His land and will have pity for His people.

Chapter three describes four judgments:

1. Verses 1-8 explain that the Lord will plead for His people and for His heritage.
2. Verses 9-13 tell that He will judge the heathen.
3. Verses 14-17 warn that the day of the Lord is near; He shall roar out of Zion.

 THE WORD FOR TODAY

4. Verses 18-21 say that the Lord cleanses all and dwells in Zion.

If you have accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, you will never experience the end times tribulation. Trust in the Lord now, for the day of the Lord is at hand.

~KAT

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN

Psalm 100:2-3 “Serve the LORD with _____; come before His _____ with singing. Know ye that the LORD He is God: it is He that hath _____ us, and not we _____; we are His people, and the _____ of His pasture.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Multiple Choice: Choose and circle the correct answer.

1. Who was thought to be a god when he was bitten by a snake and nothing happened? Acts 28:3-6
A. Mark B. Paul
C. Barnabas D. Luke
2. Which two New Testament writers were brothers of the Lord Jesus? Matt. 13:55
A. James and Paul
B. James and Joses
C. James and Jude
D. Judas and Simon

 QUOTE OF THE DAY

“The Bible knows nothing of solitary religion.” ~John Wesley



 THE WORD FOR TODAY

 THE WORD FOR TODAY

Sacrifice

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.”

Romans 12:1

If man is to avoid or escape punishment for his sin, a sacrifice must be offered to cover his sin. Leviticus 1-7 deals with different types of offerings. These offerings include the meal offering, the burnt offering, the peace offering, and the trespass offering.

There are five animals that were acceptable for sacrifice. Each animal typifies the Lord Jesus Christ, our perfect sacrifice, in one way or another. The **Lamb** pictures Jesus as the meek one, willing to die for us. The **bullock** pictures Jesus as the burden-bearing one, willing to pull or share our burden. The **goat** pictures Jesus as the One Who became sin for us. The **pigeon** or **turtledove** was to be used as sacrifice for those who could not afford a lamb, a goat, or a bullock.

You will recall when Mary and Joseph came to make an offering in the temple, they brought a turtledove instead of a lamb. She was too poor to bring a lamb (Luke 2:21-24). The **dove** pictures the peace that Jesus brings when He saves us. As our “goat” Jesus bore our sins. As our “turtledove,” Jesus offers us peace.

Today, God does not expect us to sacrifice a lamb, a bullock, or a goat since the Lord Jesus Christ died on Calvary for our sins. However, we are expected as a child of His to be a living sacrifice to God. In Romans 12:1 we read, “*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mer-*

cies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.” ~OV

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN

Psalm 100:2-3 “Serve the LORD with _____: come before His _____ with singing. Know ye that the LORD He is God: it is He that hath _____ us, and not we _____; we are His people, and the _____ of His _____.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

True or False. Label each statement with a *T* for true or an *F* for false.

- _____ 1. Cyrus was king of Persia according to Ezra 1:1.
- _____ 2. When Nehemiah heard of the condition of Jerusalem (Nehemiah 1:4), he sat down and wept, mourned, fasted, and prayed to God.
- _____ 3. Nehemiah was the cupbearer to Artaxerxes, the king. Nehemiah 1:11, 2:1
- _____ 4. God brought Daniel into favor with the prince of the eunuchs. Daniel 1:9

 QUOTE OF THE DAY

“When you look at the Cross, what do you see? You see God’s awesome faithfulness. Nothing – not even the instinct to spare His own Son – will turn Him back from keeping His word.” ~Sinclair Ferguson



Morning: Isaiah 62-64

Evening: 1 Thessalonians 5

A Nobody Named Kimball

by Sumner Wemp

Edward Kimball was concerned about one of his young Sunday School students who worked at a shoe store in town. One day, Kimball visited him at the store, found the student working in the back stocking shelves, and led him to Christ then and there. Dwight L. Moody eventually left the shoe store to become one of the greatest preachers and evangelists of all time.

Moody, whose international speaking took him to the British Isles, preached in a little chapel pastored by a young man with the imposing name of Frederic Brotherton Meyer. In his sermon, Moody told an emotionally charged story about a Sunday School teacher who personally went to every student in his class and led each of them to Christ.

That message changed Pastor Meyer's ministry, inspiring him to become an evangelist like Moody. Over the years, Meyer came to America. While speaking in Northfield, Massachusetts, a young preacher heard Meyer say, "If you are not willing to give up everything for Christ, are you willing to be made willing?" That remark led J. Wilbur Chapman to respond to the call of God on his life.

Chapman went on to become one of the most effective evangelists of his time. A volunteer by the name of Billy Sunday helped set up his crusades

and learned how to preach by watching Chapman. Sunday eventually took over Chapman's ministry becoming one of the most dynamic evangelists of this century. Billy Sunday's preaching brought thousands to Christ.

Inspired by a 1924 Billy Sunday crusade in

Charlotte, North Carolina a group of Christians dedicated themselves to reaching their city for Christ. The group invited the evangelist Mordecai Ham to come and hold a series of evangelistic meetings in 1932. A lanky 16 year old sat in the huge crowd one evening, spell-bound by the message the white-haired preacher gave. Each evening the preacher seemed to be shouting and waving his finger at the young man. Night after night the teen came and finally went forward to give his life to Christ.

That teenager was Billy Graham. Billy Graham communicated the Gospel to more people than any other person in history, and it all started with a Sunday School teacher named Kimball. Millions have been affected and will be affected by his decision to go into a shoe store and share Christ with one person. Can something like this happen today? Of course! God wants to use you to change the world. Make an eternal difference by sharing the Gospel with those around you and by supporting others who do God's work around the world. ♦

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 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

Cleansing Blood

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.” 1 John 1:7

The only cleansing that satisfies God is the blood of Jesus Christ. Let us notice some great verses about the blood. Leviticus 17: 11 says, *“For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.”* In Exodus 12:13b God said, *“When I see the blood, I will pass over you.”* Hebrews 9:22b says, *“ . . . And without shedding of blood is no remission.”*

Notice five aspects of the cleansing blood of the Son of God. First, the blood of Christ cleanses from past sins. Secondly, the blood of Christ cleanses from all present sins. Thirdly, the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses from all possible sin. Look at 1 John 2:1-2: *“My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.”* Fourthly, the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses from sin’s power. We do not have to be slaves to sin. Fifthly, the blood is precious. Look at 1 Peter 1:18-19: *“Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;*

 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”

~JWL (from *Balancing Our Lives*, 2004)

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN:

Psalms 117:1-2 “O praise the LORD, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people. For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the LORD endureth for ever. Praise ye the LORD.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Short Answer: Answer the following questions about specific places mentioned in the Bible.

1. What is the valley south of Jericho, in which Achan was stoned? (Joshua 7:24)

2. What is the site of the final battle between Christ and Satan? (Revelation 16:12-16)

3. Where did Noah’s ark come to rest? (Genesis 8:4) _____
4. What was the greatest city in Classical Greece in which Paul founded a Christian church? (Acts 17:15-18) _____
5. What is the place near Ephraim where Absalom killed Ammon? (2 Samuel 13: 23-36) _____

 QUOTE OF THE DAY:

“To be a follower of the Crucified Christ means, sooner or later, a personal encounter with the cross. And the cross always entails loss.” ~*Elisabeth Elliot*



 THE WORD FOR TODAY

*“But ye have not so learned Christ.”
Ephesians 4:20*

While I was growing up, my parents were very good at teaching me not only right and wrong, but also good manners. I was taught the proper way to answer a telephone, fold clothing, make a bed, dust a shelf, take out the trash, wash the dishes, empty the Rexair pan, etc. I am sure that, on occasion, my parents would test me to see if I would act appropriately. For instance, Mom might call home when she knew I would pick up the phone to see if I would answer the way I was taught. I am sure she would inspect my room to see if I had made my bed and emptied the trash. If I did not do what I had been taught, I was sure to hear a comment like, “I taught you better than that,” or “You didn’t learn that from me.”

In Ephesians 4:17-19, the Apostle Paul had just warned the believers of Ephesus to make sure that their lifestyle reflected Christ and not the world. He described the lifestyle of an unbeliever and reminded them that they were not supposed to look like, act like or imitate the lifestyle of an unbeliever. After he describes their ways, he basically says, “I never taught you to act that way,” or “I taught you better than that.”

Learning to act appropriately takes patience and practice. Living godly does not come naturally to anyone. We are human. We need constant reminders from the Word of God to live a godly life. Stay in God’s Word daily. Do not neglect the teaching of His Word in the church. Stay clear of a worldly lifestyle, for “ye have not so learned Christ.” ~PMO

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN

Psalms 117:1-2 “O _____ the LORD, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people. For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the LORD endureth for ever. Praise ye the LORD.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Matching: Match the Biblical character in column 1 with the description in column 2.

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ___ 1. Elihu | A. Gate keeper in Jerusalem (Neh. 7) |
| ___ 2. Zechariah | B. High priest (Lev. 8) |
| ___ 3. Aaron | C. Old Testament Prophet |
| ___ 4. Hanani | D. Counselor to Job (Job 32) |
| ___ 5. Barak | E. Defeated Canaanites (Judges 4) |
| ___ 6. Matthew | F. Apostle (Romans 1:1) |
| ___ 7. Paul | G. Tax Collector (Matthew 9:9) |

 QUOTE OF THE DAY

We cannot give God anything; for everything is already His, and all we have comes from Him. We can only give Him praise, thanks, and honor. ~Martin Luther



Morning: Jeremiah 1, 2

Evening: 2 Thessalonians 2



Christian Living

“Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.” Matthew 7:20

Jesus is warning against false prophets in Matthew 7:15-20. In our verse for today, Jesus is saying that we should be able to discern a false prophet by their teaching, their lifestyle, and the products of their ministry. This is also true the other way around. We should be able to discern believers by the way they conduct themselves and by the results of their ministry.

A couple of weeks ago, I went to Wal-Mart and began talking to one of the sales associates. Immediately, I could tell something was different about her. Her countenance was cheerful; she was very helpful; she spoke about the Lord. Upon further discussion, I learned she was a Christian. After leaving the store, my friend and I both agreed that her Christianity was apparent within the first few moments of talking to her. What a wonderful testimony!

As Christians, our conversation should be godly, and our words should encourage others. Ephesians 4:29 says, *“Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.”* Also, our countenance should be peaceful. Ephesians 4:31 says, *“Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice.”* Finally, we should be joyful in the Lord. Philippians 4:4 says, *“Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.”*

Would people know you are a Christian by your fruits? Do your words, actions, and countenance give evidence of the working of Jesus Christ in your life? Evaluate yourself, and make the necessary changes. ~MFM



Psalms 117:1-2 “O _____ the LORD, all ye _____: praise him, all ye people. For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the LORD endureth for ever. Praise ye the LORD.”



True or False. Put a *T* in the blank if the statement is *true* or an *F* in the blank if the statement is *false*.

- _____ 1. Daniel purposed in his heart not to defile himself with a portion of the kings meat. (Daniel 1:8)
- _____ 2. Daniel and his three Hebrew friends were very wise because of their education. (Daniel 1:17)
- _____ 3. The king found Daniel, Hanniah, Mishael, and Azariah to be twenty time better than all his magicians and astrologers. (Daniel 1:20)



“The mark of a saint is not perfection, but consecration. A saint is not a man without faults, but a man who has given himself without reserve to God.” ~Brooke Foss Westcott



Morning: Jeremiah 3, 4

Evening: 2 Thessalonians 3

 THE WORD FOR TODAY

Camouflage

“Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.” Matthew 5:14

Hunters and those in the military wear camouflage so that they will be able to blend in with their environment. The goal is not to draw attention to themselves but be hidden from view. Being hidden, they are able to complete their tasks without detection.

God has not called the saints to wear camouflage. Instead, He calls us to be light. We are to be markedly different from our surroundings. We should not blend in. Billy Graham said it well when he stated that there is no secret service as we follow Christ.

As we see the world and hear God’s commands for our lives, the question should come to us, “Do I look like the world, or do I look like Jesus?” If our camouflage is keeping in the light, then we need to remove it. We should start living in such a way that the world around us does not mistake us for unbelievers. In fact, there should be no mistake Whose we are—let your light shine before men. Matthew 5:15-16 *“Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” ~DJD*

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN

Psalms 117:1-2 “O _____ the LORD, all ye _____: praise him, all ye people. For his _____ kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the LORD endureth for ever. Praise ye the LORD.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Matching: Match the Biblical character in column 1 with the description in column 2.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| _____ 1. Ishbosheth | A. King of Hazor (Joshua 11) |
| _____ 2. Gomer | B. Philistine king (1 Samuel 21) |
| _____ 3. Jabin | C. Bashan king defeated by Moses (Numbers 21) |
| _____ 4. Achish | D. Saul’s son (2 Samuel 2) |
| _____ 5. Og | E. Prophet (1 Kings 18:36) |
| _____ 6. Elijah | F. Hosea’s wife (Hosea 1) |

 QUOTE OF THE DAY

“All Heaven is interested in the cross of Christ; all Hell is terribly afraid of it, while men are the only beings who more or less ignore its meaning.” ~Oswald Chambers



 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

“For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world.” 2 Timothy 4:10

Can you imagine having an opportunity to serve on a mission with the Apostle Paul? To most Christians, this would seem like the chance of a lifetime. In this passage, we find a man who had that chance and made the choice to forsake Paul and turn to the world instead.

Though we live in a different time and a different location, we still have the opportunity to serve in the same mission, the mission that was established by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. Though we live in a different time and place, we still have to fight the pull of the world.

Jesus knew that many Christians would struggle with temptations to be caught up in this world. That is why Jesus spent so much time talking about money and possessions.

How can we avoid this in our lives? We must allow ourselves to be confronted with the Scriptures to see that we are not caught up in the things of this world. We must focus on the mission that is before us and make sure that we are involved in reaching people with the Gospel. We can evaluate what we have in light of what we need to see if we should make adjustments in our lives. I wonder who will be the next one to forsake the mission for the love of the world. Let’s do all we can to make sure that it is not you or me. ~DLW

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN:

Psalm 117:1-2 “O _____ the LORD, all ye _____: praise him, all ye people. For his _____ kindness is _____ toward us: and the truth of the LORD endureth for ever. Praise ye the LORD.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Matching: Match the sign in column 1 with the event or promise in column 2.

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| _____ 1. Rainbow | A. Resurrection
(Matt. 16:1-5) |
| _____ 2. Sabbath | B. Parting of the Jordan
(Josh. 4:6) |
| _____ 3. Twelve Stones | C. World never again destroyed by flood
(Genesis 13-17) |
| _____ 4. Jonah | D. God incarnate
(Isaiah 7:14) |
| _____ 5. Virgin birth | E. Day of rest
(Exodus 31:13) |

 QUOTE OF THE DAY:

“Nothing else is of equal importance. The message of the cross is the Christian’s hope, confidence, and assurance. Heaven will be spent marveling at the work of Christ, the God-Man who suffered in the place of us sinners.” ~C.J. Mahaney



Morning: Jeremiah 7, 8

Evening: 1 Timothy 2

 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

The Doom of Israel

“Can two walk together, except they be agreed?” Amos 3:3

Amos was not trained to be a prophet but was called of God to prophesy concerning Israel, during the reign of King Uzziah. Amos was to warn Israel of the coming judgments.

This book contains accusations concerning Damascus, Philistia, Tyre, Edom, Ammon, Moab, Judah, and Israel. It named their sins, and informed them that God would hold them accountable for those sins.

With privileges comes great responsibility, which did not exempt Israel from judgment. Amos 3:10 says, *“For they know not to do right.”* That sounds a lot like our world today. Paul said in Romans 7:15, *“For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.”*

Look at Amos 3:3; “Can two walk together (in unison), except they be agreed (in harmony).” In this sense, can Israel sit on the fence between sin and righteousness? Can they continue doing wrong without God’s judgment? Of course, the answer is no. God took them through many a judgment to get their attention.

The good news is that in the end God is always faithful. We will get our just rewards, and He will be glorified. Amos 9:15 says, *“And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the LORD thy God.”*

 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

In the end, there is hope in God’s eternal home, Heaven. I hope to see you there.
~KAT

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN:

Psalm 117:1-2 “O _____ the LORD, all ye _____: praise him, all ye people. For his _____ kindness is _____ toward us: and the _____ of the LORD endureth for ever. Praise ye the LORD.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Multiple Choice: Choose and circle the correct answer.

- Who built the first Temple in Israel?
1 Kings 6:1
A. Solomon B. Moses
C. Peter D. David
- How many sons did Jacob have?
Genesis 35:22
A. Seven B. Eight
C. Twelve D. Thirteen
- Who was the youngest of Jacob’s sons?
Genesis 35:17, 18
A. Benjamin B. Rueben
C. Levi D. Judah

 QUOTE OF THE DAY:

“Preachers must preach for conviction and change. No one ought ever to leave a sermon without having a very real sense that there is something in their lives they need to do something about.” ~Don Kistler



Morning: Jeremiah 9, 10

Evening: 1 Timothy 3

 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

An Explanation Why Judgment is Coming

“Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvelously: for I will work a work in your days, which ye will not believe, though it be told you.” Habakkuk 1:5

A widespread belief is that the most important thing about God is His love, mercy compassion, etc. God’s love is wonderful, and God is love. But, the most important thing about God is His holiness and His justice. God will not do wrong!

Years ago in the *Edinburgh Review*, a Scottish newspaper, the caption at the top of the paper read, “The Judge Is Condemned When the Guilty Is Acquitted.” God cannot let sin go unpunished. God is just and righteous.

On the other hand, God is merciful and loving. God’s justice says that sin must be paid for, and God’s mercy provides the payment for us in the Lord Jesus Christ. He Who did not owe a penalty for sin needed to pay the penalty. Hence, He paid the price, not for Himself; instead He paid it for us. He became our substitute, and the righteousness of God was vindicated.

This is why God cannot forgive someone because he joins a church, gets baptized, takes communion, turns over a new leaf, lives a good life, takes the sacraments, or observes holy days, etc. All of these things are the works of man and will not satisfy a holy God, nor His righteousness and justice. His justice says that sin must be paid for, and it can be paid for only by a sacrifice acceptable to God, which is only the Lord Jesus Christ, His Son.

Since their “ship” was sinking, Habakkuk

 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

turned to witness to individuals. Perhaps our civilization is also “sinking.” We may not be able to save America, but we can at least try to witness to individuals and lead them to Jesus Christ. ~OV

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN:

Psalm 117:1-2 “O _____ the LORD, all ye _____: praise him, all ye people. For his _____ kindness is _____ toward us: and the _____ of the LORD _____ for ever. Praise ye the LORD.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Matching: Match the Biblical character in column 1 with the description in column 2.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| ___ 1. Annas | A. Accused Paul of being crazy (Acts 26) |
| ___ 2. Sceva | B. Wicked high priest (Jn. 18) |
| ___ 3. Judas | C. Betrayed Christ (Matt. 26) |
| ___ 4. Demetrius | D. Defended goddess Diana (Acts 19) |
| ___ 5. Festus | E. False Jewish Exorcist (Acts 19:13, 14) |

 QUOTE OF THE DAY:

“Never hesitate to ask people to make a commitment that is for their own good.”

~Rod Rogers



Morning: Jeremiah 11-13

Evening: 1 Timothy 4

 THE WORD FOR TODAY

Scripture Fulfilled

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised.” Luke 4:18

This verse is taken from Isaiah 61. Jesus read it to the Jews in a Nazareth synagogue. When He finished reading this, He said, “This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.” Jesus was saying that the Spirit of God was on Him and that He was the anointed One, the Messiah.

Then what was Christ to do? First, preach the Gospel to the poor. Second, heal the broken-hearted. Third, preach deliverance to the captives. Fourth, recover the sight of the blind. Fifth, set at liberty them that are bruised. Finally, preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Of course Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of all of these. Imagine the synagogues when Jesus finished reading and said, *“This passage is now fulfilled, and I am the One that is going to fulfill it.”* ~RKM



“And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.” John 1:5

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN

Hebrews 13:15-16 “By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer.

1. Who sold Jesus to the priests for thirty pieces of silver? Matthew 26:14-16
A. Judas B. Juda
C. Joel D. Jehu
2. What special food did God give the Israelites to eat in the wilderness? Exodus 16:15, 31
A. Millet B. Manna
C. Corn D. Wheat
3. Who was the first Christian martyr? (Acts 22:20)
A. James B. Matthew
C. Stephen D. John
4. Which Old Testament king used the sacred temple utensils in his wild banquet? Daniel 5:3,4
A. Belshazzar B. David
C. Solomon D. Nebuchadnezzar

 QUOTE OF THE DAY

“God has no more precious gift to a church or an age than a man who lives as an embodiment of His will, and inspires those around him with the faith of what grace can do.”

~Andrew Murray



Morning: Jeremiah 14-16

Evening: 1 Timothy 5

 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

*“That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; and be renewed in the spirit of your mind; and that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.”
Ephesians 4:22-24*

Do you have any bad habits? Are you addicted to anything ungodly? Are you tired of being a slave to that controlling master? If so, then today is your day of freedom. Your answer is found in Ephesians 4.

All too often, when trying to break free from a habit, we focus on the obvious. Our mindset is: “I want to stop doing _____.” Recognizing the need is wonderful and a huge step in the right direction, but stopping and breaking free from the addiction are two very different victories. Many times we advance past simple stopping and move to replacing. Our mindset is: “Instead of doing _____, I will do this.” Replacing a bad habit with a good habit is great, but once again simple replacement is a far cry from victory and freedom.

The Apostle Paul condones the idea of “stopping” an ungodly habit (v.22). He champions the idea of “replacing” a bad habit with a good one (v.24). However, between the two, He lays out the key to true freedom from ungodly habits. “Be renewed in the spirit of your mind” (v.23). Until you change your mind, your thinking, your attitude toward your sinful habit, you will never be free from that addiction. You will “stop” and find you have started

 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

again. You will “replace” only to find yourself a slave again. When you truly want to be free, admit that what you are doing is wrong, change your thinking and be free. ~PMO

 SCRIPTURE FILL-INS:

Hebrews 13:15-16 “By Him therefore let us offer the _____ of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Matching: Match the mountain in column 1 with the event that took place on that mountain in column 2.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| ___ 1. Olivet | A. Moses viewed Canaan and died there. (Deut 32:49) |
| ___ 2. Nebo | B. Temple was built there (2 Chron. 3:1) |
| ___ 3. Carmel | C. Jesus and disciples prayed there (Acts 1:12) |
| ___ 4. Moriah | D. Ten Commandments given (Ex. 31:18) |
| ___ 5. Sinai | E. Baal was worshipped (1 Kings 18:19) |

 QUOTE OF THE DAY:

“We need men of the cross, with the message of the cross, bearing the marks of the cross.”
~Vance Havner



Morning: Jeremiah 17-19

Evening: 1 Timothy 6

 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

Show Forth His Salvation

“Sing unto the LORD, all the earth; show forth from day to day his salvation.”

1 Chronicles 16:23

A few weeks ago, a couple from our church walked into the church offices. I greeted them, and they began to tell me why they had come. Earlier that same day, they were down at the bus station, and a man approached them, asking some questions on how to get to his final destination. He did not have the money for a ticket. The woman from our church gave him a Gospel tract and told the man she would be back. Then, she left to take care of her own tickets. When the couple came back to the man, tears were streaming down his face. He said, “This is just what I needed today.” The couple proceeded to lead the man to the Lord and gave him the money for the ticket. With tears in her eyes, the woman from our church finished her story of God’s great salvation of this unexpected stranger.

The couple had come by to share this story with the pastor. What a blessing! Not only was the couple obedient to the Lord to witness and give to the stranger, but after the encounter, they wanted to share the good news of God’s salvation with others.

I was blessed by this testimony, and I am sure others have been as well. Church, we live in a rough world and are attacked by Satan day after day. It is so important to share with others what God is doing in our lives. The more answered prayer we see as a church, the more

 THE WORD FOR TODAY:

encouraged we will be to witness, to pray, to walk by faith, and to keep on serving. We need each other. Make it a point today to share one of God’s blessings with someone.

~MFM

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN:

Hebrews 13:15-16 “By Him therefore let us offer the _____ of praise to God _____, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer.

- Who were the enemies of Israel when David was a shepherd boy? (1 Samuel 17:10)
 - A. Philippians
 - B. Philistines
 - C. Philosophy
 - D. Perizzites
- What was the name of the river where John baptized Jesus? (Mark 1:9)
 - A. Tigris
 - B. Euphrates
 - C. Kishon
 - D. Jordan

 QUOTE OF THE DAY:

“Worry is a thin stream of fear that trickles through the mind, which, if encouraged, will cut a channel so wide that all other thoughts will be drained out.” ~Author Unknown



Morning: Jeremiah 20-22

Evening: 2 Timothy 1



A Strong Hold

“The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.” Nahum 1:7

The book of Nahum focuses on God’s holy character and how He cannot allow sin to go without punishment. Also, Nahum describes the destruction of Nineveh.

Chapter 1 discusses God’s jealousy, long suffering (patience), sovereignty (supreme power), and His goodness. God is characterized as all-knowing. In chapter 2, judgment is predicted, described, and vindicated (defended). It is about being restored and enjoying the blessings of God. In chapter 3, judgment is forewarned and is inevitable.

There is an important lesson that can be gleaned from the book of Nahum: God does not tolerate sin and disobedience. He will judge and punish His own for their misdeeds. We have to remember that God is a jealous God.

We need to strive to be obedient and to do that which is right in the sight of the Lord. *“The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.” ~KAT*



Hebrews 13:15-16 “By Him therefore let us offer the _____ of praise to God _____, that is, the _____ of our lips giving thanks to His name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.”



Fill in the Blank: Psalm one has been said to be the introduction for the entire book of Psalms. In this psalm, we see a contrast between the blessed or happy man to the ungodly or unsaved man. Fill in the blanks to complete this passage.

“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the _____, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his _____ is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree _____ by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and _____ he doeth shall prosper. The ungodly are not so, but are like the chaff which the _____ driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not _____ in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the LORD knoweth the way of the _____: but the way of the ungodly shall _____.”



“The beginning of anxiety is the end of faith, and the beginning of true faith is the end of anxiety.” ~George Muller



 THE WORD FOR TODAY

“Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men.”

Ephesians 6:6-7

The context of this verse is dealing with servants being in submission to their masters. The principle applies to most any area where we are to submit to the authority over us. Verse five states that servants are to be in compliance with singleness of heart, as unto Christ. So whether the relationship is student to teacher, child to parent, wife to husband, employee to boss or church member to pastor, when we submit to the authorities over us as unto Christ, in effect, we are submitting to Christ.

The next time you are asked to do something you do not really want to do, remember if you do it with the right attitude, you are demonstrating a good testimony for Christ. You also will receive a reward from Christ because you are doing the will of God. We are not to be as concerned with impressing our authority as we are with pleasing the Lord. The key is our attitude. When we do our responsibilities as unto the Lord, from the heart, even the most unpleasant and insignificant tasks take on a new meaning.

The next time you find yourself grumbling about a duty, ask yourself why you are doing it—to please men or as service to the Lord.

~DLW

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN

Hebrews 13:15-16 “By Him therefore let us offer the _____ of praise to God _____, that is, the _____ of our lips giving _____ to His name. But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

True or False. Put a *T* in the blank if the statement is *true* or an *F* in the blank if the statement is *false*.

- _____ 1. Peter cut off the ear of Malcus. John 18:10
- _____ 2. God told Moses, “The place whereon thou standest is holy ground.” Exodus 3:5
- _____ 3. Queen Vashti went before Solomon to ask him some hard questions. 1 Kings 10:1
- _____ 4. Simon and Andrew were brothers. John 1:40
- _____ 5. Jethro of Midian was the father-in-law of Moses. Exodus 3:1

 QUOTE OF THE DAY

“On the most elementary level, you do not have to go to church to be a Christian. You do not have to go home to be married either. But in both cases if you do not, you will have a very poor relationship.” ~Kent Hughes



 THE WORD FOR TODAY

“But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to them that are weak. For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol’s temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols.” I Corinthians 8:9-10

I have a younger brother. As we were growing up, he wanted to do lots of things with me. I would love to be able to say that I always made the right choices for him to see. Sometimes I did, but many times my example was a poor testimony of Christ. I had the “right” to do many things that the world, and even many Christians, would say were not wrong, but the world did not have my little brother watching them. He was watching me. He had a free will but was watching the choices I made. He saw how I responded in situations. Would I choose the higher ground and point others to Christ, or would I selfishly choose what I wanted no matter the effect on those around me?

This is what Paul is trying to show the Corinthians. They were granted freedom in Jesus Christ from guilt and the Law. They had been forgiven of sin and had their eternity sealed. Some, however, took this to mean that they had liberty to do whatever they pleased. To an extent, this was and is true.

They were freed from the “do’s and don’ts,” but they were given the greater opportunity to live like Christ. No longer were they faced with the question “Is this right according to the Law?” Instead, the question became, “How will this affect the body of Christ and my

 THE WORD FOR TODAY

younger brothers and sisters in the Lord.” Freedom is wonderful, but with it comes great responsibility. Are you living for Him or for yourself? Will others be more or less like Christ because of your example? ~DJD

 SCRIPTURE FILL-IN

Hebrews 13:15-16 “By Him therefore let us offer the _____ of praise to God _____, that is, the _____ of our lips giving _____ to His name. But to do good and to _____ forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Multiple Choice: Choose and circle the correct answer.

- Who appeared with the Lord in glory on the Mount of Transfiguration? Mark 9:4
 - Elijah & Moses
 - Moses and Enoch
 - Elisha and Moses
 - Elijah and Enoch
- Who wrestled all night with the Lord and was left with a permanent limp? Gen. 32:25

A. Eleazar	B. John
C. Jacob	D. Elijah

 QUOTE OF THE DAY

“The mightiest prayers are often those drenched with the Word of God.”

~Herbert Lockyer



Morning: Jeremiah 27, 28

Evening: 2 Timothy 4

 THE WORD FOR TODAY

It's Free

“Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.” Jeremiah 33:3

Absolutely no monthly charges and unlimited access. You can surf the universe and beyond by being online with God. God wants to answer us. He, the giver of life, wants to give us things. Romans 8:32 says, *“He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?”*

His service is faster than programmed dialing or e-mail and closer than the air we breathe. So just call Him at Jeremiah 33:3. Jonah accessed Him from the belly of a whale. Peter, when he was sinking in the stormy sea, got online quickly. Joshua, in the heat of battle, sent his message for the sun to stand still. Elijah prayed and fire fell from heaven. Even in jail, the connection was made, and Paul was set free. The dying thief, hanging next to Jesus, rejoiced with everlasting life after placing a call at the midnight hour.

Today, God invites us to download as much as we need. Psalm 81:10 says, *“I am the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt: open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it.”*

Remember it's free. If you haven't already signed on to the best online service, do so today. Revelation 22:17 says, *“And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst*

 THE WORD FOR TODAY

come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”

~JWL (from *Online with God*)

 SCRIPTURE FILL-INS

Hebrews 13:15-16 “By Him therefore let us offer the _____ of praise to God _____, that is, the _____ of our lips giving _____ to His name. But to do good and to _____ forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well _____.”

 BIBLE QUIZ

Fill in the Blanks: Psalm 4 is called the “evening psalm.” In David’s anguish, he calls out to God before he sleeps. At the end of his song, David found peace in the midst of his raging storm. Fill in the blanks to some of the verses within this psalm.

Verse 3 - “But know that the LORD hath set apart him that is _____ for himself: the LORD will _____ when I call unto him.”

Verse 4 - “Stand in _____, and _____ not: commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be _____.”

Verse 5 - “Offer the sacrifices of _____ - _____, and put your _____ in the LORD.”

Verse 8 - “I will both lay me down in _____, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in _____.”

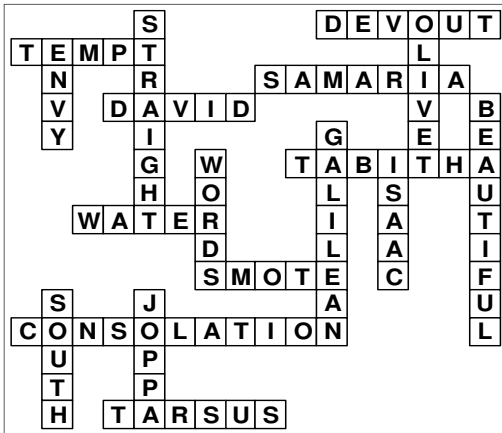


Morning: Jeremiah 29, 30

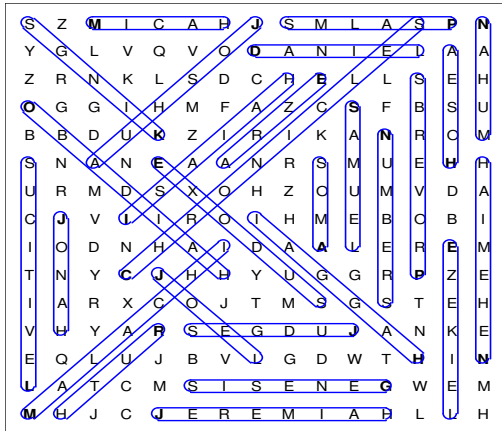
Evening: Titus 1

Answers to Bible Quizzes and Puzzles

Bible Facts for the Book of Acts (Page 13)



Old Testament Books of the Bible



Quiz Answers:

- Oct. 1 Pg 2 1T, 2F, 3T, 4T, 5T, 6T
- Oct. 2 Pg 3 1D, 2C, 3B, 4A, 5E
- Oct. 3 Pg 4 1T, 2T, 3T, 4T, 5T
- Oct. 4 Pg 6 1a. Stand fast in the Lord,
b. Help the women who labored for the Lord, c. Re-juice in the Lord always

(Answers continued on column to the right.)

- Oct. 4 Pg 6 2 Euodias & Syntyche,
3 Dearly beloved
- Oct. 5 Pg 7 1 self-control, 2 worried, 3 thanks-giving, 4 the peace of God
- Oct. 6 Pg 8 1 true, honest, just, pure, lovely,
good report, virtue, praise, 2 Paul's example, 3 They must think on the things mentioned in verse eight and follow Paul's example
- Oct. 7 Pg 9 1 Whatsoever, content, 2 all, Christ, 3 gift, fruit, abound, 4 All, need, riches
- Oct. 8 Pg 10 1F, 2E, 3D, 4C, 5G, 6B, 7H, 8A
- Oct. 9 Pg 11 Voice, morning, prayer, up, wickedness, evil
- Oct. 10 Pg 12 1F, 2T, 3T, 4T, 5F
- Oct. 11 Pg 14 1A, 2B, 3D, 4B
- Oct. 12 Pg 15 1D, 2H, 3E, 4C, 5G, 6F, 7A, 8B
- Oct. 13 Pg 16 1B, 2C, 3D
- Oct. 14 Pg 17 1 LORD, shield, 2 Heard, 3 sustained, 4 afraid
- Oct. 15 Pg 18 1F, 2G, 3B, 4C, 5D, 6E, 7A
- Oct. 16 Pg 19 1B, 2B & 2D
- Oct. 17 Pg 20 1T, 2T, 3T, 4T
- Oct. 18 Pg 22 1 Achor, 2 Armageddon, 3 Ararat, 4 Athens, 5 Baal-hazor
- Oct. 19 Pg 23 1D, 2C, 3B, 4A, 5E, 6G, 7F
- Oct. 20 Pg 24 1T, 2F, 3F
- Oct. 21 Pg 25 1D, 2F, 3A, 4B, 5C, 6E
- Oct. 22 Pg 26 1C, 2E, 3B, 4A, 5D
- Oct. 23 Pg 27 1A, 2C, 3A
- Oct. 24 Pg 28 1B, 2E, 3C, 4D, 5A
- Oct. 25 Pg 29 1A, 2B, 3C, 4A
- Oct. 26 Pg 30 1C, 2A, 3E, 4B, 5D
- Oct. 27 Pg 31 1A, 2C, 3A
- Oct. 28 Pg 32 1 ungodly, 2 delight, 3 planted, 4 whatsoever, 5 wind, 6 stand, 7 righteous, 8 perish
- Oct. 29 Pg 33 1T, 2T, 3F, 4T, 5T
- Oct. 30 Pg 34 1A, 2C
- Oct. 31 Pg 35 1 godly, hear, 2 awe, sin, still 3 righteousness, trust, 4 peace, safety