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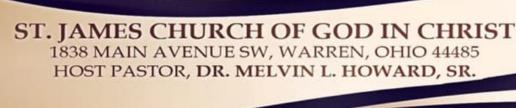
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What's Love Got To Do With It?

Evangelist Ella J. Alexander

Victorious Living Faith Ministry

⁷ Dear friends, let us practice loving each other, for love comes from God and those who are loving and kind show that they are the children of God, and that they are getting to know him better. ⁸ But if a person isn't loving and kind, it shows that he doesn't know God—for God is love.

1 John 4:7-8 (The Living Bible Translation)

As God's children and His creation we are yet learning the many attributes of Christ. Not that many of us do not know, but we are learning them on a more personal level with God. Each and every day is a challenge to become better than the day before. One of the main characteristics of Christ is, not was, but is LOVE.

Love is defined as: an intense feeling of deep affection, fondness, or attachment. When we have the love of God in our lives and it is glistening from us, others who are either do not belief or is struggling with their faith begins to believe. They become strengthened. We can't truly love someone with pure love without having a loving spirit.

Romans 8:9 says

But you are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you. (And remember that those who do not have the Spirit of Christ living in them do not belong to him at all.) New Living Translation

In order for us to love right and with a pure heart we must first have the spirit of God dwelling on the inside of us. The Holy Spirit is the one who helps us to love the way Christ wants us to love, not according to the world. This what the Bible says about the love of Christ:

⁴Love is patient and kind, never jealous, boastful, proud, or ⁵rude.
Love isn't selfish or quick tempered.
It doesn't keep a record of wrongs that others do. ⁶Love rejoices in the truth, but not in evil.

loyal, hopeful, and trusting. *Love never fails! (Contemporary English Version)

The Love of God is very different from the way the world loves. Some people may get tired of hearing the words "If we say that we are of God then we should act like it, speak like it, dress like it, and live like we are of God." Walking in the character of Christ demands a change. Not just an ordinary change, but a transformation starting from the inside out.

God knew that we were going to need that is why He sent us the Holy Spirit after Jesus ascended. So many have heard the word For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life (John 3:16 KJV), but not many have seen the love through the earthen-vessels. Walking in God means we have to walk in His Word, live by His word and His word says, "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another (John 13:34-35 KJV). Jesus didn't give us a new commandment that erased or dismissed the former commandments, but He gave a new commandment in addition to the others and that commandment is that WE MUST LOVE ONE ANOTHER. That commandment is not based on whether we are rich or poor, whether we live in a house or in a city owned complex. It is not based on color, financial status, shape, weight or strength; nor is it based on the kind of car one drives. It's not even based on whether or not one is intelligent or not. It is based on faith and obedience to the Word of God, which is LOVE, in other words GET LOVE, POSSESS LOVE, BECOME LOVE AND DO LOVE.

Remember: walking in the love of God is a daily thing. In order to perfect something, we must do it often and do not quit if we don't get it right the first, second, or third time. God is not keeping record of how many times we fail, but he knows. He is looking at how many times we will aim to get up and press forward to achieve what He knows is possible for us to do.

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"THY KINGDOM COME"

By Elder Diane Harvell

September 7, 2019

As often as I have read, quoted and heard this portion of scripture, "thy kingdom come, thy will be done," I've often wondered about its real meaning. Because the scripture goes on to say, "on earth as it is in heaven."

And why was this the scripture Jesus instructed us to pray? What does this really mean?

Jesus instructs us to pray for his return so that he will fully rein in heaven and in earth forever. Our first reverence is to "Our Father which art in heaven." It is our duty to acknowledge God as supreme and the only sacred God ("Hollowed be thy name"). His name is sacred and Holy, the name, Jesus. Therefore he desires that his will be done in every aspect of all life and that all will receive Him as readily as the heavenly beings in heaven acknowledge him as Lord. Jesus has given us an instruction how the people of God can effectively reach him and hasten his return. Therefore, we are to pray for His return to come quickly! "Thy kingdom come."

Our prayers and our yearning should be to live with him eternally as soon as we can. Yet it seems we yearn and long to remain here on earth with the dregs of this world.

Today we are faced with many obstacles that are against Christ or against the acknowledgement that he even exists. We are also facing tragedies and what the scriptures call "the beginning of sorrows," earthquakes in various places, wars and rumors of wars, pestilence and many shall be killed for God's sake, kingdom against kingdom, famine, deception, hatred, betrayal and iniquity shall abound and the love of many shall wax cold. False prophets shall arise. Matthew 24:4-8.

Matthew 24:14-And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

Matthew 24:15-And when ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand).

Nevertheless, God's Holy Scriptures will be fulfilled. So Jesus instructs us His people to pray for His Kingdom to Come so that we will finally be with Him in peace for the world is full of trouble.

John 16:33 Jesus says; These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace;

The world rejoices when one enters into the world, yet according to these God's instructions, it appears we should mourn the prolonging of life and rejoice the ending thereof.

If there's no other prayer that we know or can think to pray, we should always remember **The Lord's Prayer:**

Matthew 6:9

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. 10 Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

God Bless You All

Elder Diane Harvell

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Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done When we walk in the attributes of Christ, We will meet Him One Day!

By Eunice A. Christian September 7, 2019

Matthew 12:28 New King James Version* ²⁸ But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.

* * *

Revelations 21:22-27 ²² ...[b]ut I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light. ²⁴ And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. ²⁵ Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). ²⁶ And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. ²⁷ But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

* * *

Points of reference:

- Opening Scriptures
- Foreword
- The Attributes of Christ
- Greatness In Servitude
- Jesus Is Love
- Attributes of Vain Glory
- Walking Circumspectly
- Jesus Prayed, Jesus Praised, Jesus Saves
- Demonstrating and Respecting God's Glory
- Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done
- Stay Encouraged

FOREWORD

This article is focused upon the theme: *Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done.* For many of us, these words are very familiar. These words are derived from scriptures that set an example for us all who desire to communicate in alignment with how Jesus advised us to pray. When Jesus' disciples asked Him how they should pray, it is written that He gave them the following example, and it is this model prayer that still serves as an example for us today.

Matthew 6:7-13 ⁷ ...but when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. ⁸ Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. ⁹ After this manner therefore pray ye: 'Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. ¹⁰ Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.'

The Attributes of Christ

When we walk in the attributes of Christ, we walk according to His characteristics. This means that we, as Christians, have acknowledged and have accepted a life that is according to God's divine plan and purpose for us. While on earth, Jesus was the teacher of teachers; He instructed others to live holy. He was a leader; many followed Him as He paved the path to salvation. He was obedient to authority; He followed His Father's Will. He was also a good citizen; even when He did not totally agree with the governing body, He adhered to their laws. He was respectful, humble, and disciplined, in that when He was approached and questioned—even scrutinized—He knew how to react and answer. Interesting to think about, Jesus also knew how to pick His battles. There were times when He was faced with hard opposition, and instead of calling on the divine power vested in Him, instead of calling upon His Father's angels, He adhered to His Father's Will to be done according to His Plan, and hasten away in order to avoid being held or killed prematurely. Jesus demonstrated determination and focus. He was clear to express that He was about His Father's business; mostly at times unapologetic, when others attempted to question and hinder His efforts. He was steadfast and immovable in His purpose.

It is written in the Holy Scriptures that at the age of 12, Jesus had separated from His parents after one of their yearly observances of the Passover in Jerusalem (The Book of Luke; Chapter 2). When His parents realized that Jesus was not with them or other family members, they traveled a day's journey back to Jerusalem, and after three days, they found Jesus learning and asking questions. I could imagine that young Jesus was also teaching the teachers! When His parents confronted Him about what He did, having scolded Him, His answer was **Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?** (Luke 2:49). Even as a child, Jesus exercised His mission and purpose. He did not waste time!

Jesus encountered various situations with the opposite sex—and there were no two situations quite the same. An attribute of Jesus that many of us probably have not given much thought about is that He had a level of respect for women that was uncommon. As was prominent when and where Jesus traveled, societal standards dictated that women were close to being considered like cattle—not to be treasured, but owned. Jesus could have easily and totally dismissed women who were outliers. However, with Jesus, women held a special place—including His mother, Mary.

This came to mind: Sometimes, most of us get together with family during weddings and homecoming services—and there is at least an example for each where Jesus engaged with His mother that entailed a significant encounter. The first example is when Jesus and His disciples attended a wedding reception (The Book of John; Chapter 2). During this event, the wedding party ran out of wine. Knowing this, His mother addressed Jesus; also telling the workers at the affair to do what He instructed. Jesus responded firmly, that His time had not yet come; Jesus even addressed her not as mother, but *woman;* however, He was still obedient to His mother's desire. The second example was when Jesus was on the cross. Suffering, with spikes in His wrists and feet, He did not forsake His mother. His mind and heart was led to do one last, but incredibly compassionate act for her. Some of the most riveting words that were recorded in the Holy Scriptures are *Woman, behold thy son!* Son, behold thy mother! (The Book of John; Chapter 19) — So powerful! So much love, in spite of His experience of intense agony on the cross!

Jesus showed immense levels of compassion. Jesus met and interacted with others outside the faith and who were considered outcasts. There was the young woman who, according to today's terms, would have been considered as having a medical condition called *menorrhagia*. Her faith in Jesus led her to touch the hem of His garment, and she was instantly made whole (The Book of Mark; Chapter 5). There was the Samaritan woman at the well who Jesus spoke truths into her life (The Book of John; Chapter 4), but another example that stands out involved a woman who asked Him for help to save her demonically-possessed daughter.

Matthew 15:21-28 ²¹ Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. ²² And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, *Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed.* ²³ But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, *Send her away, for she cries out after us.* ²⁴ But He answered and said, *I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.* ²⁵ Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, *Lord, help me!* ²⁶ But He answered and said, *It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs.* ²⁷ And she said, Yes, *Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.* ²⁸ Then Jesus answered and said to her, *O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.* And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

The attributes of Jesus encompassed characteristics of compassion and mercy, forgiveness and kindness that extended across multitudes of ethnicities and cultures, and these are the types of attributes that we should possess. We should have these in our hearts so that we can be about our Father's business, spreading the message of the gospel to as many as the Will of the Father allows by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Greatness In Servitude

There is greatness in servitude—Jesus demonstrated just that—for His Father, and for us. Jesus could look beyond a person's fault and see their need. The attribute of serving others in spirit and in truth is what we should possess as followers of Christ. To add, when serving others, we are to be mindful to have a child-like and humble spirit.

Throughout the New Testament, there are many examples of Jesus' encounters with individuals who most likely did not receive love, compassion, or respect from others in their community or surroundings, but because these individuals met the Son of God, they were made the better—even made whole. Another attribute that Jesus possessed pertained to His affection for children. It is written that Jesus strongly takes to heart how children are treated. It is written in the Holy Scriptures how He rebuked His disciples who attempted to chase away children who were in His midst. Jesus' reaction expressed how much children should be treated and treasured, and importantly, how we should model them.

Mark 10:13-16 ¹³ Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. ¹⁵ Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it. ¹⁶ And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.

Jesus is Love

No one would doubt that to record all of the attributes of Jesus would be a futile feat; He was God in the flesh, but perhaps all of His attributes could be summed up by His greatest attribute: Jesus was Love in the flesh, and He is Love in spirit. Love, because He came in the likeness of His Holy Father, and as we know according to the Word, God is Love, and He and His Son are One. Jesus was God in the flesh, and He dwelt among us according to our heavenly Father's Plan. He was Emmanuel—God with us. He is the Messiah.

Attributes of Vain Glory

While we should continue to strive to be like Jesus, we should be mindful of this: We are not to take on or possess a deity-like attitude or attribute. More precisely, we should not have characteristics of vain glory. Unfortunately, this characteristic has taken hold of many in ministry. The desire for notoriety, fame, power, and prestige have tempted so many, and many have fallen, causing great harm to themselves in that their reputation has suffered irreparable damage, and their ministries collapse. It has caused separation of families, friends, and worse. It caused and continues to cause those outside the will of God to turn away from receiving Christ our Lord.

Walking Circumspectly

As we accept our walk in Christ, there are other attributes that Jesus wants us to possess. Jesus encouraged us to be as sheep in the midst of wolves, and to not worry.

Matthew 10:16-20 ¹⁶ Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. ¹⁷ But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. ¹⁸ You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. ¹⁹ But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; ²⁰ for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.

We are to be Christians demonstrating our commitment to Christ by following the commandments that God proclaimed. We are to walk circumspectly, yet lovingly, among each other. Circumspectly, because we should know that there are those who claim to be followers of Christ, but are adverse to His teachings; they are deceivers. So, we are to remain mindful that love is the main attribute of all; for without possessing love in one's heart, we cannot attain the kingdom of God. Furthermore, if we are not child-like in spirit, the kingdom of God will not be for us. We should be loving towards one another because that is what God and our Lord wants us to be towards others. In addition, we must and should acknowledge that we need help from the Holy Spirit to strengthen us with the power of discernment to distinguish what is good and what is evil.

2 John 1:7 For many deceivers have gone out into the world who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. ⁸ Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward.

Romans 12:9-21 ⁹ Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; ¹¹ not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; ¹² rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; ¹³ distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.

¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. ¹⁸ If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. ¹⁹ Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, *Vengeance is Mine, I will repay*, says the Lord. ²⁰ Therefore if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head. ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Jesus Prayed, Jesus Praised, Jesus Saves

The attributes of Christ pertain to being humble and being in submission before our God. Upon completing His Plan and Purpose here on earth in the flesh, it is written that Christ prayed not only for those who He walked with; in particular, His closest disciples, but He prayed for Himself, too. If Jesus, being God in the flesh, so humbly prayed to His Father *for others and Himself*, surely we should not be slack in how we should approach God in prayer; knowing we should not be self-centered, or believe that having a prayer-filled life is not a priority.

We should possess attributes of being steadfast and immovable in what it is that we are to do for Christ. It is important to give praise and worship, but as Believers, we should also emphasize the importance of spreading the gospel so that souls may be won for the kingdom.

Sing!

For those who are gifted to sing—sing! It is a marvelous attribute to have! Sing God's praises so that it can draw you and others closer to Him—that is what Jesus and His disciples did. It is written that Jesus and His disciples sang songs of praise! How often do we think of Jesus singing...with His disciples?! Jesus demonstrated praise and worship before God with a spirit of servitude, meekness, thanksgiving, and praise—and just as important to emphasize—with His mind made up and focused upon completing His mission to save souls.

Mark 14:22-26 ²² And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them and said, Take, eat; this is My body. ²³ Then He took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, and they all drank from it. ²⁴ And He said to them, This is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many. ²⁵ Assuredly, I say to you, I will no longer drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God. ²⁶ And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Demonstrating and Respecting God's Glory

I can remember when I first heard the phrase *God is all that and a bag of chips!* This statement was spoken by leadership and followers. Every time I heard this statement, I cringed. This statement was being thrown around like it was the latest fad. I know we all have our own personal attributes, but I believe when it comes to fulfilling our mission, it will do us best if we are respectful when referring to God and His divine Will. Frankly, I felt it trivialized our God. To equate God the Father to *being all that and a bag of potato chips, or whatever chips that came to mind*, I find to be very disrespectful to who He is and what He is to us. Nowhere in the Holy Scriptures do Jesus' disciples equate God to an object made by man's hands.

Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done

Just as Jesus possessed, we should possess the attributes of faith...faith that we will complete the mission that our Lord and Father God destined for us to complete as Believers. We should be mindful of our purpose; as well as to pray that our attributes work toward the edification of others for kingdom building. Our purpose is to share the gospel and to give God the glory in the name of His Son, Jesus. This was the case of Jesus; He had faith that His mission would be completed according to God's holy Will.

John 17: 1-5 ⁵ Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, ² as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. ⁴ I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. ⁵ And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

From when Jesus was first with God in the heavens—from the time He was manifested in the flesh, to His death on the cross, to claiming power over death; to walking on the earth again for a short season, to rising again, sitting on the right side of His Holy Father, our Father; enabling the Holy Spirit to rest, rule, and abide upon us today—Jesus gave His all. He gave it all for us. That, again, is the greatest attribute—Love. Love for someone—or for a people—so strongly that one is willing to give one's life. As for us, we should die daily to sinful nature, being good stewards for the kingdom of God, so that we can one day abide with our Father, Lord and Savior Jesus, and the heavenly hosts.

As it is written in The Book of John; Chapter 1, Jesus' disciple John bore witness to *New Jerusalem*: needless to share, it is powerful.

John 21:1-5 ¹ Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. ² Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, *Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.* ⁴ And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away. ⁵ Then He who sat on the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And He said to me, Write, for these words are true and faithful.

When we walk in the attributes of Christ, We will meet Him One Day!

... Thy Kingdom Come... Thy Will Be Done. Amen.

•

Stay Encouraged

We cannot truly fathom how great our Lord and God is, but what we can identify with is our Lord and our God's mercies towards us. Knowing that there are recorded accounts of how Jesus walked this earth—and knowing how He lived and died for us—should cause us to serve Him with an abundance of gratitude and humility. We know that we could never repay Him for what He has done, and continues to do for us, by the power of the Holy Spirit—we know this—but the way we can honor Him is to love and obey Him.

We should, therefore, be willing to spread the gospel so that the Holy Word may be received by all who will believe—and for those who truly believe, may we rejoice together, and be continually encouraged in knowing that we have a glorious expected end in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 2:14-16 ¹⁴ Do all things without complaining and disputing, ¹⁵ that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.

There is no greater gift than the power of God's redemption. So, if you've have not done so already, give your heart to Jesus while you still have time. Have a transformed mind, look to Jesus.

Be blessed and be a blessing.♥

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SEPTEMBER 28, 2019 • 6PM

Doors open at 5 p.m.

Also featuring a Silent Auction and Vendors.

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Classic Impressions is sponsored by Rebuild & Renew Community Development Corporation, a 501(c)(3) organization. Proceeds to benefit Unity House, a transitional housing refuge for young, homeless women.

GENERAL ADMISSION: \$75

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WEEKLY PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

"AND HE SPAKE A PARABLE UNTO THEM TO THIS END, THAT MEN OUGHT ALWAYS TO PRAY, AND NOT TO FAINT....." - ST. LUKE 18:1

> Tuesday - 12PM "Lunch With Jesus" Prayer

Tuesday Evening - 7PM Pastoral Family Prayer

Friday - 5AM Early Morning

Men Perfecting Men Prayer

Friday - 12PM
"Lunch With Jesus" Prayer

Friday Evening - 7PM Corporate Prayer

Saturday - 10AM Morning Prayer

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Thy Kingdom Come C. A. Dangerfield II

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven Matthew 6:10 Is a part of the Lord's prayer which we are familiar with. The question then would be how does this apply to me. When we repent of our sins and invite Christ to come into our lives we then experience the rebirth of who we are to be and establish our purpose in him. We put off the former lifestyle nature and put our mind and efforts on building up the Kingdom of God in the earth. So I priorities, perceptions and complete being starts to develop towards the attributes of Jesus Christ. This occurs as we study and learn about Him, then we start to emulate his character towards others. That they too might see him through the life we live as a child of Him.

It's the same in the natural we all are a product of our parents we have some traits of their characteristic that inner twine with our own. This creates a familiarity when others who know them see us. That is why it is so disturbing for a parent when your child acts outside of what has been instilled in them as they were growing up. Because they are no longer a true reflection of their parent. These changes are contributive to the environments and atmosphere which we allow them to visit and embrace. The Bible teaches us in Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Train up from birth to man or womanhood, we are responsible to speak into their lives to provide guidance and instruction. Likewise, the father teaches us through his word and it is just as important that we learn and elevate our way of thinking and also understanding the very nature of who He is as well as who we are in Him.

We have to eliminate a casual mindset thinking to one that is purposeful and deliberate in accomplishing our own transformation to be found in His perfect will. First, we have to search ourselves and recognize our own areas of opportunity that we might overcome the weight of them on our life. By yielding our very being so that His purpose in us can be revealed for the up building of His Kingdom within the earth. For we are ambassadors for Him traveling down many paths throughout life provide a message of hope, love, shared knowledge, wisdom and a greater understanding. Bring great glory to the great I AM.

It is through our obedience to Him that we are able to impact many lives for the Kingdom of God and yet it is our disobedience that recks must havoc and discourse because we are so unaware and blinded to the pathway of hurt that we have exposed throughout the pathway of life. For when we are lost in darkness we are numb to the effects sometimes created by our actions.

The Kingdom of God is at hand it's working through the believers of God to encourage the lost. This is why it is imperative that we remain as humble as Christ in and during their decision to transition. Having patience and understanding as we lend guidance, prayer, and strength as they develop into the person that He had intended for them to be. Remembering mountain and valley experiences we all had to go through and still do. For we die daily to self so that God can get the glory out of our life. So reframe from unhealthy conversations for they have a sensitive ear and eye gates.

Just as a natural child seeks the love, guidance, and reassurance daily so do these young ones in the faith need that same form of nurturing effect with unlimited patience and understanding. We all have to begin somewhere to obtain something. The first step for many is the hardest and they don't want to fail because they now understand their life depends on it. So when they manage to fall down and some do. Pick them up dust them off and begin again. Trials and errors are how most grow, we learn through our experiences. It is the teaching and trust that helps some to avoid the pitfalls, where others may literally bump their heads before they obtain a real understanding. But through whatever means ack for God's grace and guidance.

Never allow them to feel that they are a burden when they are going through, but encourage them through every step and enlighten them through the Word of God for it is the guide book that leads to our destiny and opens many doors that may have once been shut. Delivering us from the bondage of the mind. Freeing us to understand the true meaning behind the scripture in Phil 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me." Once we start taking an active role in drawing closer to Christ. That an active role, not an overbearing that will cause them to be discouraged and return to their former ways but, one that will continue to increase their appetite for Jesus. So when they start to truly become aware of their own personal changes and advancement they will look and see truly how much they have grown and become in Him. Then they will understand too that thy Kingdom has come in their life. As we continue to do the will of the father his will, will be done in us.

Studying the Word of God will always provide the examples and encouragement that we all need throughout this life's journeys we will be able to see understand the challenges that we face and the outcome that can be obtained. It will continue to guide us to one glory to another with the necessary faith in our father so that we too can be joint-heirs with Him. Keep your communication fervent with the Throne room of grace so that you establish the ability to recognize when God is speaking to you, you will know his voice when it pertains to you. God will show you things that you may have never imagined. Get established in the Kingdom for it is here for everyone who desires to be in the will of God.



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Transitional Moves Are Sometimes Vital C.A. Dangerfield II

Some people have difficulty dealing with and understanding transitional moves (changes), they can be vital for growth as well as advancement. I'm going to use first a gardener's analogy to describe the benefits of change. When growing plants we start them from a seed in a starter pot so they germinate and sprout roots. Once the roots sprout that plant needs to be moved into a larger pot to allow now the roots to grow and to strengthen the core of the plant, the important thing during this process is to be aware of the pace of growth because you don't want them to run out of space within its environment. You don't want it to outgrow its space to the point of it deteriorating. Because its roots may get choke off of their nutrients. As the plant grows and matures you eventually plant it within the earth. Here is one key factor that also needs to be considered and that is the preparation of the soil prior to planting it. The ground has to be tilled and the soil overturn. Some people fortified the soil to generate more oxygen to issue healthy growth within the flower beds and vegetable gardens.

So even in our spiritual growth, some moves are necessary for us to remain on the paths that God has prepared for each one to fulfill our purpose. Notice I stated that God has prepared because some people get possessive of others gifts, talents and abilities. Failing to realize that these are individual journeys with many crossroads and no permanent or extended stays. When we meet at the various crossroads it is for us to glean, equip and gain wisdom, knowledge, and understanding to assist us in furthering our journey throughout life in building up and advancing the Kingdom of God. When we fail to understand this it creates an immediate reason for one to transition to another place to not hinder the path that God has ordained for their life by not being held, hostage when others don't understand your destiny.

Relationships are established with God become personal and intimate. Much like a natural relationship that is this close is not always opened for others to understand especially when we use the term intimate. Intimacy is between two and differs in most cases. So in actuality looking in from the outside one will never truly understand the true connection. However, to honor the relationship is the best course of action until invited to give an opinion.

When we have these established relationships with God we have a certain way of communicating with Him that no one else may seem to understand. With this, we understand the leading of Him that guides to certain places to create pathways of understanding, wisdom, and knowledge that others may benefit from on the pathways that He has set before them. We are instruments for the Fathers use that His kingdom may still be established here within this earth realm for this appointed time until His return.

Understand that we must never take credit for the work of God being manifested thru us and stir clear of being possessive over anyone's gifts and abilities. For it was God and not us that provided them, we have to learn to support without creating envy and undue strife that His glory be revealed to many. Stay humble in all our ways that we can be in harmony one to another. For the work must continue in the spirit of unity and not division or strife. These sort of environments and atmospheres are create to further Satan plan of divide and conquer. By making environment a place of hostility changes the focus that was intended which was to expand and extend the boarder of the Kingdom. Unity creates strength and initiates the growth to forward the advancement of the Kingdom.

We have to learn to respect the gifts in others and understand that God has equipped them as well as ourselves for the establishing and building of his Kingdom on earth. Let us learn to be an instrument that God can use rather than one that Satan will eventually devour. We must remain vigilant in our individual pressing toward the mark in Christ Jesus. Pay attention and be aware of the environments that you find yourself in and make the Kingdom choice in your daily decision. In the words of a wise man of God "Do it God's Way for it's the Best Way.

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 marvelous light: 1Peter 2:9



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Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2 Timothy 2:15

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I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:14

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ALL ABOUT HEALTH

STACIE L. DANIELS, RN



This issue will begin a series on the benefits of different herbs in our dietary intake. While traditional medicine still has its place, natural products have proven immensely beneficial when it comes to health and wellness. This month we will focus on one of the oldest and best tasting home remedies----Peppermint. Peppermint is a flowering perennial that is indigenous to Europe and the Middle East. It will usually grow between 12-35 inches in height. It is a natural hybrid of spearmint and water mint.

Peppermint has been used in alternative medicine as a possibly effective aid in treating irritable bowel syndrome, breast feeding discomfort, heartburn, migraines, tension headache and to reduce spasms during endoscopy and colon exams. Other uses not proven with research have included dental plaque, bad breath, hot flashes, pain caused by shingles, itchy skin, toothaches, infections, and muscle pain. The herb has also been noted to have a calming effect on the body and a possible remedy to help soothe a nagging cough.

Other possible benefits for peppermint include: antispasmodic (abdominal pain, cramps), gas, aid digestion, and help with insomnia. Studies have shown that peppermint decreases the amount of time food spends in the stomach by stimulating the gastric lining. It may also relax the stomach muscles.

Herbal supplements should be purchased from a reliable source to minimize the risk of contamination. The parts commonly used are dried or fresh leaf and essential oil. Tea is the most common and best employed use of peppermint.

Have you ever noticed that some restaurants give their patrons peppermint candy after a multicourse meal? This is to aid digestion. Quality hotels also put peppermint candies on the pillow to promote a goodnight rest. So, if you are one who tend to toss those little peppermint candies to the side, you might want to give it a second thought.

As a health care professional, it is imperative to add that this information is not intended to take the place of any medical advice from your treating practitioners. Always consult with your doctor before considering treatment with herbal supplements. The material provided is for educational purposes only and not intended for diagnosis or treatment.

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A MAN and HIS MONEY

Judith Allwood

One of my clients called to share a scenario about her husband and father of three who is in good health, makes a 'decent' salary, and has a few years left before he retires but has failed to put a plan in place for his later years. Now, we know that, "Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails." Proverbs 19:21 (New International Version). So while no one knows if he'll live till retirement there are the chances that he might. And we're also told by the same Biblical sage, Solomon that, "The wise man saves for the future, but the foolish man spends whatever he gets." Proverbs 21:20 (Living Bible).

Those are strong words and I – and maybe you too – have seen retired people who did not heed those words and ended up suffering the consequences. Some able-bodied retirees are able to go back out to work but not all are ever that fortunate. Financial Guru, Dave Ramsey says, "Men take more risks and don't save…" I have observed the unnecessary strain on his family when a man is imprudent about his personal finance.

I have also learnt that men and women intrinsically have different perspectives about many things, including money. In other words, the brains of both sexes have been designed to process life in different ways and unfortunately a lot of conflicts arise in relationships because of this divergence. I believe that many marriages can be saved if we ease off a little to learn something new. It doesn't mean that men get off the hook for disregarding Solomon's advice to save for the future, for he also admonishes, "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom" (Proverbs 4:7 King James Version).

Take the case of Clarissa and Fred. They were in debt and had little income and had both agreed to start setting aside cash and to eliminate their credit cards. Clarissa took on the role to straighten out the finances and dedicated a special shoebox in the closet for her stash. Each month that she saw the credit card debt shrinking she felt exhilarated and together they would celebrate. Then the final bill arrived and Clarissa reached for the letter opener with glee. Next month she would apply all the payments to the next debt in line and in time they would be debt-free.

She hurriedly opened the statement and suddenly felt like a stab in her chest at what

she saw. The card had been maxed out! Thinking the company had make a mistake she brought the statement to her husband's attention. With a look of embarrassment on his face Fred apologized that he was going to tell her about it but had not gotten around to it. She was devastated and felt like her husband of only a few months was tearing down what they both said they were going to build.

The weekend following, Clarissa cashed her paycheck and took out the usual amount that she and her husband had decided to save together. After dinner, she went to the closet to deposit her cash. Reaching up, she took the box from the shelf, humming softly as she rested it on the edge of the dresser. Despite the recent incident with the credit card, Clarissa hadn't the slightest suspicion about what she would discover when she opened the shoebox.

Shrieking, "Fred!" on the top of her voice, Clarissa stumbled backwards and fell to the floor, her entire body shaking. Her gentle sobs quickly blew up into a bellow as Fred appeared at the door to their bedroom.

Once again, the husband she loved with all her heart confessed that he had borrowed the money with the intention of putting it back before she found out. Fred's risk-taking had landed him into trouble and put his marriage in jeopardy.

That's when they sought counseling and was subsequently encouraged to seek financial coaching. Clarissa said she was afraid because she felt unsafe in a marriage in which her financial future constantly felt threatened. She was losing the ability to trust her husband and was deeply concerned about the future of their union and raising children in such an environment. They both would have to learn some things and thankfully they were willing and open to it.

One of the first lessons for them was a tough one – not blaming each other. Neither were they to bad-mouth each other to friends or family. They were to learn that they were partners who had vowed to withstand challenges for the bettering of each other – not the worse, (which is for uncontrollable circumstances such as accidents). Working with a coach created the space for them to look at things objectively and work things out.

One of the errors that we make in our relationships is to expect another person to be a certain way; but the truth is that a person is how he or she is. Of course, one's way of being doesn't always necessarily work, but expecting another to be how you would want them to be is simply unrealistic. Humans are more inclined to resist a behavior or way of being that is deemed unsatisfactory, but resistance does not create the environment for unity. This is not condoning the behavior; it is instead leveling the landscape for communication. In such a space acceptance of facts is possible.

In that realm of no resistance where Clarissa and Fred accepted the fact that men and women think differently they became open to listening to counsel, seeking wisdom and then choosing ways of being that supported a strong and harmonious marital relationship.

It took a lot of courage and they were both able to learn another important lesson — let go of the need to be right. Have you ever heard the saying, "Every story has three sides — his side, her side, and the truth?" The truth always sets us free but we cannot see truth when we are mired in our own rightness. We affirm our positions to enjoy our rights when we classify or condemn our spouses and call them names.

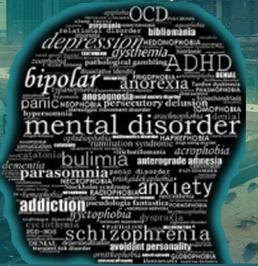
Historic truth holds that most men are risk-takers. Many financial studies support this finding. A 2015 Fortune Magazine article citing a research stated, "Men [are] ... significantly more likely to take more risk than [a computerized portfolio manager] advises for them." The article also said that "men were nearly six times more likely than women to make [certain investment decisions]". It doesn't necessarily mean they are wrong – they are just 'hard-wired' that way.

Still, the biblical truth in Romans 12:2 states that he can be transformed by renewing his mind about the consequences of being haphazard about his money and the rewards of making wise financial decisions.



WHOSOEVER WILL COME CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST Jehovah Rapha THE LORD THAT "STILL" HEALS - Exodus 15:26

"Jesus is Lord" - Romans 10:9



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