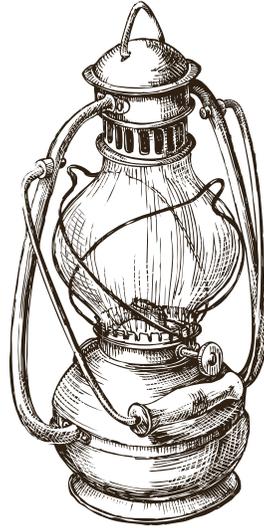


121 Daily Bible Readings

Oil for the Journey



By Ruth Dickson



VOLUME ONE

Oil for the Journey - 121 Daily Readings

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Introducing “Oil for the Journey”

Dear Reader,

I am eternally grateful you have this book in your hands. Whether you have a hard or digital copy, my prayer is that the Holy Spirit will do a great work in you.

There is a distinction between all men and women on the earth today. There are a chosen generation of people who have been foreknown and called by God from eternity. These people have been given to Christ. They are clothed in robes of righteousness, called by grace, selected by God’s electing love... I have nothing more to add to what Christ has already done, Christ’s death is complete and effective. The aim of “Oil for the Journey,” is simply to shine a bright light in a world full of darkness, to encourage you, and point you to Jesus Christ.

The work of the Holy Spirit

The Bible uses many symbols to describe the person and work of the Holy Spirit. One of them is Oil. It is the Spirit of God that leads a person to faith in Christ. The Holy Spirit works in our lives on a daily basis: He loves us, comforts us, guides us, convicts us of sin, leading us to repentance. My prayer is that the Holy Spirit, who guides you into all Truth, will lead you, every step of the way, through “Oil for the Journey.” I pray you will see the light of Christ and be directed towards Him.

With one look at yourself, you need to take ten looks at Jesus Christ! This is because if you look at yourself, you will only see

imperfections. The truth is that, we live in an imperfect world, with imperfect people. We need to look at what is pure and perfect and holy to get the right perspective.

When you look directly at God's Word, you will see less of yourself and more of the beauty and glory of the One who exceeds perfection. When you look at Christ, you look away from your existence here on earth and look to the One who has shown you mercy and grace in His redemption plan.

There is eternal hope, blessed assurance and peace knowing that Christ is on your side.

May this book be supernatural "Oil" for your journey.

With every blessing,

Ruth Dickson.



There is nothing that should give a person more assurance than God's Word. It is the key to life and God wants you to live it abundantly.





If you see a flame burning brightly,
remember

-

the velocity of its flame comes from God.





Day 1:
The Sweetness of God

Psalm 104:34

Month

Date

Time

Isn't it heart-warming to read encouraging words of scripture in the midst of the horrendous things you may come across or hear everyday? Just one encouraging word can change the course of your day. The eyes are the windows to the soul and what filters through can either produce light or darkness.

The mind has such retentive memory, what it sees, what it reads, what it perceives can either have a pleasant or unpleasant effect. It either builds you up or tears you down. Can you imagine what life would be without the brightness of God's Word. It would be a completely dark place. Praise God for those who take their time to expound it.

The Word of God brings light in darkness. It carries great news. It is a conduit of joy. Most people these days have smart phones. The simple touch of it with your finger-tips will give you access to the whole world. Each time you see scripture posts on Social Media, take time to meditate on it. It is the sweetest fruit in the midst of the rottenness you see online. Psalm 104:34 tells us the meditation of God's Word is pleasing to God.

Rejoice and be glad today, turn your eyes away from darkness. Open your Bible and meditate on God's Word, the well-spring and source of Life. Read your Bible every day, it is a treasure - trove of Joy. Meditate on what gives life to the soul.



Notes



Day 2:
Issues of Trust

Proverbs 3:5,6

Month

Date

Time

The person who has experienced great anxiety or distress in a particular area of life may find it very hard to trust God. Trauma can be psychological or pathological. It can be described as a powerful shock, a deeply disturbing incident, which may have a long lasting effect. When the body experiences physical trauma, for example, when the human body receives sudden physical injury or violence, it can create substantial lasting damage. Certain events in life may cause a person never to trust again.

You can TRUST God with all your heart.

Your own understanding of life may fail you. It is possible to have a divided heart: a misplaced confidence. Proverbs 3:5 commands us to, “trust in the the Lord with all your heart.” Do you trust Him with your relationships, finances, work and desires in life? Do you trust Him to bring His plans and purposes to pass? He wants unlimited access to every area. He knows what is best for you in this life, even in the areas you have experienced betrayal, trauma, disillusionment and distress.

It is not every road that is the right one. All roads do not lead to Jesus. Seek the Lord for divine direction with all your heart. Acknowledge Him in every decision. He is a dependable Solid Rock, reliable and trustworthy in all of His ways. He will never let you down. The Holy Spirit is the perfect companion and guide. He speaks to you daily through His Word. Isaiah 30:21 says, “Your ears shall hear a word behind you saying, ‘This is the way, walk in it.’ “Psalm 119:105 says, His Word is like a beaming torch that lights up those dark pathways to direct your feet. Trust in the Lord today and do not lean to your own

understanding. Acknowledge Him in all your ways and he will direct your paths (Prov.3:5,6).



Notes



Day 3:

*The afflicted believer
& the wealthy sinner*

Psalm 49:20

Month

Date

Time

It is possible to go through this world and exit having achieved nothing. A person may have all the wealth of the world, live a self-serving life of covetousness, yet in reality, is like a beast that perishes. Once it is gone, it is forgotten. The soul of a man however, doesn't go into oblivion, the soul lives on and will one day face the final judgement.

A man or woman in honour understands his or her purpose. Everything he or she lives for points towards Christ. They have a hope and expectation of a greater glory to come.

The believer in Christ is never to envy the sinner who lives for gratification of the flesh and the indulgence of this world. The believer lives for the honour and glory of God. He or she understands they have dominion over worldliness. They belong to a family of believers, they are co-heirs with Christ, the sons and daughters of a Majestic King.



Notes



Day 4:
The Great &
Mighty One

Isaiah 45:9

Month

Date

Time

Who can question the authority of the Infinite and Eternal One? Can the created thing dictate to the one who Created it? Selah

“What sorrow awaits those who argue with their Creator.

Does a clay pot argue with its maker?” (NLT) Isaiah 45:9

There is no one who compares to Almighty God. He existed before time began. He created the Heavens and Earth. Anyone who sets themselves in competition with God simply wastes their time. He will not be competed with. He is GOD ALMIGHTY.

Idols, the works of human hands, cannot compete with ALMIGHTY GOD, the CREATOR of the universe. The works of men cannot compare to the work of THE GREAT AND MIGHTY ONE.

Those who strive with God, inevitably, will come to the revelation that He cannot be strived with. He will have his way, regardless. The person who hardens their heart against God is to be pitied. It is better to submit to Him, than attempt to contend with HIM. Woe to the one who strives with his maker!

No human being can claim to be wiser than THE WISE ONE. No human being can claim to be stronger than God, THE ALL POWERFUL ONE. He does as He pleases. No one can regulate His authority or tell Him what to do. Selah

Honour the Lord today,

“Submit to God’s royal son, or he will become angry, and you will be destroyed in the midst of all your activities--for his anger flares up in an instant. But what joy for all who take refuge in him!”
(Ps.2:12) NLT.



Notes



Day 5:

What food are you eating?

1 Peter 2:2

Month

Date

Time

To lead a healthy life, you need healthy food. If you are constantly eating unhealthy food, sooner or later, it will effect you negatively. It is possible for the mind, body and soul to have poor nutrition. An unhealthy diet of sickly sweet and shallow messages will do nothing for your soul.

A healthy mind

Certain kinds of food provide nutrition, not just for the body, but to develop the mind. The Apostle Paul uses the metaphor of a baby drinking milk, to provide a more visible description of what he is trying to say. The pure and unadulterated milk a baby drinks plays a vital role in its development. This milk can not be contaminated. This is the same way a person who is, “born again,” (John 3:7) needs, “pure Spiritual milk,” to grow. The process of regeneration is the new spiritual birth of the believer. This new birth brings new spiritual life.

Is your food questionable?

The essential first step to healthier eating involves looking at what is going into your body. What are you feeding on? Is it that sickly sweet gospel that just makes you want to throw up?! Or is it so bitter and sour, that you can't bear to hear any more? You are what you eat.

May God work His Grace through you. **MAKE SURE** as a believer in Christ, you are feeding on a well-balanced, healthy and nutritious diet.



Notes



Day 6:
The believer in Christ
must always rejoice

Philippians 4:4

Month

Date

Time

Jesus Christ has given the believer every cause to be content, happy and glad. Christian joy is not dependent on external circumstances. The believers joy is not like a candle that blows out with the slightest blow of wind. The flame of a candle will only be steady in an unperturbed environment. Each day on this earth brings different challenges. One day brings sunshine, another day brings rain. The believers joy will be as changeable as the weather if it is dependent on looking outside the window.

Internal joy in the heart of a believer is constant when it flows from a steady source. This is the kind of source that never runs dry. This kind of light never blows out. It is firmly anchored in Jesus. It shines brightly from a never ending source of Joy. This oil of joy does not depreciate with each passing day. It appreciates, shining brightly into each new day.

Philippians 4:4 is a daily reminder to every believer in Jesus Christ. The Lord is with you always. He is the Godman with you. He does not grow weary neither does He grow tired . He is not a fair-weather friend who will only show up when the good times roll. Good seasons will attract seasonal friends (Proverbs 19:4). Emmanuel is consistent in all His ways. He will be you at all times, through the good times and the bad. In weddings, at naming ceremonies and during funerals. He is always there.

Everyone in Christ can be sure of this: Emmanuel is with you always (Matt. 1:23). Rejoice because you are one with Him and the fruit of His Spirit is joy (Gal. 5:22). Your past has been forgiven, you have a bright future with Jesus. Even unfavourable circumstances work out for good when you are in Christ (Romans 8:28).

You can go ahead and be who God has called you to be. You can do all He has called you to do. He has already gone ahead of you to make every crooked way straight. Be confident.

Rejoice and again I say, rejoice. At all times you have access to the throne of Grace. He is with you ALWAYS even until the end if time. Hallelujah!!!

Hallelujah!!! Emmanuel is with us!!! Salvation is come!!!
Hosannah in the Highest!!!



Notes



Day 7:
Stand your ground,
in spite of the world

Ephesians 6:10

Month

Date

Time

Every believer in Jesus Christ has been commissioned by God. It takes great courage to defy the world's system and follow Christ whole heartedly. The believer must be prepared to wear a fool's coat, even when everyone else is wearing designers. In other words, be prepared to be a non-conformist.

The believer stands strong by clothing his or herself with the garment of TRUTH. To be made fun of because of your non-conformity is a great place to be: according to Jesus Christ (Matthew 5:11).

Be strong in the Lord:

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego refused to dance to the tune of Nebuchadnezzar pipe (Daniel 3:15). By way of explanation, they refused to worship the "image" of man. They were resolute in their faith and refused to worship anyone or any other god but Yahweh. They stood their ground in the face of fire. The same charge was brought against Daniel. He refused to bow his knee to the "image" of man. Daniel kept his faith in view of the Lions jaws.

It is a great honour to the believer when the report of this world is that you do not conform to the traditions of men. The worship of idols is an old ancient tradition which has prevailed on this earth through the centuries. It even manifests itself in the Church.

Be strong in His mighty power

Brothers and sisters in Christ. These are the last days. You must stand, with God's mighty power against the powers of darkness. Until Christ returns there will be many battles to fight. As a Christian soldier you must be bold and brave. Remember that the fight

is not against physical human beings, but against powers, principalities and spiritual wickedness in high places. You need spiritual strength and endurance for spiritual warfare. This power only comes from God. While an earthly General is only as strong as his troops, the believers strength comes from the Lord of Hosts. The believer overcomes the enemy by the power, might and authority of God. The right hand of the Lord is exalted, the right hand of the Lord is valiant (Psalm 118:16). The right hand of the Lord is a symbol of God's mighty power. It is this power that He uses to overthrow every power of the enemy.

Jesus Christ came to this earth in such meekness and lowliness. He suffered, He was despised and rejected by men, yet He prevailed and overcame. He stood His ground. By the power in His blood, the believer has overcome!

Let the weak say they are strong, the Lord has prevailed. Rejoice and again I say, Rejoice! Satan is defeated!



Notes



Day 8:
Put on your Armour

Ephesians 6:11

Month

Date

Time

Paul spoke as one addressing his troops for battle in Ephesians 6:11. The power of the Lord empowers the saints to put on their full Armour. It fuels your faith and make you ready for battle. This is not an earthly battle.

Why should you put on FULL ARMOUR

The armour of God equips you to fight against sin. The complete Armour of God was stripped from Adam and Eve when they sinned: they found themselves naked.

“Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.” -Gen. 3:7

Once satan can find a crack in your Armour, he will bring in a host of other demons. The devil will assault you at your weakest point, so no part of the body must be left naked. The believer must be completely covered (mind, body and soul) at all times.

Just as satan deceived Eve, he is looking to deceive as many people as possible and hold them captive. Adam and Eve became slaves to sin, rather than confess their sin. This is the condition of everyone until they find Jesus.

Stand firm against satan’s strategies

The weapons of warfare are not the weapons of this world. (2 Corinthians 10:4). There is a special grace which holds every piece of the Armour intact and in place. It stands firm against the prince of darkness.

It is called The Armour of God because it belongs to God.

We have no Armour of our own. We must put on God's Armour so that we can stand against the "wiles of the devil" at all times. The enemy is at work, with all his energy and stratagems to pull the believer down. The devil is an evil influencer to those who allow themselves to be used by him.

The Christian Armour is complete when properly worn.

"Put on the full Armour of God." Each part has a special function and it operates by God's grace. It is grace in action. When Armour is worn, it must be used properly to "stand against the strategies of satan.". This Armour must be worn until Christ returns.

Fight the good fight of faith! (1Timothy 6:12).



Notes



Day 9:
The battle is not
against human-beings

Ephesians 6:12

Month

Date

Time

When human-beings come against a believer, they are being controlled by evil spirits. The Sabeans were sent by satan to overrun and plunder the life of Job. Demonic powers control the minds of those who fight the gospel and Ministers of the gospel. They act as emissaries of satan to carry out works of wickedness against the believer. They are described as people, “prostituted to the devil’s service” - Augustine.

You cannot go into battle alone.

The Lord of Hosts is the one who fights the battle. The believer does not fight this battle on their own. The Angel of the Lord went ahead of Moses (Exodus 33), he never ventured out alone. Before Jacob met with Esau, he cried out to God. (Genesis 32). David prayed that the counsel of Ahithophel be turned into foolishness in 2 Samuel 15:31. God answered his prayers because David’s enemy took his own life.

In the ancient days, wrestlers would anoint themselves with oil so that their opponents would not be able to take hold onto any part of their body. This is the same way every believer today should be careful to cover themselves with God’s Word. Sin will give the enemy an advantage. Sin can be described as an engine to which satan is the engineer. The believer must use God’s Word to fight. When The Accuser comes to accuse the Saint, he will find nothing but the spirit of holiness, to scorch him and burn his accusations to ashes.

BrothersandsistersinChristbeencouragedtoday.Thebattlebelongs to The Lord. The Lord of Hosts will go before you and fight your battles. The inward battle of Sin will not have its way, neither will

external battles overrun you in Jesus' name, Amen. intact and in place. It stands firm against the prince of darkness.



Notes



Resist the enemy

-

The enemy desires to shift your faith. His desire is to force you out of position: the place of prayer, the place of life and power. The ultimate plan is to stop your communion with God, but the believer in

Jesus Christ must stand firm.





Day 10:
Betrothed to Christ

Matthew 25:1-13

Month

Date

Time

At Midnight a cry was heard and the Wise Virgins went out to meet their groom.

Just as an engagement ring is not the end, but speaks of a more permanent commitment to come (a glorious wedding) so the Christian engaged with Christ on this earth lives here temporarily with an expectation that can never be cut short! The Christian lives on earth knowing that Christ is coming again and He comes to take His Bride with Him.

No man knows the day or hour of Christ's return

When Christ comes He will separate the 'tares' from the 'wheat'. The Christian journey can be described as a building with rough scaffolding. When the building is complete, the ugly scaffolding will be taken away to reveal a stunning smooth building.

We are commanded to watch lest He takes us unawares: 'Watch therefore; for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come...' (Matt. 24:42-44).

The Lord has promised us that He will come at an unexpected time. He describes His coming like a thief in the night. When the world says that peace, safety and prosperity abound, then He shall suddenly come. Christ has promised us that He shall come at a time when no one is expecting Him, just like a thief.

A thief never announces His coming, but likes to sneak in when people are sleeping. We all know that thieves do not take everything they see. They only take precious things like: diamonds, gold, silver, money and all costly items. They leave behind those

items that are deemed of no value. In reality, they leave behind a whole lot more than they steal. This is a picture of what will happen when Christ returns: He will take those who belong to Him and leave those behind who have no remission for their sins. These are the ones with no covering of the blood.

Taking Christ's return imminently and seriously

As true believers we need to be ready and expectant for the Lord's return at any time. Not only will there be a separation of believers from unbelievers, but husbands from wives, wives from husbands, brothers from sisters and friends from friends.

“That night two people will be asleep in one bed; one will be taken, the other left. Two women will be grinding flour together at the mill; one will be taken, the other left.” (Luke 17: 34 -36).

We need to take this very seriously as there shall be many surprises on that day. Christ rewards openly all those who diligently serve Him. The wise virgins were ready and waiting at the Lord's return. They went in with Him to the marriage and the door was shut. The foolish virgins woke up startled, finding the door locked on the inside. Though they shouted, called out and shook the door, it was permanently shut before them.

Our desire should be to finish joyfully

“For the son of Man shall come in the glory of his Father, with His angels and then He shall reward every man according to His work”. Matt16: 27

Read also Rev 22:12, 20.

We are pilgrims on a journey. This is not our home, we are going into something more permanent. This temporary journey is filled with rocks, boulders, ditches and valleys. However, we do not face our trials and circumstances with sorrow, but with abundant joy. It is only Christ that can give joy and gladness were there are broken bones! (Psalm 51:8).

It is only Christ that can make you rejoice were there is weeping. Even where there is death, it is only Christ that gives the final victory, as the soul lives on eternally and jubilantly.

We have not finished our course yet; it is yet to be completed. We just don't want to barely cross over the finish line; we want to finish radiantly, overjoyed and finish well!

Jesus shed His blood to purchase His Bride. To every one who confesses their sins He cleanses and forgives from all unrighteousness. The Lord knows those whom are His and He saves them eternally.



Notes



Day 11:
Loving to the end

John 13:1

Month

Date

Time

“Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.”

Judas Iscariot was the betrayer of Jesus Christ, but it was quite remarkable that Jesus Christ loved him to the very end. Before Judas was chosen, Jesus knew he would betray him, yet it did not affect the way He treated Judas. He loved Judas Iscariot to the very end. John 13:1. Even with the betrayal of a kiss at Gethsemane, Jesus still called Judas Iscariot “friend”, Matthew 26:46.

In the hours approaching His death, Jesus disciples deserted Him. The weakness of their minds, their infirmity and failing strength did not stop Jesus from loving them. He told them what their actions would be, to their disbelief and denial (Matthew 26: 31).

It is often those who are closest to us that have access to hurt us the most. Your boss, your child, your best friend, your husband, your wife, your brother, your sister, your parents... whoever they may be... In whatever capacity you have been betrayed, hurt, used or abused, God has called you to “love to the end.” You may put up a guard against making new friends because you desperately don’t want to be hurt again. By going around with an invisible guard you may miss out on the genuine and beautiful relationships God is bringing your way. You may say in your heart that this is easier said than done, but just think about Jesus and all He endured for your sake, willingly going to the cross. Jesus has set the pattern for you, through His ability to forgive. He forgives your sins daily, looking upon us in our infirmities and weaknesses, remembering that great sacrifice upon the Cross daily.

In whatever capacity you have been hurt, you can learn from the steps of Jesus to forgive and forget. You can love and nurture others, remembering the way Jesus has loved you.



Notes



Day 12:

*Pure love is as scarce as
rubies & diamonds*

Luke 10:29-37

Month

Date

Time

I remember many years ago I had a problem with my car at work. To my surprise, it was a Muslim lady that I rarely noticed who showed so much care, love and compassion about the my situation. She ran around that evening, making sure I got a lift home, because the office was situated in an area that was not serviced by public transport. Her actions surprised me, it was an eye-opener. It was such an unexpected act of kindness.

The story of the traveller that fell amongst thieves (Luke10:29-37 please read) was Jesus' way of showing us the natural fallen condition of the heart of mankind.

The unnamed traveller who fell amongst thieves was stripped naked, beaten and left for dead by the wayside. One after the other, the Priest and then the Levite passed him by. They gave him a side-glance over the shoulder and proceeded with their businesses. They probably judged him with self-righteous indignation for falling into the hands of thieves.

This story is not alien from the world we will live in today and Jesus knew that this story would be relevant in this day and age, as it was then.

“It is sad when those who should be examples of charity are prodigies of cruelty.” – Matthew Henry

Am I too busy “Working for God” that I cannot see?

Can we see the brother in distress? Are we able to see the wounded person who does not attend our Church?

Are we able to reach out to the fallen that are found on the peripheries of our social circles? Are we able to get along with those of a different faith?

Are we able to touch people who do not look like us or smell like us?
Are we our neighbours' keeper?

Do we even talk to them? What do you think Jesus would do in these situations? On the flip side, would you accept help from a non-Christian?

If God sends a Muslim or lost person to assist you, in your time of need, would you accept their help or send them away?

Everyone who God gives us the opportunity to help is our neighbour, regardless of his or her gender, marital status, colour, sexual orientation, religious alignment, ethnicity or disability. This may sound like a politically correct statement, but every human has been created in God's image and for this reason deserves respect.

It gives us something to think about doesn't it. Do we pass by the opportunity of doing well to another because they do not come from our country? Loving thy neighbour as thyself (Mark 12:31) is one of the greatest commandments given by God.

Jesus is that Good Samaritan to us all. Satan left us robbed and stripped. He left us wounded by the wayside. We were left dead in our trespasses and sin, but Jesus had mercy and compassion upon us. He left His majesty, in all humility to rescue and save us from eternal ruin. We were without strength, but He bound up our bleeding wounds. He took great care of us; He took every expense upon His own head at the cross, voluntarily.

We can give nothing in return for what God has done. According to our ability, let us be encouraged, to do as the Samaritan has done.



Notes



Day 13:
Truth & Righteousness

Ephesians 6:14

Month

Date

Time

Paul spent a lot of time in Prison. It was from his time in Prison that he grasped the concept of a soldier fully dressed in Armour. In Ephesians 6:13-17, we see a description of the believer dressed in complete Armour. Paul wants every believer in Jesus Christ to be fully dressed, just like a soldier in the Army. To “stand” seems to imply watchfulness and readiness. A soldier is watchful and ready. The soldier who leaves his rank stands exposed to the enemy.

The belt of Truth

Paul uses the symbol of a belt as the first fighting tool the believer needs. The belt holds every-thing together. It is the foundation, as everything depends on the Truth of Scripture. The Truth is used to fend off the lies and assaults of the enemy. Just like the Soldier depends on physical armour, the believer in Jesus Christ depends on spiritual armour.

“But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.”
1Thess. 5:8

The breastplate of righteousness

When a person believes in Jesus Christ, they are saved by the imputed righteousness of God. They do not have their own righteousness, they have the righteousness of God. The righteousness of God frees the believer from the accusations of the conscience, the whispers of despondency and the power of temptation.

“For our boast is this, the testimony of our conscience, that we behaved in the world with simplicity and godly sincerity, not by earthly wisdom but by the grace of God, and supremely so towards

you.” 2 Cor.1:12

“But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. 4 For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me.” 1 Cor.4:3,4

“Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.” 1 John 3:7

As the believer journeys through the Christian life, the process of Sanctification takes place. It frees the believer from the power and rule of sin. The wicked one desires to accuse the believer at all times. Sanctification makes the believer more like Jesus everyday. It makes the believer hate all that the devil stands for, it is a gradual process. Righteousness also means standing for what is right, living right, in a world full of darkness.



Notes



Day 14:
As sure footed as a deer

Psalm 18:33

Ephesians 6:15

Month

Date

Time

The believer in Christ must stand firm at all times. After wearing the Belt of Truth and Breastplate of Righteousness, the believer must wear the sturdy foot wear of Peace. A Soldier does not go into battle with shoes that will make him slide all over the place. The soldier's foot must not slip, but stand firm, against the adversary.

Psalm 18:33 says, "He makes me as sure-footed as a deer, enabling me to stand on mountain heights."

The believer in Christ must never doubt the ability of Christ. He enables one to stand on great heights, like a sure-footed deer. Even though there are so many rocks and boulders on a mountain, the deer just keeps on climbing. It does not slip, tumble or fall.

The peace of God gives us stability and confidence in battle. Whatever the problem or circumstance, the person who stands on the peace, which the gospel brings, will never be moved. A person in peace with God will approach God with confidence. They will not be confined or restricted. Peace brings mobility and freedom. What will separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord? (Romans 8:39). We are asked to come boldly before the throne of grace, where we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in the times of need (Hebrews 4:16). Christ is our peace (1 Tim.1:2). He has broken down the "wall of separation" (Ephesians 2:14).

The devil is after the soul. When a person knows they are reconciled with God, it gives them perfect peace. The peace of God will sustain a person during the most trying times. The believer can confidently say, "I raise my Ebenezer," knowing that God, who has brought

them thus far, will see them through, right to the very end.

Jesus gives the Hope and Faith that overcomes the world , Amen.



Notes



Day 15:
Faith is like a Shield

Part 1
Ephesians 6:16

Month

Date

Time

Faith is like a shield.

Faith is compared to a shield because it protects the whole body. The helmet protects the head, the breast plate protects the chest, but the shield is big enough to defend the whole body. David points to the nature of the shield when he says:

“Lord, surely you bless the righteous; you surround them with favour as with a shield.” Psalm 5:12

A shield can be used in a variety of ways. Policemen use their shields collectively as a wall of protection when they are being stormed by a mob. Their shields are so big and wide, it covers them from head to toe, shielding them, while they advance against the storm. This is the same way the believer in Christ moves forward, with the shield of Faith. No matter what the enemy uses against the believer, they are kept safe and protected by the shield of Faith.

Faith defies reason.

When the enemy brings about debate and confusion about the legitimacy of God’s Word, Faith steps in and takes control. The Word of God is received by Faith and the shield of Faith is used to quench the fiery darts aimed at weakening a person’s faith.

Faith brought Abraham through every trial, when his natural understanding could not comprehend what the Lord was saying. The shield of Faith brought him through the test.

The shield of faith will shield the believer against the greatest storm. Faith withstands confusion. Faith busts through disillusionment. Faith just keeps on going.

I pray this year you will keep moving forward. Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean to your own understanding!

David said, "I would have fainted, unless I had believed."
Psalm 27:13

Believe in God! Trust in His Word!



Notes



Day 16:
Faith is like a Shield

Part 2

Ephesians 6:17

Month

Date

Time

Faith is the victory that overcomes the world (1John 5:4). Faith is the believers shield and the devil can do nothing about it. Faith is the armour of armours: the shield of Faith is the armour that covers every other armour. It is large enough to cover the helmet, breastplate, belt, and shoes. Faith offers complete protection. Faith conquers fear. The fear of the future is conquered by faith. Faith is believing what God has said, for no other reason than that God has said it. Faith takes God at His Word. It receives gospel truths, it trusts and obeys. Faith holds on to the promises of God. Faith gives the believer boldness and a conquering spirit.

Stop the fiery darts:

Paul uses the imagery of the “taking up” of a shield in Ephesians 6:16. Every believer is to use this shield as protection against the fiery darts of satan. These darts or arrows are doubly dangerous because they pierce whatever they touch and they also set it on fire. Though these fiery darts are used against the believer, they shall not prosper. The believer needs the shield of Faith as protection to “stop” the darts of the enemy. The word “stop” is used in Ephesians 6:17 and it should be taken very seriously. Pride, lust and ungodly thoughts are just some of the fiery darts unleashed against the Christian.

These can only be stopped by Faith. The Holy Spirit is a helper and every believer must look to Jesus to resist the devil. A surrendered heart trusts in God’s mercy and goodness. He is a very present help in times of trouble.

Christ is the treasure that the hand of Faith receives it. Faith is

the grace Jesus wants to find in us when He returns. When Jesus returns, will He find Faith in you?

It is rich in mercy and it invites the sinner to look up to Jesus at all times.



Notes



Day 17:

*The engine room of the
Christian Life*

Ephesians 6:18

Month

Date

Time

Without prayer, there is no power. After putting on the full Armour of God, you must Pray. The Armour is useless without Prayer. It is like pushing a boat out from the Sea shore, but not rowing to move forward. It is the rowing of the paddles that provides velocity, and power to the boat. We are to be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might (Ephesians 6:10).

The Armour linked with Prayer

While the Armour must be put on, scripture must be applied appropriately in the place of prayer. We are to, “Pray in the spirit on all occasions.” It is the Spirit of God that brings life to the spoken Word.

Prayer and supplication

We must be diligent and persistent with prayer. Just like Jesus said, “Men ought to pray and not faint,” (Luke 18:1), Paul encourages us to do the same. He wants us to be alert and keep on praying for ourselves, our families and nations. Most of all, we are to pray for the Lord’s people every where. We are living in a time when many believers are suffering merciless persecution at the hands of the wicked. They have no physical strength in which to defend themselves, but the strength of the Lord. Let us pray for the strong right hand of the Lord to be exalted on behalf of His children globally, That they may be victorious and rejoice in the One who has power over all things, including death and the grave.

Supplication means humility in prayer, knowing that you are entreating or petitioning One who has dominion, power and authority over all things Let the Spirit lead you in the place of Prayer. Pray

for spiritual strength, that you may never grow weary or tired. Amen



Notes



Day 18:
Faith is like a Shield

Part 3

Ephesians 6:16

Month

Date

Time

It's an absolute fact: The Shield of Faith will demolish fiery darts.

The fiery darts are the most lethal equipment the wicked one uses against the believer. Ephesians 6:12 describes satan as "spiritual wickedness." The word wicked is used for two reasons.

Firstly, the word wicked is a reminder that satan is wicked and every believer should resist him and hate sin. God is holy and the opposite of holy is unholy. Cain was described as one who belonged to the evil one (1John 3:12). The desire of satan is to impose his image upon all human beings and control them. The believer is to reflect Christ more and more each day.

Secondly, satan is called wicked by God so that every believer will be courageous in the battle against him. These wicked spirits hate God more than they hate the believer. Every child of God is an heir with Jesus Christ.

The bible says, "do not touch my anointed ones." (Psalm 105:15). If He rebuked and opposed Kings for touching His anointed ones, what more of wicked spirits and the spiritually wicked? When God arises, His enemies are scattered completely (Psalm 68:1).

Jesus Christ has the power to extinguish every fiery dart of the enemy. Raise up your Shield of Faith!

The swift darts, The darts fired in secret, The darts with the intention to kill... Whatever they may be or wherever they come from.... they will never succeed or prosper. Where there is no wood, the fire goes out (Proverbs 26:20).

God Almighty will take away the wood being used to shape the fiery darts at you, AMEN! Walk freely in the heritage of your Faith.

Have a blessed day!



Notes



Day 19:
Grace & Peace

Revelation 1:4

Month

Date

Time

Grace is the undeserved favour of God. It is God not giving us what we deserve, it is undeserved mercy. It is a unique work of God in pardoning guilty sinners. It is not something anyone can earn, it is what He gives freely and willingly, though we do not deserve it. It is God constantly blessing us, because He desires to do so. If God gives us what we deserve, it would be His anger and wrath. As sinners saved by Grace, we do not approach God in our own righteousness. We come boldly before God, in the righteousness of Christ.

Peace is the absence of conflict. Looking at its context within scripture, it refers to the spiritual well-being of a person. It is the sense of knowing that a person or people are at peace with God. Peace is significant because it protects the heart. Despite it all, whatever circumstance in life, the person at peace with God has a stable relationship with Him, based on the Saviour's death. This peace gives a well rounded sense of well being. Psalm 65:2 highlights this when it says, "my soul finds rest in God."

God is constantly gracious towards us and we need it. This is what John is praying for, "Grace and peace to you..." (Rev.1:4). Every moment we wake, we must recognise the need of God's Grace. We cannot live one moment without it. In our daily struggles, challenges, trials and temptations, we must know the peace of God. It is that spiritual well-being based upon a strong foundation. Every day and night, we need Grace and Peace. The Church needs that constant beam of the light of God upon it.



Notes



Day 20:
Kings & Priests

Revelation 1:6

Month

Date

Time

Israel was brought out of slavery in Exodus and God said to Moses, “You shall be to Me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation.”(Exodus 19:6).

Rev. 5:9 says,

“You have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth.”

Just like Israel was brought out of slavery and bondage in Egypt to be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation, Christ has rescued us from the jurisdiction of darkness and brought us into the Kingdom of Light. Every child of God has been delivered from the kingdom of darkness to the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ. You are royalty: sons and daughters of the Living God (Col. 1:13, 1Peter 2:9).

Royal citizenship

If you are a child of God you have been rescued from the kingdom of darkness and given royal citizenship in God’s Kingdom. It is a Kingdom ruled by the Lord Jesus Christ (Col. 1:13). This citizenship comes with glorious privileges. Through Christ we are heirs, a royal priesthood, a peculiar people. Christ rules and reigns over us and over this kingdom forever and ever.

Allegiance to God’s Kingdom.

The believer has allegiance to this Kingdom. Good citizenship is a virtue and obligation. The reign of Christ in the life of a believer brings obedience and “obedience,” is part of kingdom living. We show appreciation for the great work Christ has done by our

obedience.

He reigns forever

To Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. Let all praise and honour, glory and adoration and all power be ascribed to Him for ever and ever and ever.



Notes



Day 21:
Every eye shall see Him

Revelation 1:7

Month

Date

Time

The return of the Lord shall be victorious. Every eye shall see Him. His return is made crystal clear in Rev.1:7. It shall be “with clouds,” accompanied with great glory and power. Matthew 24:30 describes it as a day all the tribes of the earth shall mourn.

One of the key elements of the Book of Revelation is the constant use of figures of speech from the Old Testament. The words, “they who pierced Him,” is an obvious reference to the prophecy in Zechariah (Zech.12:10). Those who pierced His side shall be astonished, alongside those who blaspheme and pierce Him with their sins and have not repented. For the persecutors of the Church, it shall be a day of astonishment and terror. A day of vengeance for the One who says, “vengeance is mine” (Deut.32:35, Rom.12:19).

All the tribes of the earth shall see Him and wail, not in repentance, because that time would have passed, but in regret.

Through the eyes of faith, we can see long - distance, we can see things that seem afar off. Though His return may seem far away, let us hold on to His promises and be expectant of His glorious return.

By faith we can see the eternal. Those things that seem distant and far away...



Notes



Day 22:
The Ephesus Church

Revelation 2

Month

Date

Time

Ephesus was a city positioned near the western coast of Asia Minor. It was very significant in its day. Its harbour by the Aegean Sea received ships from afar, making Ephesus prosperous. It was the commercial centre of Asia. Ephesus was also popular because of the temple of Diana. It concealed criminals and silversmiths who carved small idols for the shrines of Diana. Paul had this to contend with, nevertheless, he planted a Church in Ephesus AD 52 (read Acts 18:19 - 21). Priscilla and Aquila served in this Church (read Acts 18:19). Apollos, a learned man, well trained and thorough in the knowledge of scriptures, also spoke boldly in Ephesus. (Acts 18:24-25). Timothy was also involved with this Church. He was left in charge (1Tim.1:3).

At some point, John also served as Bishop to the Church of Ephesus. It had been in existence for over 40 years when John received the letter he sent to the Church, through a vision. The directive John received was plain and simple. It wasn't revealed with complicated or mysterious words which needed unravelling. The message to the Church of Ephesus brought commendation and encouragement, but it also included rebuke and chastisement.

The Seven Epistles to the Churches are made up of similar patterns: they instruct, reprimand, commend and comfort. It is Christ writing to His Church (His Bride). Though He warns His Bride in these letters, they can be considered as letters of love. Hebrews 12:6 tells us, "The Lord disciplines the one He loves." Each letter starts with a picture of Christ and He has a special message for everyone. These letters are directed to the angel of the Churches.

These angels are the ministers who deliver God's message to the Church...



Notes



Day 23:
Commendation

Revelation 2:2

Month

Date

Time

“I know thy works...”

The Ephesian Church is commended for its labour in propagating the gospel. It's important to note the Lord keeps an account of every service done in His name. All its hard work in keeping the Church running was not a waste a time, it was certainly noticed by God. They were patient and long- suffering. It was a Church that endured so much for Christ sake. It laboured and persevered, against the odds, on behalf of Christ.

With a spirit of discernment, the Church in Ephesus fought against false teachers. These false teachers were possibly called Ebion and Cerinthus. They were men who went about preaching a false doctrine in Asia at that time. The Church did not entertain them because they “found them Liars” (Rev.2:2).

There are many preaching sales men and women today, just like Ebion and Cerinthus, selling their wares and preaching a divisive and contrary gospel. Just like the Ephesian Church, there are Churches, were preachers like these, will not be entertained or tolerated. They will not be given a platform to preach lies and sow discord amongst the Saints. There are Churches that contend for the Truth, they uphold God's Word and hate evil.

John's letter brought words of commendation and encouragement to the diligent and persevering Church which places high value upon God's Word.



Notes



Day 24:
Are you part of the
Ephesian Church?

Revelation 2:2

Month

Date

Time

The Ephesian Church is a Church so well taught in the gospel that false teachers are not able penetrate it. It is characterised by its zeal, the desire for true teaching, patience and long suffering. It takes time and energy to run an efficient church.

To be encouraged by God in any respect is a thing of joy. Appreciation and praise is what the Ephesian Church receives. Faithfulness is commended. A church is run on the efficiency of its untiring faithful members. The Church should run like a well oiled machine, where every part contributes to the smooth running of the Church. Where one part is not functioning properly, it effects the general output of the whole machine.



Notes



Day 25:

*Reproof: return
to your First Love*

Revelation 2:4

Month

Date

Time

Will your Church still exist in 30 to 50 years time, if Christ tarries?
Selah.

It might be interesting to note that the original Ephesian Church no longer exists. What happened to its Lampstand?

The letter to the Ephesian Church:

As zealous as the Ephesian Church was in its work, patience, perseverance and opposition to false teachers, it was condemned for abandoning its first love (Rev.2:4). The letter to the Ephesian Church was addressed to the Angel of Church, and we know from Rev. 1:20 that the Seven Stars represent the Seven Angels who are the (Bishops, Pastors of the Churches). The Angels were commissioned to minister their Letters to their Church. At some point the Ephesian Church fell out of intimacy with the Lord. Its love for Christ began to diminish. Their communion was abating. This issue was so serious in the eyes of God that the Ephesian Church was threatened with having its Lamp-stand removed.

The letter to the Ephesian Church speaks today:

An Ephesian Church can be compared to a wife who is perfect in every aspect of house keeping, but completely ignores her husband. The tenderness and closeness is no longer there. It can be compared to the Theologian who crosses all the T's and dot's all the I's, but has no warm communion with God. Having more love for the Work of God, than the Love of God, is a very serious issue. The "Angel" of the Church can be so caught up with preparing sermons, attending conferences and functions that intimate prayer and personal bible study may be neglected. It's one thing preaching a sermon and it's another to receive a

personal Word from God. It's possible for there to be abated affection for Christ. Performance can easily overtake a personal relationship.

When you are intimate with someone, you share your times of joy. You can also tell them your deepest fears and darkest secrets. Adam's relationship with Eve must have superseded His relationship with God at some point. The Family, the Church, Work, and a host of other things, can overtake and stand in the way of cherished time in God's presence. Your level of intimacy with God can be reduced when time spent alone with him is no longer a priority.

The Church can be so efficient, effective and diligent that it simply has no time for Christ. The outward display of love and affection for the Church and how it runs can be so spectacular that the personal love of Christ and intimate prayer can diminish and decrease. John 3:30 says, Christ must increase and we must decrease. Even if it means that people will think less of your social standing and status in Church, your personal relationship with Christ must take first place. Nothing and no one should take Christ's rightful position in your life and in the Church.

What is obscuring your vision of Christ today? What stands in the way of your fervent desire for Christ?

Even Church attendance is not an excuse, it can never replace your personal relationship with God. Today, the hand of grace is extended to the Church which has neglected its first love.



Notes



The centrality of Christ

-

In the realm of the spirit, the Church stands as one. Christ is at its centre and it cannot be pulled apart. In the natural realm, it may appear weak and divided, but in the spirit, it stands strong and united.

It can not be pulled down because it is built upon the Solid Rock. The house built upon a Rock will stand firm through turbulent and stormy weather (Matthew 7:24). Christ said, “upon this rock I will build my Church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it” (Matthew 16:18).

Jesus Christ is the central theme of Revelation and He is the central theme of His Church.





Day 26:
The hymn of Love:

1 Corinthians 13:1

Month

Date

Time

True love towards God and others, compassion and kindness to fellow believers can only come from a heart that is truly devoted to God.

Spiritual gifts without love are useless.

A believer can have the gift of tongues and the power to pray all day long, but without love, these prayers are meaningless. Preaching at people without tender affection towards them is pointless. Praying and preaching without a heart, is like preaching with a heart of bronze. It's like a clanging cymbal when it is struck. It makes a tremendous amount of noise, it's also painful to the ears.

Pride and ego drives people away, the opposite of which is love. Love draws people close. It is out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

“Love is the queen of graces.”- Thomas Watson

“He who loves not, lives not.” - Raymond Lull

God inspired love, agape love, has only one source: Almighty God. It is not selfish, it does not seek what it can get, rather, it seeks what it can give to others. Love, in God's economy spells:

S-A-C-R-I-F-I-C-E

It does not come cheap. Love and sacrifice are intricately bound together.



Notes



Day 27:

*The most eloquent preaching
is empty without Love*

1 Corinthians 13:1

Month

Date

Time

Prophecy, the knowledge and understanding of scripture, the kind of faith that can move mountains means nothing without Love.

Without Love, the gift of prophecy is meaningless.

Without Love, the mysteries of scripture are pointless.

Without Love, the knowledge of the most glorious and hidden things are useless.

Without Love, the faith of miracles to move mountains (Matthew 17:20) is empty.

Without brotherly Love, I am nothing!

Greatness in the eyes of men, is not greatness in the eyes of God.

To be devoid of Love is to lack everything. Jesus used the example of faith that can move mountains in Matthew 17:20. The ability to move mountains; such great faith, with an empty heart, moves nothing. Without Love a person possesses nothing. The greatest Servants of God, and the most gifted Prophets are nobodies without Love.

Balaam the Prophet, was a Prophet without Love (Num. 23-24). Caiaphas (John 11:50), the high priest, spoke high words, without Love for Jesus. Judas Iscariot loved money, but did not Love the Lord. Jesus testified that on the last day, many would protest by saying they did many great works on earth, when they find no place in Heaven. Their works, found meaningless, before God.

LOVE is greater than the greatest spiritual abilities. I pray every believer will have the Agape kind of Love. This kind of Love has only one source: Jesus Christ. May you be the bearer and giver of this

kind of Love. I pray this love will affect every one around you. May it shine blazingly from within. May it glow brilliantly to a dark, cold and corrupt world. Amen.



Notes



We all know someone who needs
encouraging in the Body of Christ.





Day 28:
The Lord upholds
those who fall

Psalm 145:14

Month

Date

Time

The Lord upholds those who look to Him. All that look to Him alone are upheld. Those whose strength is not in their own hands, but in the power and might of the right hand of the Lord, are sustained by Him. The Lord is a helper and His help is sufficient. It is help that is more than enough.

The Psalmist said, “ I will lift up my eyes to the hills from whence comes my help” (Psalm 121). Where does divine help come from? It comes from the Lord. The believer is to look to God for help at all times.

Some place their trust in chariots, others in horses, but there are those who put their trust in the name of the Lord (Psalm 20:7). Chariots and horses are representative of strength. They represent human energy and effort. God does not need our strength to do anything, He owns the universe and He does as He pleases. Psalm 147:10,11 says:

“He does not delight in the strength of the horse;He takes no pleasure in the legs of a man.”

God created all things, the strong Horse that can run like lightning, to the weak Lamb that stays by the side of its nursing mother. He created the Lion, the king of the jungle, with the loudest roar on earth, He also created the tiny sparrow, with the smallest tweet. It depends on God daily. The Lord created all things. He described as Lion, at other times like Lamb. God has created all things, He needs neither our strengths or weaknesses to do anything. He takes pleasure in those who depend on Him.

While our strength can do nothing for God, our fear of Him delights Him. Spiritual qualities are His delight. These are the very things God enjoys and takes pleasure in. He gives grace to the humble, but opposes the proud (Proverbs 3:34, James 4:6). The world does not fear God, neither does it take an interest in spiritual things. This world is in complete opposition to God. Material and physical strength and power mean absolutely nothing to ELOHIM (creator, mighty and strong) . He is Omnipotent. THE ALL POWERFUL ONE!

“The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear Him, In those who hope in His mercy“ (Psalm 147:11).

He delights in those who fear Him and those who are dependent on His mercy. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and the Lord delights in it. Isn't it a marvellous wonder that such a great God should take pleasure in our awe of Him. Those who fear the Lord walk in great wisdom, it is approved by God. The hope which the Lord desires is hope based upon Him, to such He bestows mercy willingly. Trust Him today with all your heart, depend on His mercy.

The tenderness of the Lord is unlimited. Who or what are we that he should be mindful of us (Psalm 8:4). What is mankind that He should uphold one who falls? He holds the hands of those who are not able to stand, He helps the weak, He defends them.

You may be “bowed down” today with the afflictions of life: disappointment; distress; sickness and disease; lack of fellowship with God; remorse, burdens and care. Regardless or whatever

the affliction there is help. The is one who “Lifts Up.” He will never abandon the righteous in their time of need. His shows himself strong on behalf of the afflicted, He is one who never leaves or forsakes His children (Psalm 37:25). “He will not crush the weakest reed or put out a flickering candle. Finally he will cause justice to be victorious. (Matthew 12:20). No one is below the reach of God’s hand. God shows His grace to the most undeserving sinners who look to Him for help. Rejoice and again I say, Rejoice! Have a splendid weekend!

Celebrate the goodness and greatness of God today.



Notes



Day 29:
To be separate
from the world

2 Corinthians 6:18

Month

Date

Time

To link arms, to be friends with this world, is to be an enemy of God. Paul is saying, (do not choose the the world as your bosom friend), when he references Old Testament scriptures in 2 Cor. 6:18.

“Depart! Depart! Go out from there, Touch no unclean thing; Go out from the midst of her, Be clean, You who bear the vessels of the Lord.” - Isaiah 52:11

Friendship with the world is like taking a cocktail drink. There are substances within a cocktail drink that are dangerous to your mind. A person who is constantly intoxicated, will live an intoxicated lifestyle. This is just like the person who embraces the world. You are called to separate yourself from the world, if you are a child of God. You are the light of the world, if you belong to Jesus. Light and darkness cannot mix together.

There are benefits of being a son or daughter of the Living God. You are called to a life of righteousness. The child of a King will not associate with everyone. As a child of God, you are chosen, not because you separate yourself from worldly associates and associations, you are chosen of God's own free will, by His divine election. God is your Father by adoption and He makes you His own taking, care of all your needs. He does so much more than an earthly father could ever do.

God's love is everlasting.



Notes



Day 30:
Sons & Daughters
of a King

2 Corinthians 6:18

Month

Date

Time

As a child of a King, there are certain things you can not do and places you cannot go. Idol worship, superstitious beliefs, evil customs and manners, from a lost and dead heathen generation, should not be part of you. You are a new creation with a new name and a new family.

Those called by God are set apart and belong to a new generation. They are redeemed and called to a life of righteousness. The child of a King is called by glory, by grace and adoption. This Kingship has not come through natural descent or association. It has come through the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.

Almighty God is a Father who takes good care of those in His Kingdom. He desires, above everything else, that you, “seek first His kingdom and His righteousness.” (Matt 6:31-33). He supplies all of their needs.

“So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” (Matt. 6:31-33).



Notes



Day 31:

Opposition to the gospel:

The son of perdition

2 Thessalonians 2:3

Month

Date

Time

There is a spirit that opposes the word of God and those who share it. It seeks to hinder gospel publications and loathes the ministers who are successful in doing what God has called them to do:

The Great Commission.

Saints every-where, both near and far, in every nation are to, “pray without ceasing,” (1Thess.5:17). Pray for those who minister the gospel. Pray that every opposition be exposed and hindrance overthrown. Pray that hearts and minds, that are closed to the gospel, be opened to receive it.

But the Lord is faithful.

The Lord is good and He never fails on His promises. Even with those who lack faith, He remains faithful (2Tim.2:13). He watches over His word and carries out His plans (Jer.1:12). Jesus said, “I will be with you always, to the very end,” (Matt. 28:20) and that is a promise.

Strength and protection from the evil one.

The believer, who looks to Christ, will stand his or her ground in the face of wickedness. It is by His grace the children of God are not moved. He places them in a strong tower, where the enemy cannot reach them. He gives them the ability to move forward.

Pray for the Church this hour, it needs encouragement and strength. It needs consolation, hope and grace to be established in every good word and work. (2Thess.2:16-17).

Pray for me, the writer of this book, that the gospel work will continue.

May God protect us all from the evil one.



Notes



Day 32:
A call to repentance

Luke 5:31

Month

Date

Time

The self-righteous person does not need God. The person who feels their own sense of inadequacy and unworthiness needs a Saviour. He or she needs someone who can make them whole.

The person who has really experienced the saving power of Jesus Christ will desire that others be saved. As much as we share our personal experiences and testimonies, do we desire that our friends and relatives come to the place of repentance? Do we teach them Christ? Do we want them saved?

Like Moses said to Hobab, “Come with us and we will do you good” Andrew let his brother Simon know that he had found Christ. The Samaritan woman called all men to see Christ and not herself. She said, “Come see a man that told me all that ever I did.” Salvation is not purchased through our personal experiences. Jesus came to save souls.

Are we concerned about the condition of souls, the salvation of our friends and loved ones? Every believer should examine their heart. Do you have a missionary spirit? Are you concerned about people coming to the place of repentance? The salvation of souls was the chief objective of Christ coming to this earth, even though he performed miracles, taught and did so many wonderful things. It is very easy for the believer to lose sight of this principal thing.

Let this be firmly placed in our minds that our personal experiences and how we got over them cannot save a soul. Self righteousness cannot save, only Jesus saves. Let us lead people to Jesus and nothing else.

“When Jesus heard this, he told them, “Healthy people don’t need a doctor-sick people do. I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners.” (Mark 2:17)



Notes



Day 33:
It is liberally given

James 1:5

Month

Date

Time

Ask and it shall be given

Prayer is fruitful, because God answers prayer. When you pray to God about what He has promised, He is obliged to answer. Prayer must be done in faith and not doubt. Our requests are not just about mentioning our requests to God. It is about believing, by faith He will answer them. We have boldness to access God with confidence through faith in Christ (Ephesians 3:12). A person who is not sure they are doing the right thing, will not come before God with boldness. If you pray about what you think is not right, you will start off on the wrong foot. It will come from a place of condemnation. (Romans 14:23). We need to make sure our consciences are in line with the Word of God. When we continually seek God's will, we bring our minds in line with the mind of Christ.

Pray in faith

Faith is the state of believing. All the promises of God find their "Yes" in Him. "No matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ (2 Corinthians 1:20). It is for God's glory. The promises of God were established before the foundations of the earth and Christ existed when these promises were made. Every condition has been fulfilled, by His obedience and faith. So we stand secure and confident in what God has promised, it must surely come to pass.

Not wavering

What is wavering? It means disputing or moving between two possibilities. The words "do not hesitate" are used in Acts 10:20. Here, the angel asked Peter not to hesitate in going out to meet the men that were sent to Him. It is possible to stand and dispute the promises of God. It is also possible to do the opposite: not to waiver, but believe the promises of God as in Romans 4: 20, "He did not

waiver through unbelief.” The original version in Greek says, he did not dispute, did not debate the matter, but settled his heart upon God’s power and promise. In Matthew 21:21, Jesus said, we should have faith and not doubt.

If you doubt you are like a wave in the sea.

The waves at sea never stand still. There is an under current that keeps it constantly moving back and forth. The person who doubts is like this sea, never standing on one thing, but going back and forth between two opinions.

They can’t make up their mind whether to believe or not. Troubled waters don’t stand still.

Let us make up our minds today to have faith and believe in the promises of God. What God has promised you is “Yes and Amen.” Each prayer must be made in faith, believing that God answers prayers. He hears us when we call out to Him. He has ears to hear and eyes to see. Let us always remember Jesus. Because of Him we have access to the Father. This is our confident hope and assurance.



Notes



Day 34:

Prayer for you:

“Grace & Peace”

Apostle Paul’s Letters

Month

Date

Time

You could pray for so many things wealth, cars, human achievements and a mix of worldly things, but these are meaning less without the grace to manage them, the grace to overcome the challenges associated with them and the peace of God which comes from a content and Spirit filled life. A life filled with rancour, debate and confusion can not be compared to a life filled with “grace and peace.”

The Apostle Paul always started his letters with a blessing and prayer for “grace and peace” upon the Church. These prayers in the form of letters were sent out to the body of Christ by the Apostles back then. These blessings are still valid today and desperately needed. Where would the body of Christ be without “grace and peace?” The world cannot give it, neither can it take it away. It comes from Almighty God.

As the day of reckoning approaches, we are going to need even more “grace and peace” from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 1:3). There are some things that will never be achieved by human hands. It is going to take the unmerited favour (grace) of God to receive that which comes with the peace of God.

May God give you more and more “grace and peace” as you grow in your knowledge of God and Jesus our Lord.



Notes



Do not doubt, only believe.

-

The sea is turbulent and our minds
should not be like a raging sea.

Our minds should be at peace, settled
upon the promises of God.





Day 35:
Blessedness in the
fear of the Lord

Psalm 128:1

Month

Date

Time

Consecrated, happy, favoured, redeemed is the one who fears the Lord. The kind of fear that can be likened to terror is not the kind of fear talked about here. The terror that strikes a criminal in front of a righteous judge, is also not the kind of fear that is being spoken about in Psalm 128:1. Terror and torment are not the fear of the Lord. This is not blessedness. The blessedness kind of fear can be likened to the fear between a child and an esteemed parent. The reverential fear of the Lord is kind of reverence and honour you give to someone you respect. It makes you not want to knowingly offend them.

The fear of the Lord is remembering what Christ has done for you. The fear of the Lord is remembering His humility, in that He humbled himself, leaving His Majesty and throne in coming to a rebellious world full of undeserving sinners. Your sin put Him on the Cross. He died for you, He paid a huge price which you can never earn or pay back. It is honouring Him for His sacrifice, being grateful for His mercies and coming before Him with reverential fear.

The fear of the Lord is a good thing and blessed is everyone who fears Him. It is the beginning of wisdom. If the Lord lifts His hand of favour, it is a terrible thing. As He bestows favours, He can also withdraw favour. The reverential fear of the Lord begins in the heart. What goes on in a person's heart will eventually show on the outside.

The Lord is a companion to those fear Him. Those who desire Him will pray to walk in His ways. He leads them along the right paths, for His names sake and He teaches them what to do (Psalm 23:3).

Celebrate the goodness and greatness of God today. Rejoice and again I say, Rejoice!



Notes



Day 36:
Chasing shadows...

Romans 8:38, 39

Month

Date

Time

People search high and low to fill the void in their hearts. They search for fulfilment in the wrong places. Nations place their confidence in the world's system. It is only when God shakes the systems they place their confidence in that they realise that all power is not dependant on man, but God.

The world is in desperate need of God. Many do not realise they need Jesus Christ in their lives. He is the only way to the Father. There is a desperate yearning for this relationship with God in the souls of men, yet they live their lives unconvinced of this need.

Paul was a man convinced and persuaded about His need of God. He knew that nothing could separate Him from the love of God in Christ Jesus. In Romans 8:38,39, Paul gives a list of circumstances that could possibly separate, shake and spoil ones relationship with Christ: death, life, angels, demons, the present, the future, powers, heights, depth, anything else on the face of the earth. None of these things should move the elect. Every believer should be perfectly convinced that he or she is safe and secure in the protective arms of Jesus.

“For the mountains may be removed and the hills may shake, But My loving-kindness will not be removed from you, And My covenant of peace will not be shaken,” Says the LORD who has compassion on you.” Isaiah 54:10



Notes



Day 37:
“Come and hear”

Psalm 66:16

Month

Date

Time

It's not unusual for a people to rejoice when they hear good news about carnal things. How often do we rejoice about what God has done for the soul? Do we rejoice when we hear a friend, neighbour or family member is completely sold out for Christ?

The ear is the gate way to hear about God's mercy. Those who understand grace and mercy will truly rejoice when they hear about it. Not everyone can relate to deep spiritual joy, especially when they have never experienced it themselves. Its non appreciation can be compared to casting pearls before swine, it will be trampled down. A life without Christ is a dead life. A person who has been restored to life through Christ has a great testimony.

Every believer should make a special effort to tell others about what God has done for their soul. It is a story that should be told again and again. It is a source of strength and encouragement to those who are weak in the faith.

Call others today to “hear” about how God restored your life from a dead life. Tell how Jesus saved you from total ruin, The Saviour of your soul.



Notes



Day 38:
“Joint Heirs
of riches in Christ”

Colossians 1:27

Month

Date

Time

He preached by God's authority.

Paul was commissioned by God, not man, to share the hidden mysteries of the gospel. It was a mission he took whole-heartedly, he was a faithful steward. God used Him to explain the gospel to a people who had been exposed to mystery religions. These were people in desperate need of the gospel truth.

The gospel, though a mystery, is not to be hidden, but revealed. By Paul's words in Colossians 2:18, we can see there were some private ceremonies or secret hidden rituals that were taking place. It was the source of trouble to the church.

The secret mystery revealed

The gospel of Jesus Christ is not to be kept secret. It is to be proclaimed from the roof tops (Matt.10:27). Everyone can see and hear a person shouting from an vantage point. The gospel is not a cult of secrecy, but open for all to see the glorious riches in Christ. Ephesians Chapter One explains this better.

That God should choose ordinary people, to partake in such a glorious inheritance, seems outrageous now, as it did back then. It was controversial for anyone to suggest that Gentiles, as well as Jews, belonged to the same family!

In these last days, many people from the four corners of the earth will come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Those who were not reckoned to be called the children of God, as quoted in Hosea and reiterated by Paul in Romans 9:26, will be called, "the sons of the Living God." This will be to the astonishment of many.

Christ is the hope of glory for the Jews, as well as the Gentiles. This mystery, hidden for generations, is now revealed to you child of God. Christ, in all His glorious riches, lives in the hearts of his sons and daughters all over the world.

The riches in Christ are inexhaustible.



Notes



Day 39:

*Be diligent in prayer,
watchful at all times, with
constant thanksgiving.*

Colossians 4:2

Month

Date

Time

Christ is the beginning and the end. He is the source of life, the cornerstone that holds the building, (the body of Christ) together. Paul spoke about the importance of the Word in Col.3:16. He then spoke about the importance of Prayer in Col.4:2. The Word of God and Prayer cannot be separated.

Prayer times are to be contended for because there is so much in the natural and the spiritual that opposes it. The body can also become weak and sluggish and we must be conscious of it. The Epistles are full of exhortations to pray. Luke gave an example of the persistent widow in Luke 18:1. We are not to get tired of praying. We must be persistent like the Widow. We must have faith, God answers prayers.

The natural mind has an undisciplined approach to prayer. One of the distinguishing signs of the new birth in a believer, is their prayer life. Selah. We must ask the Spirit to help us pray, (Eph 6:18), at all times, with all kinds of prayers and requests. Keeping our minds alert, we must be diligent in praying for the Lord's people; the nations we live in and the whole world.

A praying Church is a watchful Church.

The Church must be watchful and sound the alarm bells for a world that sleeps. The day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night (1Thess. 5:2). Thieves break in when they are least expected. The Church expectantly waiting for the Lord's return will be on Red Alert. It will stay awake and keep the whole Body awake! Without vigilance, the Church will sleep. Tiredness is no respecter of persons.

Jesus found His disciples asleep at Gethsemane. These were His

words to them:

“What? Could you not watch with Me one hour?” (Matt. 26:40)

Therefore we are to “watch and pray, lest we enter into temptation. The spirit is indeed willing, but the flesh is weak.” (Matt 26:41)

Being thankful for answered and unanswered prayers.

We must not forget to thank God during our prayer time. Giving of thanks for what we have already received should be part and parcel of our daily life. Do we remember to thank Him for His attributes? He is Saviour, He is most merciful, He is the compassionate One. His justice and faithfulness are without end. Being thankful is taking time to appreciate Him for who He is.

Also, we must not forget to thank Him, by faith, for things we haven't seen. Thanking God, for both answered and unanswered prayer, is what Paul encourages us to do, at all times. 1Thes 5:18 says, we should give thanks in all circumstances.

Be encouraged today. Persevere in the place of prayer. Do not get discouraged when your prayers are not answered immediately. Trust in God's Word: now pray without ceasing!



Notes



Day 40:

*“Nobody deserves God’s
love, but He gives it freely.”*

Ephesians 2:4-10

Month

Date

Time

When you understand God's Grace, you will receive it freely. You do not have to work for it. God is exceedingly rich in mercy and kindness towards us. He loves us. This love: unsought and undeserved has been given freely to undeserving sinners. The mercy and kindness given to undeserving sinners can never be earned. Nobody deserves it. God is merciful in that He does not give you the punishment you duly deserve. God's Grace give you what you don't deserve... what you can never earn. God gives mercy and grace freely.

If you believe in Jesus Christ today, it is not something you attained by yourself. While you were dead in trespasses and sins, His Grace met you and caused you to believe. This removes all forms of boasting from the mouths of believers. If you are in Christ today, you have found yourself there by the grace of God. The condition of every human before Christ is: "dead in trespasses and sins" (Eph.2:1). Salvation is all about who God is, it is nothing about who you are.

Ephesians 2:4 – 10 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Receive freely from the hand of the Lord today. He is rich in kindness, mercy, grace and compassion. Let no one deny you of what God has given you freely. Jesus Christ purchased it for you on the Cross of Calvary. He loves you and He died for you. He wants you to live in the abundance of what He has already purchased for you.



Notes



Day 41:
*“To Confidence
in approaching God*

1 John 5:14

Month

Date

Time

What a friend we have in Jesus. Through Him we have access to the Father. It is a privilege and great honour to have access to the throne of grace. What an assurance, that whatever we ask, according to His will, He hears. We have boldness in Christ to approach the Father, with our prayers and petitions regardless of our situations or circumstances. It is a comfort to know that our supplications are heard, received and accepted when we pray “according to His will.”

The Lord knows what is best for us, He determines our paths. If we pray for things that will ultimately hurt us, they will not be granted. He is the Lord who knows all things, He will not grant such contrary prayers. God’s judgement is always according to truth. 1 John 3:22 says that whatever we ask for, we receive because we keep His commands and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.

Will He find your prayer request pleasing or distasteful: in complete contradiction to His will?

Let us pray today that our prayers will be agreeable to God. Let them line up with His plan and purposes for our lives and the lives of others. Let us pray for the grace to submit to His will and do what He requires of us. This is a promise and guarantee, according to 1 John 5:14, that when we ask of anything, “according His will,” He will hear us.



Notes



Day 42:
“Confidence in
the Living God

Psalm 20:7

Month

Date

Time

It is a beautiful thing, pure joy for a person to put their trust in the Living God. He is reliable and trustworthy, a solid rock you can stand on all the days of your life. He provides shelter and tranquillity in a chaotic world.

The world does not teach us to place our confidence in the the Creator. Rather, it teaches us to look for other sources of strength (chariots and horses). During the times of battle, multitudes of chariots and horses would give the Syrians confidence. The more the chariots and horses, the more they assured themselves of victory. However, David relied on God's strength to win His battles. He was not intimidated by their numerous chariots and horses. Every believer can learn from this. Even whole nations tremble before the presence of the Lord (Psalm 99:1).

The saving strength of the right hand of the Lord is exalted in the lives of those whose confidence is in Him So distinguished is His power, that the believer gladly boasts in it. They find no strength in human hands. The believer boasts all the more in their weakness because they know they rely upon the power of God. God's strength is made perfect in our weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9).

While chariots and horses sink, those who stand on the solid rock, Jesus Christ, will stand upright and stand strong. Trust in the Lord with all your heart today!



Notes



Day 43:
Constant vigilance
and alertness

1 Peter 5:9

Month

Date

Time

Every believer must be able to identify the crafty attacks of satan. Lucifer uses wicked , some times subtle schemes, to infiltrate the life of a believer. The Bible describes him as a roaring lion seeking someone to devour. It is of utmost importance for the believer to place themselves on red alert at all times.

The same way the serpent lured Eve, is the same way he comes skilfully like a snake, wearing many disguises. His plans and strategies are to hold victims captive by luring them into sin, deception and moral corruption. Satan's greatest weapon is deception. The enemy disguises himself as the angel of light, attempting to deceive people, he never lets up on terrorizing God's people. This is why the child of should never let up on vigilance in the place of prayer. The believer must have their spiritual antenna well tuned to the Holy Spirit. The Spirit will alert you, so you must be watchful and prepared at all times.

Resist the devil

The believer must use prayer and God's Word to resist the devil (James 4:7). The blood of the Lamb is potent in its power (Revelation 12:11), it never fails. All who depend on the Lord will not be defeated because their strength comes from Almighty God. The Man of War, The Mighty Warrior is a vigilante who watches over you and fights your battles.

Constant vigilance and alertness

Every believer must be able to identify the crafty attacks of satan. Lucifer uses wicked, some times subtle schemes, to infiltrate the life of a believer. The Bible describes him as a roaring lion seeking someone to devour. It is of utmost importance for the believer to

place themselves on red alert at all times.



Notes



The most theologically sound,
the most astute in the scriptures,
the most intelligent,
the most observant,
still need to be taught by God.





Day 44:
You are never alone

Matthew 28:20

Month

Date

Time

Every true Christian should be strengthened with Jesus' parting words. He made a solemn promise that He has not and will not turn back on. Jesus is "with us always." He is with us wherever we go, this is our confidence and strength. He is our exceedingly great reward. Jesus Christ is 'Emmanuel', the God who is with us "always." He is a strong tower, an ever present help in times of trouble. He is someone you can depend on, He will not let you down. He is with you daily, He forgives sins, He pardons iniquity. There is grace with Jesus, these are the benefits of knowing Him. He is a great defender (Romans 8:33-39), a strong tower (Proverbs 18:10) to run into at any time. He is a great protector (John 17:12), shielding you from the fiery darts of the wicked one, all day long (Psalm 91:5). Jesus cleanses and makes whole, He strengthens. He has made himself available to lead and guide. He stays with you in the most joyous moments, yet holds your hand in sickness and sorrow. Jesus will be with you until eternity. You can surely depend on Him.

Keep on believing this morning. Go out with songs of praise and gladness. Do not be afraid, Jesus Christ is on your side, you can win!



Notes



Day 45:
Salvation is God's
work, not ours

Ephesians 2:8

Month

Date

Time

If salvation was based on our own efforts, there would be no hope for any one. Who or what can save a person from the consequence of sin? “For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23).

God is Holy

Who can stand before God? No one is worthy enough to stand before God. He is Holy. The understanding of the Holiness of God totally demolishes any form of self-worth or human efforts as a means through which a person is saved. Grace stands in direct opposition to self – worth and human efforts of every form. How unworthy is the human race? Absolutely unworthy, to stand before a God who is absolutely righteous and just.

The tremendous power of Grace

While sin produces death, grace brings life to condemned sinners, who only deserve God’s justice. The purposes of God stand, despite human sin. God chose to impute His righteousness to guilty sinners. He chose a peculiar people (John 15:19) to show love favour, love, mercy and compassion. His forgiveness is completely free. There is nothing anyone can do to increase or diminish God’s love.

Anyone who has faith in the Lord Jesus Christ today has done so by grace. Salvation is a work of grace, which can never be earned (Romans.11:6). Grace is the eternal and unconditional free favour of God. It is revealed in spiritual and eternal blessings to the guilty and unworthy. There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ (Romans.8:1). Christ makes you blameless before God. Walk in your freedom today, Christ has set you free! (Romans.8:1).

The riches in Christ are inexhaustible.



Notes



Day 46:
Foreordained, predestined,
chosen by God

Ephesians 1:5

Month

Date

Time

God has marked out His children. His sons and daughters, have been adopted into privileges no man can fathom, The new birth brings a newness of life that cannot be compared to the past. It brings a highly honoured status. It is a status we receive in Christ our Redeemer, through faith (Gal.3:26; 4:51).

The Holy Spirit at work in the hearts and minds of His sons and daughters produces obedience (Romans 8:14, Gal 4:6). Obedience is evidence of the Spirit at work and will be seen by all when the Son of God is revealed. It will also be the day of reckoning:“the revealing of the sons of God.” (Rom. 8:19). All creation yearns for that day and will share in its joy.

God’s predestining grace goes beyond entrance into heaven and deliverance from hell! The whole of creation will be liberated from bondage (Romans 8:21). It will not just be the redemption of our body and soul, but the redemption and renovation of the whole planet.

He has foreordained us to Himself for His own glory.



Notes



If you find your self crossing lines
or wobbling
while running your race,
it means that your eyes are no longer
focused on the finishing line...





Day 47:
Eyes fixed on Jesus

Part One

Month

Date

Time

Jesus is a sure refuge to all those who trust Him. Nothing on this earth is greater than the God who created it. All power belongs to Him. He dictates how each day turns out, He knows how each day will end. This is why we should look to Him, by faith. The believer should always have his or her eyes fixed on Jesus and no one else.

Abide in perfect peace

A person whose eyes are fixed upon Jesus will live in perfect peace. Peace is a condition of the heart. You can live or work in a hostile environment, but yet live in peace. You may say how is this possible? This is possible when your eyes are fixed on Jesus. Nothing should alter your peace. When you understand the authority of Jesus Christ, you will understand your own authority. Jesus said:

“I saw satan fall like lightning from Heaven.” - Luke 10:18

He has given us authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. Even with this knowledge and understanding of the believers authority in Christ, the believer must exercise caution.

Jesus told the first missionaries He sent out not to rejoice in this power over demons, but rather, they were to rejoice in the fact that their names were written in the Lambs Book of Life. Whatever your situation or circumstance, lift up your eyes to Jesus and abide in perfect peace. All who work for Christ: whether ministering at home, abroad or distributing tracks on the street; should always remember that you are in hostile territory. You are affecting satan’s kingdom and converting souls to Jesus. The fight is never against flesh and blood, but against powers, principalities

and spiritual wickedness in high places. The believer whose eyes are steadfastly fixed on Jesus will recognise this and always live in perfect peace.

I pray today that the peace of God, which surpasses all human understanding, will be that guard around your heart and mind (Philippians 4:7).

Weeping may endure for one night, but joy comes in the morning (Psalm 30:5). Enjoy the tranquillity God gives you every day!

Rejoice today and again I say, Rejoice!



Notes



Day 48:
Eyes fixed on Jesus

Part Two

Month

Date

Time

The danger of focusing on anyone or anything while running a race (1Cor.9:24, Heb.12:1) is that your acceleration will vary depending on the mood of the person. If it is the case of having an object in view, the absence of it may cause you to discontinue the race.

There is a beautiful story of faith and unbelief illustrated with Jesus and His disciples in Matt. 14:22-36 (also in Mark 6.45-56, John 6:16-24). The outright authority, supremacy and sovereignty of Jesus Christ over all things, including the Sea, is seen when He walked on the Sea (Matthew 14:22-36). A supernatural occurrence took place, recorded in history for all to see and hear.

Every believer who looks to Jesus should be encouraged and fully understand that there is nothing impossible with God. With Him all things are possible (Matt.19:26). He has total dominion over the created earth. All things are under His control. Trials, tribulations and a cocktail of circumstances are thrown at believers to make them shift their gaze from Jesus Christ, to the problem or situation. The earth and its resources are at the Lord's disposal to shape us and mould us into what he wants us to be. The waves, wind and storms are all stilled at the command of the Lord (Psalm 93:4).

When Peter looked at Jesus, he had the power to walk on the Sea. The moment he looked away, he started to sink and drown... There are huge lesson to learn here: HAVE FAITH IN JESUS. Let your faith and hope be placed upon Christ alone. He is strength in every weakness, even when we are about to fall, His angels "will bear us up, lest we dash our foot against a stone." (Psalm 91:12, Luke 4:11).

There is no fear when Jesus has given you the command and authority to do something. There is no reason to be afraid when it is at the Lord's command. Just do it!!!

Every believer has been given the authority to do even greater works on earth than Jesus has done according to (John 14:12).

May the Lord give you the grace to keep your eyes focused!



Notes



Day 49:
Eyes fixed on Jesus

Part Three

Month

Date

Time

Keep on trusting God. Those who hear the master's voice follow His leading.. What is impossible with man is possible with God. He gives the power to do the impossible. Trust in the One who says, "Come." Like Jesus, you can walk on water, even during a raging storm. Jesus said those who believe in Him will do greater things than He did. (John 14:12).

"Lord ," he cried, "save me."

Doubt and unbelief steal from the believer. The believer must trust that Jesus will be there to the very end. If He gives you the ability to take one step, He can also give you the power to finish the course of the journey. His grace is more than enough. Remember, the believer who relies on God is strengthened in his or her weakness.

"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me." (2 Cor. 12:9).

Jesus rewards His followers. There is nothing greater or bigger than God. Keep your eyes focused on Him. Trust in God alone. He is compassionate and merciful. You can rely on Him, He will catch you when you fall. The Psalmist said,

Be encouraged today. The Lord will hold your hand through the storm. He will bear you up when you fall, He will never leave you or forsake you. His promises are secure. Trust in the One who is able to increase the smallest amount of faith.

Look to the greatness of your God. Be focused, believe that good work He started with you will be completed.



Notes



A place of rest

-

In contrast to their wilderness experience of Israel, Canaan was their place of rest. I pray this year you will move into your place of rest. May God's plan and purpose for your life be fulfilled (Matt 5:17). Look at change with spiritual eyes (Romans 8:7) as the Lord moves you from Egypt to Canaan.

Hallelujah!





Day 50:
Leaving Egypt
for Canaan

Joshua 1:2

Month

Date

Time

Though Caleb and the spies boldly proclaimed their ability to go up and claim the land, his fellow spies persisted in their evil report. The ten spies who brought an evil report upon the land, “died in the plague before the Lord, but Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive, of the men who went out to spy out the land.” (Numbers 14: 37,38).

With the departure of Moses, the Israelites were not hopeless. The believer must never be afraid of sudden change. The Lord is one who goes before the righteous to make the crooked places straight (Luke 3:5). Joshua’s faith was on trial when He was asked to go up into the promised land.

The journey to the promised land

The work of God must go forward to its ordained completion. There is an appointed time for the promises of God. Canaan was a sovereign land, a free gift, promised to the children of Israel. None of their ancestors did anything to merit this reward. They were not entitled to this land. It was given as a free gift. Those in Christ are not entitled to salvation. It cannot be bought, it is a free gift , freely given by God. It is by faith that we enter into the promises of God.

Canaan was first promised to Abraham. It was by faith and obedience that Canaan became his. The Israelites conquered, dispossessed the Canaanites and subsequently entered the promised land, by the power of God. There is an eternal inheritance for spiritual Israel that can only be given by Jesus Christ. ***When the children of God finally come together it shall be said:***

***Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us,
But to Your name give glory,
Because of Your mercy,
Because of Your truth. Psalm 115:1***



Notes



**The work of God is never done
by human hands**

-

“... not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”

Titus 3:5-7.





Day 51:
A New Heart

Ezekiel 11:19,20; 36:26

Month

Date

Time

Ezekiel talks about a time of change when all things shall be made new. They would be given a new heart (meaning a new spirit).

A new spirit:

A new spirit is excellent, regenerate, holy, sincere. It is a completely new and changed in its disposition. The most stony heart can be changed by God. That heart of stone, (hard, unchanging, obstinate, unyielding, uncompromising, hardened and unfaithful) can change. God is able to turn a heart of stone into a heart of flesh.

Don't stop believing that God can bring about change in any situation. He can change that circumstance. Don't give up and don't give in. Keep on praying for that person with the heart of stone. God is able to change it.

A pliable and renewed heart is one that will co-operate with God. It will hear, consider and obey the commands of God.

Don't stop now, don't give up, keep praying for that person, friend, loved one, community and nation. Hold on to the promises of God.



Notes



A Free Gift

-

Salvation is a free gift of sovereign grace, it cannot be earned. This wonderful gift of eternal life is received through faith. Faith is the instrument used to receive it. The hands of faith are receiving hands. Receive what God has purchased for you freely through faith in Jesus Christ.





Day 52:
By Faith you enter
into God's promise

Hebrews 11:8

Month

Date

Time

Abraham was placed in a situation where he simply obeyed God. In the natural, it seemed like a crazy proposition to be asked to pack up and leave without the knowledge of where he was going. Abraham had to break away from from his old life before he could move into the new.

Genesis 12:1

The LORD had said to Abram, “Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father’s family, and go to the land that I will show you. At that time, it wasn’t promised that the land would be given to him as a possession. It was many years later that the Lord said to Abraham that he had been given Ur of the Chaldees as a land to inherit.

The Lord will not always reveal his will when He asks you to do something. What He is looking for is Faith. As a believer, are you prepared to submit yourself to God, regardless of the external circumstances? Are you willing to obey God in obedience without questioning his logic in asking you to do what He has asked you to do?

Canaan was a sovereign and free gift given to Israel. Every believer in Jesus Christ has been given the free gift of salvation. It has been given by the free will of God and not by any works of self- righteousness. By faith, the believer in Jesus Christ receives what God has promised. Abraham the father of all who believe (Romans.4:11), obeyed not only in word, but in deed. Joshua was asked to do the same. We are all descendants of Abraham. Christ is the author of salvation to all who obey Him (Hebrews 5:9).

Faith and obedience are like sun and light, fire and heat: they cannot be separated. Faith urges us to walk in obedience (Gal 5:6). It is an act of love. There is a place called Egypt to leave, a river called Jordan to cross. There is a city to be captured, a battle to be fought and a place called Canaan to be crushed. There will always be a fight between the flesh and the spirit. Obedience to God brings peace: peace of mind, body and soul. The moment we believe in Jesus Christ, He gives us peace of conscience and rest to the soul.



Notes



Possess your Possessions

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Cease fighting against God. Enter into what God has promised and enjoy it, by faith. It's not by your own strength, but by the power and might of Almighty God. God's free and sovereign gift has been given to you. Possess what belongs to you (Obadiah 17:1) and enjoy it by faith and anticipate it by hope.





Day 53:
The Fullness of Christ

Matthew 11:28

Month

Date

Time

Those who are wise in their own eyes will not perceive or receive the things of the Spirit. The Sovereignty of God is a deep mystery. Only God can explain why the simplicity of gospel is accepted by some, while rejected by others.

An invitation to rest in Christ.

Jesus invites those who feel heavy in their heart about any matter to find rest and peace in Him. We live in a world where the works of the flesh are constantly on display. The world has its systems and practices that can only be summarised as heavy yokes: loads of sorrow, anxiety and sin that it wants people to bear.

“I will give you rest.”

Only Jesus can give rest to the soul. You can cease from labouring in Christ. He says, “Be still and know that I am God.” (Psalm 46:10). Those who know their God will be “still” while the world labours on its fastidious ways. The world is corrupt, deceptive and full of unrest. True rest can only be found at Jesus feet. He is an ark of refuge, flowing with peace to the soul.

“Learn of me”

Those who labour and strive should learn from Christ. He asks you to come just as you are. Like little children, we are to come to Christ and His teaching.

“Gentle and lowly”

Jesus describes himself as meek and lowly. Everyone who comes

to Jesus meets with humility and meekness. He is full of compassion, always willing to love, forgive and embrace.

“My yoke is easy...my burden light.”

Undoubtedly, there is a cross to carry when you follow Christ. You will be hated by the world, the worldly and its systems. There will be trials that you will go through. You will learn to run with endurance and fight each battle with faith. But be rest assured that the comfort and consolation of knowing Christ far outweigh the cross.

Compared to the yoke of bondage and sin, the yoke of Christ is easy. His ways are pleasant and He abounds in peace (1John 5:3). Those who abide in Him overflow with pleasantness and peace (Prov.verbs 3:15).

Knowing that Christ has fully forgiven your sin gives you rest of mind. Come to Christ by faith today. He will give you rest of mind and a light-heart. You can laugh at the world and its ways, knowing you have something far greater. Come to Christ for fresh supplies everyday. Hold on to Him alone, never let Him go!



Notes



Finding rest in the Living God

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Let your expectations, all that you hope and desire, come from the Lord today. You will not be disappointed when your hope is placed in the right place. Christ is the solid rock upon which you can stand. All other ground is sinking sand.





Day 54:
Not servants,
but mature sons

Galatians 4:4-5

Month

Date

Time

At some point, a child needs to mature from a child and become a mature adult. The Old Testament church was like a child. It was continually given a set of rules without the understanding as to why or for what reason they were given these rules. In other words, they had no knowledge or enlightenment as to what they were doing, or why they were doing it. They simply followed a set of rules.

In the fullness of time

However, when the “fullness of time came...”

At the appointed time, the blinders were removed. “God sent forth His Son,” to relieve the church of its demanding customs, rites and ceremonies. Moses pointed to Christ, the fulfilment of the Law. The types and shadows of the past would be nothing compared to the privilege, simplicity and advantage of the gospel through Christ.

Liberty and Light

The gospel of Jesus Christ brings in the radiance of the sun. It is light that shines into darkness, removing ignorance, giving understanding to the mind, removing the hardness of the heart, bringing liberty. Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom (2 Cor.3:17). This is the advantage of those who are in Christ. They no longer live under the Law, but under Grace. They are free from the bondage of this world.

Born of woman, to redeem those under the Law

In humility, Christ came to earth through a woman, fulfilling the righteous requirement of the Law.

Christ came willingly, as the Son of God and the Son of man to redeem sinners from the curse of the moral Law. It was part of God's plan of salvation. He came to fulfil His purpose.

Adoption as sons

Those who are in Christ have come of age. The child of God is a servant of God, but their relationship is like the relationship between a child and son. There is direct access to the Father. As an heir of God, all that belongs to Christ, belongs them. They have a great inheritance with the fullness of it in glory.



Notes



Anchored

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To stay anchored in Christ, you must have a relationship with Him... Believe and trust the Living God today. Have faith that the Lord will meet you at your point of need. You will never be disappointed, Your hope will be satisfied, because all you need is in Christ.





Day 55:
“Little by Little”

Exodus 23:30

Month

Date

Time

“Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased, and you inherit the land” (Exodus 23:30).

There is a fierce battle in the life of every believer in Christ. It is the fight between the works of the flesh and the work the Spirit.

The devil is in the business of doing everything he possibly can to deceive, hinder, derail and stop the children of God from possessing what rightfully belongs to them.

Deliverance assured

Looking at the Exodus of the children of Israel from Egypt, the cries for emancipation and liberation can be heard. They were in bondage, held in slavery to Egypt. Deliverance to the promise land, Canaan, was assured, but it was not instant. Every believer must learn from this story and hear these words:

“Little by little.” (Exodus 23:30).

Though God promised to bring them into the place prepared for them, (v.20), He would do it gradually.

“I will not drive them out in one year, lest the land become desolate and the beasts of the field become too numerous for you.”(v29)

“Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased, and you inherit the land (V.30).

Every believer must understand that God did not promise victory and deliverance to Israel in one day. You must be patient to receive

the promises of God. Israel had to wait. There was danger, (wild beasts) and idolatry in the land. There was to be no intermingling with sin. They also had to wait to increase in number.

When victory is not instant, you must keep going. You must press on in the place of prayer, the place of constant communion with God. You must be obedient to do what God asks you to do while you wait. Total reliance and dependence upon God, is what He wants.

Faith and Obedience

As a child of God, you need to co-operate with the Spirit of God. The Israelites had to obey the instructions of The Lord and act upon it (v.20-25). To all who obey Him, He is the Author of eternal salvation (Hebrews 5:9). Obedience to the gospel is essential to salvation. There are consequences to disobedience (1 Peter 4:17). Faith and obedience walk hand in hand. It's by faith, we overcome the world, the flesh and the devil.

There is a place prepared for the followers of Jesus Christ. Every believer has a great heritage and inheritance. It is assured, though like a pilgrim, it seems the journey, to that place of promise, is so far.

Child of God, there are trials and temptations along the journey of life, but I encourage you to, keep the faith. Press on, resist the devil and walk in obedience. His grace is more than enough. Amen



Notes



Day 56:
A Changed Status:
A new life

Genesis 39:4, Hebrew 4:14-16

Month

Date

Time

Joseph was loved so much by his earthly father to point where it attracted the jealousy and envy of his brothers. This was partly Jacobs fault because he gave Joseph preferential treatment.

Joseph wore a bright multi-coloured coat, while his brothers wore plain ones. He was also well gifted and talented, he could interpret dreams. This created a sea of trouble for Joseph and he ended up in a pit.(Gen.37)

He was sold into slavery and ended up in Egypt. He was bought by Potiphar, one of Pharaoh's high ranking officials. His good looks and uncompromising godly nature, attracted the attention of Potiphar's wife. She tried to seduce Joseph, but he refused. The matter eventually landed him in prison (Please read Genesis 39).

Joseph eventually came out of the pit: He was restored to the palace and given a seat, the highest seat of the land. (Gen. 41:40-46). Apart from Pharaoh, there was no one greater than Joseph in Egypt.

A Throne of Grace

Despite it all, the Lord was with Joseph, and he "found grace," in the sight of the Pharaoh. Anyone who has come to Christ has come to Him only by grace. He takes away your old life and gives you a new one.

Coming into union with Christ gives you a new status as a son of God. Joseph left his old life and through much tribulation, he came into the new life. Just like Joseph was protected from seduction, our union with Christ protects us from temptation. Those in unity with Christ have a changed status. They are restored, dignified and

transformed.

Through Christ's suffering we have an imputed righteousness. We can come boldly before God's throne of Grace. Just like all power and authority was given to Joseph by Pharaoh, Christ has given His followers power and authority. Pharaoh put all that he had into the hands of Joseph.

**ALL THAT CHRIST HAS, HE HAS PLACED INTO YOUR HANDS.
YOU HAVE KINGDOM PRIVILEGES.**



Notes



Day 57:
Christ our
High Priest

Hebrew 4:14-16

Month

Date

Time

“Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need” (Heb.4:14).

Jesus Christ is your High Priest. He knows about your weaknesses and shortcomings. He sympathises with you, He has overcome it all on your behalf...

If you believe in Christ, come boldly before His throne of grace today. No other King compares to the King of kings. You have real union and perfect communion with this King. Enter into your rest, enter the Holy of holies this day with boldness. Christ has made a way for you to come boldly and worship the HIM: THE GREAT HIGH PRIEST.

The riches in Christ are inexhaustible.



Notes



Share the good news.

Are you as excited about Christ now, as when you first believed? Go tell somebody about this joy you have found. Tell them you have been saved by grace. Tell them of His love and divine power.

Every believer is to be as bold as a Lion. Paul had a great love for his Saviour, as every believer should. He got carried away in the praise and adoration of Him. In Eph. 1: 20 – 23, Christ is exalted. Paul describes Him as “far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, now and forever.” Christ has dominion over all things, all things are under His feet. He is head over all things to the church, which is His body. He gives eternal life to whoever He wants... He has universal dominion, not only over men and angels, but over all the rest of His creation.

Go tell someone today.





Day 58:
Dominion, Authority
and Power

Matthew 28:19

Month

Date

Time

Jesus Christ asserted so much power and authority when He said, “All power is given to me in Heaven and Earth... He delegated this same power to the disciples when He said, “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations...” To make disciples of men, they first of all had to preach the gospel and then instruct these disciples in the principles of the Christian faith.

Do you believe such authority and power has also been given to you?

The Apostles were commanded to baptise all nations.

Before a person can be baptised, they must first of have some degree of understanding as to why they are being baptised. They must first of all hear the gospel. The commission, according to Acts 1:8; 3:26; 13:46; 18: 6,7; Gal. 2:7 is to first preach, baptise and then disciple all nations.

GO TELL SOMEBODY

In Acts 10:36, we are reminded that even though the gospel message was first sent to the Jews, it was also sent to the gentiles. Jesus Christ is Lord of all: both Gentiles and Jews.

Be a witness today about Jesus Christ. Jesus has done something so wonderful, He has given you eternal life, so share the good news today!



Notes



Day 59:
Are you God's
chosen one?

Colossians 3:12

Month

Date

Time

One of the great glories of the gospel is sympathy and tenderness of heart. Hearts that are filled with compassion and love, resemble the moral nature of our wonderful Saviour, Jesus Christ. He is the Author of all compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

THE SAINTS CLOTHING

The first article of clothing we are to put on is the garment of compassion. The children of the kingdom must be a compassionate people. I live in the United Kingdom and majority of the organisations involved in helping the vulnerable, both here and abroad were started by the early Church sharing God's love by sending Missionaries. Their love and care extended beyond the borders of the Church. Those who carry the gospel should be filled with sympathy and tenderness of heart for others.

The second item of clothing is simply “kindness.” Kindness does not happen overnight. It is a work of the Spirit. The Greek word “kindness” represents a lovely quality like wine which has matured beautifully and lost its sharp bitter taste. Jesus used this word to describe His yoke: “My yoke is easy” (Matthew 11:30). It is one of the fruits of the Spirit listed in Gal.5:22. Kindness comes from the fullness of God manifesting in human life. Romans 2:4 tells us that God's kindness leads us to repentance. Kindness is an all in all lovely article of clothing.

The third outfit we are to wear is that of “humility.” Coincidentally, Greek does not have a symbol to describe humility. The words in Greek that try to describe it, show some contempt for it. Nevertheless, the gospel has this word of humility and made it one of its chief graces. In Christ humbling Himself, He became obedient to the point of death (Philippians 2:8). Paul said, “I served the Lord with great humility and

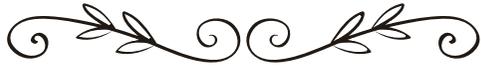
with tears in the midst of severe testing (Acts 20:19). The believer is to serve God unconditionally and to serve others (Ephesians 4:2). Jesus is not suggesting that we grovel, cringe or look down on ourselves. Rather, it is that we should not exalt ourselves or have high and lofty opinions of ourselves.

Fourthly, we are to clothe ourselves with “gentleness.” Older translations of the bible use the word meekness. Sadly, meekness is often interpreted as weakness. People who perceive others as weak often get a rude surprise when they find out they are not weak at all.. Behind meekness and gentleness is extreme strength. A meek person is very strong because they keep their strength in check. They are under perfect control, they are ruled by the Spirit. One of the meekest men on the earth was Moses (Numbers 12:3). Though He was meek he knew how to make decisive decisions and even displayed anger at times. Gentle and meek people are powerful because they are controlled by God.

Lastly, we are to adorn ourselves with the garment of “patience.” In the face of situations that might cause us to act rashly. Whether in distress or grievance, we are to exercise patience. Galatians 5:22 talks about long-suffering. It is about having a peaceable disposition towards others, much more than enduring and being passive. 1 Thessalonians 5:14 talks about the disorderly, faint-hearted and the weak. These people are to be shown patience.

These beautiful robes have been specifically designed by Almighty God. They are clothes that have been tailored in the style of Jesus Christ. These are garments that He wore perfectly so we can also wear them. So therefore, let us wear these five garments with joy

and gladness.



Notes



Day 60:
God's Glory

Hebrews 1:3

Month

Date

Time

Do you want to see God's glory? Look at Christ. He is the "brightness of God's glory and express image of His person."(Heb.1:3 NKJV). In the Old Testament, the Shekinah glory was the visible evidence of God's presence in the Tabernacle. It is still here today, in the person of Christ. John 1:14 says, "we beheld His glory." John says that he beheld such glory that could only be attributed to "the only begotten Son of God."

Just like the sun rays pierce through the clouds, to ignite and light up the earth with brilliance and brightness, Jesus is the "brightness of God's glory." He reveals Almighty God in His fullness, we just have to look at Him. Christ is the light that shines in our darkened hearts (2 Cor.4:6). It is through Him that we have the true knowledge of God and His glory (1John 5:20). Light was produced first during creation, and the light of Christ is the first thing that beams in its brightness in the new birth.

We need the eyes of the Spirit to behold the things of the Spirit. It is through God's gift of faith we see the fullness of God's glory. To see the true beauty in anything, you have to discern it. The true beauty of Christ can not be seen with the natural eyes. To behold the glory of God you must have spiritual eye sight. It is through Christ we see God in His fullness, there is no other way.



Notes



Day 61:
God's wonderful grace

2 Timothy 1:9

Month

Date

Time

Just like Timothy, every believer is encouraged “to stir up the gift of God.” Timothy had very strong influences in his life, a praying mother, Eunice, and praying grandmother, Lois (2 Tim. 1:5).

Just like Timothy, you may have grown up in church or have Christian parents, however, these influences can be taken for granted.

Though his mother and grand-mother had a strong influence in Timothy coming to faith in Christ, he still had issues coming from the Greek influence in his life. (This is just like anyone who comes to Christ, the influence of the world still lingers on, until the gradual process of regeneration and sanctification kicks in and separates them from the world).

By His grace, there are a chosen generation of people, sons and daughters, foreknown, predestined, adopted, redeemed and forgiven. A people called because of God’s grace and not by anything they could have possibly done. Timothy could not rely on the faith of his mother or grandmother. Paul wanted Timothy to stand firm in his own faith. He recognised Timothy still needed encouragement and nurturing. He needed to work out his own salvation (Philippians 2:12) and not rely on his earthly family.

Timothy had been adopted into a heavenly family. He was a man called according to God’s own purpose. He was a man saved by grace and not by works. He was saved because God knew him, loved him and saved him even before he was formed in his mother womb (Jer.1:5, Romans 9:13). If you believe in Jesus Christ today, you have not believed because of anyone else. No human being has the power to covert a soul. Conversion is a work of the Spirit. It is part of God’s wonderful plan for Salvation (Eph. 2:8).



Notes



Day 62:
The Good
and Perfect Gift

James 1:17

Month

Date

Time

The author of every-thing good desires believers to receive spiritual gifts and graces. These good gifts are clearly distinguished from bad gifts. God has given us light through His son Jesus Christ, this is a gift from God. Those whose eyes are blinded to the gospel remain in darkness and have not received a good gift (2 Cor. 4:4).

“The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”

Those who walk in disobedience, according to the prince of the power of the air, have not received the gift of the Spirit. God is the author of saving Grace, He bestows it on whoever He chooses. The work or regeneration: a new nature, a new birth, a new start, a new heart (Ezekiel 36:26-27). is a work of Grace from no other source but Almighty God.

Every perfect gift:

Without the new spiritual birth, we are spiritually dead. The progression in the spiritual life of a person and eternal life itself is a gift from God. (Romans 6:23). Every stage in the Christian walk, from the first grace, to glory, is by gift, and the free mercy of God.

From above:

James 1:17 says, our blessings come from above. The same phrase is used in John 3:21. There is a special reason why our blessings come from above. These blessings were created and designed uniquely for us in Heaven. These blessings are to be perfectly enjoyed (Ephesians 1:3). We are blessed with spiritual blessings in Heavenly places. Ultimately, the source of every Heavenly blessing we see on earth is

Heaven itself...



Notes



Day 63:
A Supernatural
Heart Transplant

Ezekiel 11:18-19

Month

Date

Time

What is impossible with man, is possible with God.

A natural heart transplant is a process where a diseased heart is replaced with a healthy heart from an organ donor. Before a donor's heart can be removed, the donor must be declared brain dead by two or more doctors, independently.

When God gives a new heart, He does not take it from a dead person. He reproduces it by His own hands. He doesn't attempt to fix the old one either, He gives what is brand new.

Removing the Idolatry of Israel

God is able to use the natural things of this world to mould and shape us into what He wants us to be. There were those of the house of Israel, held in captivity by the Babylonians. Though they did not have a physical temple to worship in, God made himself a sanctuary for them. Where in times past, they would see the glory and power of God in the sanctuary, now His presence would abide with them. His grace would be in their hearts. He would remove the divided heart, committed to many gods and give them a singleness of heart. He would give them a heart totally surrendered and submitted to Him.

“They will be my people, and I will be their God.” Jer. 32:38

A divided heart is not pleasing to God. Just like He did with Israel, He is able to use situations and circumstances to circumcise our hearts. Idolatry, in all its forms, is what divides the human heart from God. God hates all forms of idolatry. God is able to give you a brand new heart in place of the old one. He has done it in the past and He can do it again. God can bring new circumstances to create a new life. God does not

carve out the what is bad in the old heart, He gives a completely new one. A new heart, a new start, a new life, a new spirit!



Notes



Day 64:
Anticipative faith

Hebrews 4:16

Month

Date

Time

It is impossible to please God without faith. Good works and self-righteousness cannot please God. For you to draw near to God you must believe that God truly exists. He is not a figment of ones imagination. He existed before time began. Through faith in Jesus Christ we can approach Him boldly.

Mercy and grace can be found at the feet of Jesus. Come expectant to find it. Condemnation will keep you away from what you need the most (Hebrews 4:16). There is abundant mercy and grace with Jesus and it is given freely. Those who are justified, (made right in God's sight), through faith in Jesus Christ, have peace. Christ gives you entrance to come before God's throne of Grace with boldness and confidence.

The supreme Creator, Governor and Lawgiver of all, is One who rewards those who diligently seek Him. There are no empty hands in God's presence. In Him is the fullness of Joy and unending abundance. All that belongs to Christ, belongs the children of God. They are co-heirs and enjoy the privileges of belonging to God's Kingdom.

Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while he is near (Isaiah 55:6). Don't wait until it is too late...



Notes



Day 65:
Why Worry

Matthew 6:25-34

Month

Date

Time

Why be anxious?

The Lord will take care of you, it's pointless being tormented over the things of this world. God has given you life and He is able to adequately take care of the life He has given you.

Who takes care of the birds, who ensures that the flowers bud yearly? The Lord uses nature in Matthew 6 to describe the providential and sovereign nature of Almighty God. Nature provides for the birds, they chirp happily all day long. The Lord provides for them. He clothes the lilies of the field.

Each year they blossom and beautify the earth, displaying the beauty and splendour of God.

Hope for the hopeless

The believer should not worry and fret as if they have no hope. There is hope even if you feel hopeless in your situation. Those who know their God stand in confidence that He is able to make a way out of no way. HE sends help from far places. Where ever you are, He is able to meet you at your point of need. Have faith and be content, it's evidence that you trust God.

Seek the Kingdom

The greatest cure for an anxious spirit is to “seek first” the kingdom of God. Engage yourself in what concerns God. In God's kingdom, everyone is provided for. He is able to provide all of your needs, according to His riches in glory (Philippians 4:19). All things work together for good, for those who love God (Rom.8.28). He doesn't withhold anything good from those who walk uprightly (Ps.84:11). He is sun and shield, he also bestows honour (Ps. 84:11).



Notes



Rest

-

Tomorrow will take care of itself, why carry the worries of tomorrow today? Have confidence that He will supply all that you need. While He may not give you all that you desire, be confident that He will give you all that you need. He is the giver of life and an abundant one at that.

Have faith and confidence in the words of your Saviour. TRUST HIM!





Day 66:
Ask and Believe

James 1:6

Month

Date

Time

Ask and it shall be given

Prayer is fruitful, because God answers prayer. When you pray to God about what He has promised, He is obliged to answer. Prayer must be done in faith and not in doubt. Our requests are not just about mentioning our requests to God. You must believe that He will answer them. You have boldness to access God with confidence through faith in Christ (Ephesians 3:12). A person who is not sure they are doing the right thing will not come before God with boldness. If you pray about what you think is not right, you will start off on the wrong foot. Your prayer will come from a place of condemnation (Romans 14:23). We need to make sure our consciences are in line with the Word of God. If you continually seek God's will, you will bring your mind in line the mind of Christ.

Pray in faith

Faith is the state of believing. All the promises of God find their "Yes" in Him. "No matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ (2 Corinthians 1:20). Are your prayers for God's glory. The promises of God were established before the foundations of the earth and Christ existed when these promises were made. Every condition has been fulfilled, by Christ's obedience and faith. So we stand secure and confident in what God has promised, these promises must surely come to pass.

Not wavering

What is wavering? It means disputing or moving between two possibilities. The words, "do not hesitate," are used in Acts 10:20. (Please read). Here, the angel asked Peter not to hesitate in going out to meet the men that were sent to Him. It is possible to stand and dispute the promises of God. But there are those who do the opposite:

they do not waiver, but believe the promises of God (as in Romans 4: 20), “He did not waiver through unbelief.” The original version in Greek says, he did not dispute, did not debate the matter, but settled his heart upon God’s power and promise. In Matthew 21:21 Jesus said, we should have faith and not doubt.

If you doubt you are like a wave in the sea.

The waves at sea never stand still. There is an under current that keeps the water constantly moving back and forth. The person who doubts is like this sea: never standing for any-thing, but constantly going back and forth between two opinions. This person can not make up their mind, whether to believe or not. Troubled waters don’t stand still.

Let us make up our minds today to have faith and believe in the promises of God. What God has promised you is “Yes and Amen.” Each prayer must be made in faith, believing that God answers prayers. He hears us when we call out to Him. He has ears to hear and eyes to see. Let us always remember Jesus. Because of Him we have access to the Father. This is our confident hope and assurance.



Notes



Day 67:
Be Still

Psalm 46:10

Month

Date

Time

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised. He is exalted above all peoples and over all nations. He has dominion, power and might. He over-rules and over-throws those who oppose Him, because for His own sake and glory. There is no one who can contend with God or defy His wondrous authority.

All nations and people will stand in awe of this awesome God who brings to nothing the futile attempts of His enemies and breaks their bands in pieces. He speaks to those who hate His name and war against His Church and anointed ones: they rage in vain, the works against His children shall not prosper. God laughs in the Heavens:

No weapon formed against Zion shall prosper (Isaiah 54:17).

In-spite of the rage of the wicked one, the Lord says to His Church and His people: "BE STILL".

Be at peace. Be at rest. Greater is the One with you. He is God and there is none like Him. He is a shield and refuge to all who trust Him:

"You shall not touch my Anointed and you shall not harm my Prophets."
Psalm 105:15

He triumphs with great power and the earth trembles at His glorious name. Let all those who trust in YAHWEH ELOHIM BE STLL AND KNOW THAT HE IS GOD!



Notes



Day 68:

*Serve valiantly, endure
patiently, suffer triumphantly*

Month

Date

Time

The spirit of fear:

God does not want the believer to be a coward, be intimidated or fearful. The fear of man is the greatest hindrance to the gospel. If you are intimidated by the thoughts of others, you will hinder the gifts God has placed inside you. The limitations in the minds of men should not be interpreted as limitations in the mind of God.

The spirit of power

Courage and fortitude are bestowed on the believer by Almighty God. It gives the believer the power to pray through difficulties and oppose the spiritual opposition to the preaching of the gospel. Limitations in the minds of others can hinder the gospel work.

The love of God

Jesus Christ died to save sinners. He is the lover of human souls. The love of God should motivate every believer to win souls for Jesus, even in the face of opposition. Ultimately, the conversion of a lost soul belongs to God, and not any man.

Whatever gifts God has placed in you, use for His glory and honour. Do not be intimidated by the boxes in the minds of others. The Holy Spirit moves without limitation, He cannot be contained and neither should the believer in Jesus Christ.



Notes



Day 69:
Chasing Shadows...

Romans 8:38,39

Month

Date

Time

People search high and low to fill the void in their hearts. They search for fulfilment in the wrong places. Nations place their confidence in the world's system. It is only when God shakes the systems that people place their confidence in, that they realise that all power is not dependant on man, but God.

The world is in a terrible condition. It is in desperate need of God. Many do not realise they need Jesus Christ in their lives. He is the only way you to the Father. There is a desperate yearning for this relationship with God in the souls of men, yet they live their lives unconvinced of this need.

Paul was a man convinced and persuaded about his need of God. He knew that nothing could separate Him from the Love of God in Christ Jesus. In Romans 8:38,39, Paul gives a list of circumstances that could possibly separate, shake and spoil our relationship with Christ: death, life, angels, demons, the present, the future, powers, heights, depth, anything else on the face of the earth. None of these things should move the children of God. Every believer should be perfectly convinced that we are safe and secure in the protective arms of Jesus.

“For the mountains may be removed and the hills may shake, But My loving-kindness will not be removed from you, And My covenant of peace will not be shaken,” Says the LORD who has compassion on you.” Isaiah 54:10



Notes



Day 70:
Christ the fulfilment
of Scripture

1 Corinthians 15:4

Month

Date

Time

What do the scriptures say?

Scripture testifies of the One who would die and pay the penalty for our sins. The prophecy of His death (Isaiah 53:5,6), burial (Isaiah 53:9) and resurrection (Psalm 16:9), permeates through the Old Testament, pointing to the New.

The New Testament was not yet in its written form, when the Old Testament spoke of the Promise, pointing to the One, who would take away the sins of the world. We see the fulfilment of this Promise in the New Testament.

God is a covenant keeper. He fulfils His promises, even to those who are faithless, He remains faithful. He cannot deny Himself (2Tim. 2:14). He cannot and will not turn back on His promises. The fulfilment of God's promises are not determined by human strength, ability or power.

The Corinthian Church

There were those who were causing confusion amongst the Christians like (Hymenas and Philetus in (2 Tim. 2:17, 18), by denying the Resurrection. They attempted to shake the very foundation upon which the Corinthians built their faith.

Christ's death and resurrection is the very foundation upon which the Christian stands. It is the fulfilment of prophecy in Scripture. It holds the fabric of the Christian faith together.



Notes



Day 71:
Joint Heirs of
riches in Christ

Colossians 1:27

Month

Date

Time

He preached by God's authority.

Paul was commissioned by God, not man, to share the hidden mysteries of the gospel. It was a mission he took whole-heartedly, he was a faithful steward. God used Him to explain the gospel to a people who had been exposed to mystery religions, they were in desperate need of the gospel truth.

The gospel, though a mystery, is not to be hidden, but revealed.

Through Paul's words in Colossians 2:18, we can see there were some private ceremonies or secret hidden rituals taking place in some quarters. It was the source of trouble to the church.

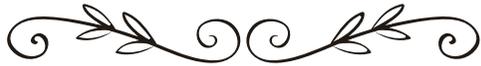
The secret mystery revealed

The gospel of Jesus Christ is not to be kept secret. It is to be proclaimed from the roof tops (Matt.10:27). Everyone can see and hear a person shouting from an elevated position. It is not a cult of secrecy, but open to all, so that they may see the glorious riches in Christ. Ephesians (Chapter One) explains this better.

That God should choose ordinary people, to partake in such a glorious inheritance, seems outrageous now, as it did back then. It was controversial for anyone to suggest that Gentiles, as well as Jews, belonged to the same family!

In these last days, many people from the four corners of the earth will come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Those who were not reckoned to be called the children of God, as quoted in Hosea and reiterated by Paul in Romans 9:26, will be called, "the sons of the Living God." This will be to the astonishment of many.

Christ is the hope of glory for the Jews, as well as the Gentiles. This mystery, hidden for generations, is now revealed to you, child of God. Christ, in all His glorious riches, lives in the hearts of his sons and daughters all over the world.



Notes



Day 72:

*Be diligent in prayer,
watchful at all times, with
constant thanksgiving.*

Colossians 4:2

Month

Date

Time

Christ is the beginning and the end. He is the source of life, the cornerstone that holds the building, (the body of Christ) together. Paul spoke about the importance of the Word in Col.3:16. He then spoke about the importance of Prayer in Col.4:2. The Word of God and Prayer cannot be separated.

Prayer times are to be contended for because there is so much in the natural and the spiritual that opposes it. The body can also become weak and sluggish and we must be conscious of it. The Epistles are full of exhortations to pray. Luke gave an example of the persistent Widow in Luke 18:1. We are not to get tired of praying. We must be persistent like the Widow. We must have faith, God answers prayers.

The natural mind has an undisciplined approach to prayer. One of the distinguishing signs of the new birth in a believer, is their prayer life. We must ask the Spirit to help us pray, (Eph. 6:18), at all times, with all kinds of prayers and requests. Keeping our minds alert, we must be diligent in praying for the Lord's people; the nations we live in and the whole world.

A praying Church is a watchful Church.

The Church must be watchful and sound the alarm bells for a world that sleeps. The day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night (1Thess. 5:2). Thieves break in when they are least expected. The Church, expectantly waiting for the Lord's return, will be on Red Alert. It stays awake and keeps the whole Body awake! Without vigilance, the Church will sleep. Tiredness is no respecter of persons. Jesus found His disciples asleep at Gethsemane. These were His words to them:

“What? Could you not watch with Me one hour?”

Therefore we are to “watch and pray, lest we enter into temptation. The spirit is indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” (Matt 26:41)

Being thankful for answered and unanswered prayers.

We must not forget to thank God during our prayer time. The giving of thanks for what we have already received should be part and parcel of our daily life. Do we remember to thank Him for His attributes? He is Saviour, He is most merciful, He is the compassionate One. His justice and faithfulness are without end. Being thankful is taking time to appreciate Him for who He is.

Also, we must not forget to thank Him, by faith, for things we haven't seen. Thanking God, for both answered and unanswered prayer, is what Paul encourages us to do, at all times. 1Thes 5:18 says, we should give thanks in all circumstances.

Be encouraged today. Persevere in the place of prayer. Do not get discouraged when your prayers are not answered immediately. Trust in God's Word: now pray without ceasing!



Notes



Dependency or Dependent

-

As a minister or leader do you lead people to the place where they no longer need you? If your objective is dominance and control, you need to repent and let Jesus have His way. Jesus came to draw people to Himself. He came to save souls. He came to save sinners. We can easily stand in the way of Christ by keeping people in a cycle of dependency. Jesus came to give life, an abundant life that comes from dependence on HIM. He died to set captives free. He came to give Living Water, that we may thirst no more. We are to depend on Him and not man.

Fishers of men.

Jesus said we should go forth and be fishers of men. As a leader, do you reproduce yourself in others or expect them to keep coming back to you?

Great leadership is reproducing others, releasing them, so they can also reproduce what they have been taught in others. Our greatest example is Jesus Christ. He taught His disciples to follow Him and become fishers of men.

And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. Mark 4:19

May we all reproduce Christ in others.





Day 73:
Draw near to God

James 4:8

Month

Date

Time

Right now is a brilliant time to “draw near to God.” He is worthy. In His presence is the fullness of joy, favour and blessings. When you seek God first you will see His completeness and sufficiency. It is a place of grace.

The Ancient of Days has been merciful in times past, as He is now.

To Zechariah He said,

“Therefore, say to the people, ‘This is what the Lord of Heaven’s Armies says: Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies.’”

To Malachi He said,

“Now return to me, and I will return to you,” says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies.”

We shall see the Lord’s glory when we return to Him. As with Zechariah and Malachi, the the Lord will turn to us in mercy. This is where we see the Lord’s glory. His mercies are new every morning (Lam 3: 22 – 23).

Obedience:

With Him is wisdom, understanding and discretion. We must listen and obey His instructions. He is a God who speaks, but the flesh is so weak. Ephraim loved the blessings of God, but he was not prepared to obey God’s instruction. There are many blessings that come with obedience. Praying for the grace to hear and obey the instructions of Lord is very important.

Call in “truth”

Psalm 145:18 specifically talks about God being near to those who call out to Him in “truth.” One of the attributes of God is His omnipresence. To be omnipresent, means to be everywhere at the same time. He knows and sees all things. To pray in “truth” we must have a pure and sincere heart. He is ever merciful, so we must ask God to cleanse and forgive us of anything the will hinder His Spirit. (Psalm 32:5, James 4:8).

The beauty of the Lord is that His presence comes with a host of blessings. There is nothing God will withhold from those who seek Him. He is a sun and shield, He bestows favour and honour on those whose walk is blameless (Psalm 84:11).

Be encouraged today to seek the Lord. Spend quality time in His presence. Hear instruction and obey the voice of the Lord.



Notes



Day 74:
Emmanuel is with
you always.

Matthew 28:20

Month

Date

Time

He is with you wherever you go this morning. He is a God who keeps covenant. When He says He will never leave you or forsake you, He means it.

You can see His faithfulness demonstrated in the Bible in times past through the lives of Patriarch's like Abraham, Moses and Joshua. In the Bible, He promised to be with the disciples "always," even so, He is still with His disciples today, comforting guiding, and protecting them.

Every true Christian should be strengthened with Jesus' parting words. He made a solemn promise that He has not and will not turn back on. Jesus is "with us always." He is with us wherever we go, this is our confidence and strength. He is our exceedingly great reward. Jesus Christ is 'Emmanuel', the God who is with us, "always." He is a strong tower, an ever present help in times of trouble. He is someone you can depend on, He will not let you down. He is with you daily, He forgives sins, He pardons iniquity. There is grace with Jesus, these are the benefits of knowing Him. He is a great defender (Romans 8:33-39), a strong tower (Proverbs 18:10) to run into at any time. He is a great protector (John 17:12), shielding you from the fiery darts of the wicked one, all day long (Psalm 91:5). Jesus cleanses and makes whole, He strengthens. He has made himself available to lead and guide. He stays with you in the most joyous moments, yet holds your hand in sickness and sorrow. Jesus will be with you until eternity. You can surely depend on Him.

Keep on believing this morning. Go out with songs of praise and gladness. Do not be afraid, Jesus Christ is on your side, you can win!



Notes



Day 75:
Unsearchable Riches

Ephesians 3:8

Month

Date

Time

Whatever is described as “Unsearchable,” is something that cannot be fully understood. There is really has no end in the research or understandability of that which is “Unsearchable.” The Riches in Christ are exactly like this, they are unending.

The Apostle Paul considered it an honour to preach, the “Unsearchable Riches,” of Christ. He fully exalted Christ, but gave no honour to himself. He described himself as “the least of all saints,” compared to the Disciples, who were personally taught by Jesus, they walked with Jesus, Paul did not. He did not have such an honour.

In 1 Corinthians 15:8, Paul describes himself as, “one born out of due time.” He came to know the Lord afterwards, not like the other Apostles. He was also among those who shamefully persecuted the followers of Jesus Christ. Paul was called by grace.

There is no end to the riches found in the gospel of Jesus Christ. The gospel is a treasure trove literally full of precious inestimable gemstones.



Notes



Christ is the fulfilment of the Law. He is the seed of Abraham, and it is through Christ that the promises and blessings of God are received. All you that believe, whether native Jew or Gentile are the children of God by adoption, through faith in Jesus Christ (John 1:12).





Day 76:
Not servants, but mature sons

Galatians 4:4,5

Month

Date

Time

At some point, a child needs to grow from a child and become a mature adult. The Old Testament church was like a child. It was continually given a set of rules without the understanding as to why or for what reason they were given these rules. In other words, they had no knowledge or enlightenment as to what they were doing, or why they were doing it. They simply followed a set of rules.

In the fullness of time

However, when the “fullness of time came...”

At the appointed time, the blinders were removed. “God sent forth His Son,” to relieve the church of its demanding customs, rites and ceremonies. Moses pointed to Christ, the fulfilment of the Law. The types and shadows of the past would be nothing compared to the privilege, simplicity and advantage of the gospel through Christ.

Liberty and Light

The gospel of Jesus Christ brings in the radiance of the sun. It is light that shines into darkness, removing ignorance, giving understanding to the mind, removing the hardness of the heart, bringing liberty. Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom (2 Corinthians 3:17). This is the advantage of those who are in Christ. They no longer live under the Law, but under Grace. They are free from the bondage of this world.

Born of woman, to redeem those under the Law

In humility, Christ came to earth through a woman, fulfilling the righteous requirement of the Law.

He came willingly, as the Son of God and the Son of man to redeem sinners from the curse of the moral Law. It was part of God’s plan of salvation. He came to fulfil His purpose.

Adoption as sons

Those who are in Christ have come of age. The child of God is a servant of God, but the relationship they have with the Father can be described as the relationship between a child and son. There is direct access to the Father. As an heir of God, all that belongs to Christ, belongs them. They have a great inheritance with the fullness of it in glory.



Notes



Day 77:
The Spirit of His Son

Galatians 4:6

Month

Date

Time

The Spirit of His son.

The Apostle Paul confirmed that the Gentiles were also the “sons of God.”. The Spirit of God had been sent into their hearts. The Israelites were the first people to be called the first born in Exodus 4:6. So many of them believed and received the Spirit (Ezekiel 36:27). The full outpouring and outflow of the Holy Spirit did not come until Christ was glorified (John 7:39; 16:7).

Just like on the day of Pentecost, the Spirit moves today, it has not departed. The Spirit manifests itself in the “sons of God.” They have a variety of spiritual gifts. In boldness they cry ABBA FATHER. A people who were once strangers to God , have been adopted into a family and are now privileged to be called the sons of God, They have been redeemed by Christ and call Him FATHER.



Notes



Day 78:
Dominion, Authority
and Power

Matthew 28:19

Month

Date

Time

Jesus Christ asserted so much power and authority when He said, “All power is given to me in Heaven and Earth... He delegated this same power to the disciples when He said, “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations...” To make disciples of men, they first of all had to preach the gospel and then instruct these new converts in the principles of the Christian faith.

Do you believe such authority and power has also been given to you?

The Apostles were commanded to baptise all nations.

Before a person can be baptised, they must first of have some degree of understanding as to why they are being baptised. They must first of all hear the gospel. The commission, according to Acts 1:8; 3:26; 13:46; 18:6,7; Gal. 2:7 is to first preach, baptise and then disciple all nations.

GO TELL SOMEBODY

In Acts 10:36, we are reminded that even though the gospel message was first sent to the Jews, it was also sent to the gentiles. Jesus Christ is Lord of all: both Gentiles and Jews.

Be a witness today about Jesus Christ. Jesus has done something so wonderful, He has given you eternal life, so share the good news today!



Notes



Day 79:
Return to the Lord

Hosea 6:1

Month

Date

Time

The earth is the Lord's and its fullness thereof. He is able to use every available resource within it to draw us back to Him.

Come let us return to the Lord:

Israel had departed from the ways of the Lord. The chapter preceding Hosea 6, ends with an announcement: A vow to bring His children back to Him. In their distress they would seek Him diligently,

***“I will return again to My place
Till they acknowledge their offence.
Then they will seek My face;
In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me.”***

Hosea 5:15

Returning to the Lord

The sin and fall of the Israelites was the worship of Idols. The prophet Hosea admonished and called on them to come to the place of repentance. It is never too late to return to the Lord when we have offended Him. He is full of mercy, compassion and ever ready to forgive.

Let us therefore return to the Lord in repentance, true worship and obedience. Return to the Lord with all your heart. “He has torn us that He may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up.”

- Hosea 6:1



Notes



Day 80:
Humility

Month

Date

Time

Jesus Christ exemplified Humility. He laid the foundation by yielding himself totally on the Cross. God's love is unmistakable. He became the servant of all just to demonstrate this love.

What we learn from Jesus is unmatched, unending and insatiable. It is a continual learning curve with Jesus. We can only learn from Jesus if we yield to Him. The gradual process of sanctification can only be done by the power of the Holy Spirit. Flesh can not do it alone.

Jesus said in Matthew 11:29

“Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

I pray every child of God will see the value in what Jesus is trying to teach here. May your eyes be open and your heart yield to the words of Jesus. Unless we are like little children we can't learn from Him. He hides things from those who feel they are wise, revealing them to babes (Matt. 11:25, Luke 10:21). Those who have ears to hear, let them hear.

The gospel is revealed to those who are willing to learn. They are generally humble, simple minded and open to gospel truths. Luke 1:53 says that He fills the hungry with good things and the rich He sends away with empty hands. The pride of intellect, the pride of wealth, the pride of our own efforts are all barriers to receiving from God.

When Jesus first started His ministry with The Sermon On The Mount, He was very clear on humility:

***“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. -
Blessed are the meek,
For they shall inherit the earth.***

Jesus has made himself available to us as an incredible Teacher: He leads us in what is right and teaches us His way. To ask Jesus, who knows all things, to lead us in what is right, and teach us His way, is an act of humility. Only the humble in heart desire to yield to His will.

We can pray for a heart that is willing and ready to learn. We can pray for a heart of humility. Let us be ready and willing at all times to be taught of the Spirit. All things are possible through Christ alone, who strengthens us (Phill 4:13).



Notes



Day 81:
Hyper-Super Conqueror

Romans 8:35

Month

Date

Time

In Greek, the word, “more than conquerors,” is a translation of a single compound word (hupernikon). The “huper” in “hupernikon” comes from the word “hyper” in English and “nikon” in “hupernikon,” comes from the word “conqueror,” together meaning: HYPER-CONQUEROR.

The Latin version of the New Testament uses the word “supervincimus” meaning: SUPER-CONQUEROR.

Paul mentions a number of things in Romans 8:35 that could possibly separate us from the love of Christ, “What shall separate us from the the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? None of these can move the believer in Christ because they are HYPER - SUPER CONQUERORS!

Believers in Jesus Christ do not conqueror people with physical violence or harm. The power of the believer comes from Almighty God, who causes them to triumph. Trouble, hardship, persecution, famine, nakedness, danger and sword will have no dominion because the believer is, “More than a conqueror through Him who loved us.”

Rejoice in the Lord always and the power of His might!



Notes



Day 82:
In Christ alone we stand!!!

2 Corinthians 5:19

Month

Date

Time

Jesus provided Himself as a Lamb, a Ransom and an Atonement. The believer in Jesus Christ has their Sin charged to Christ. He was made Sin for a people, called before the foundation of this earth. Out of every tribe, kindred and nation there are a people called. Do not be deceived into thinking that everyone will make it to Heaven. Only Jesus makes a person righteous. No one can work their way into Heaven. Through Jesus' obedience and suffering, He became a divine substitute. It was, and is a sufficient sacrifice, that no human being can add to, no matter how hard a person tries.

Only One Gospel

Galatians 1:6-10

I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, 7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed. 10 For do I now persuade men, or God?

Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bond servant of Christ.

1 Corinthians 9:16

For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel!

No one can produce a righteousness of their own, no matter how hard a person tries. No human can tick all the boxes, dot all the I's and cross all the T's to please God. We receive, by faith, the righteousness imputed to us through Jesus Christ. He is both our surety and substitute. His righteousness is perfect, it has not spots or blemishes.

Redemption in Christ – Ephesians 1:3-12 (Please read)

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, 5 having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. 7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace 8 which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, 9 having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, 10 that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both[a] which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him. 11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, 12 that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

Inasmuch as Christ is our righteousness, He does not call us to produce a righteousness of our own. This power has been given to Christ

alone. In Christ alone we stand. We must receive by Faith Christ's righteousness. This is the ONLY form of righteousness that is pleasing to God.



Notes



Serenity, calmness, patience, peace of mind, tranquillity, assurance, mixed with God's favour, belongs to those who put their trust in Almighty God. Inward peace, outward peace, peace with God, peace with others, peace of conscience, peace at all times, is the portion of those with faith in Jesus.

You are in a dangerous place or position if your confidence or trust is in anyone or anywhere else.

Let your mind be firmly fixed and settled upon Jesus.

Isaiah 26:3





Day 83:
The Promised Land

Isaiah 43

Month

Date

Time

God makes a way, even in the wilderness and dry land. He brought the Israelites through the greatest difficulties and storms. His mighty power displayed through His great acts. He performed wondrous miracles in the past: parting the Red Sea and annihilating the Egyptian army at the same time. Yet, God is able to do it again, even more than what He has done before.

The deliverance out of Egypt was a glorious display of His power. The emancipation of Israel from Babylon was not as spectacular, as the escape of Israel, from the hands of the Egyptians, so the prophecy in Isaiah 43 spoke of something far greater. The inestimable mercy of sending the Messiah to Israel is of far greater value than any miracles of the past.

A new thing:

Nothing can compare to what God is doing now in this dispensation. Former deliverances are limited in comparison to redemption by Christ. He has made a way in the wilderness, made rivers in desert lands and made the crooked places straight. Jesus Christ has released manifold blessings upon His Children, both Jews and Gentiles.



Notes



Day 84:
The Blessedness
of Trust in the Lord

Jeremiah 17:7,8

Month

Date

Time

You are absolutely blessed if your trust and confidence is in the Lord. Trust in man, is the complete opposite of trust in the Lord (Jer.17:5-6). The good things God has promised to give you can easily be missed if your trust is in man. Proverbs 3:5 says, “***trust in the Lord with all your heart,” and not just part of it.***”

Trusting in God means walking very closely with Him. He is a lamp to the feet and a light to the path (Psalm 105:109). He is a true friend. He is so close, that He will show you where there is misplaced trust and hope in your life. Psalm 121, talks about looking up to the hills for divine help. The hills here represent a higher place where God can be found.

True prosperity and success can be compared to a tree planted beside a river. It is not affected by drought. Dry seasons make the leaves of a tree lose its colour and fall off. A tree planted by water will send its roots into the stream to keep its leaves evergreen. It will still produce fruit in a parched and barren land. The person who trusts God, drinks from the Living Water, it is in constant supply.

The righteousness of God gives you right standing before Him. It is by His grace you have been saved, and not by any self-effort. In mercy, He draws you near, when you have lost your way. He directs you down the right path.

In humility, you can repent when you have placed your trust in anything else, but the Living God. You can turn around and trust Him completely.

Have a fruitful day!



Notes



Day 85:
Coming out of
Martha's kitchen

Matthew 25:1-13

Month

Date

Time

Busy, busy, busy, “Life is for the living,” they say. “Live life to the fullest,” “You only live once,” “Life is what you make it.” These are popular sayings in the world, describing how we are to live our lives: TO THE FULLEST!

It is true, a person can decide to live life to the fullest, and engage every available resource to do so. However, there is a story in the Bible (Luke 10:38-42) that teaches and directs us otherwise.

“Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about so many things...”

Martha was a woman so caught up in food preparation for the Lord that she missed the whole purpose of His coming. As soon as Jesus started to preach, Mary, her sister, stopped everything she was doing, and sat at Jesus feet. Martha became very upset about this and complained to Jesus about Mary not helping in the kitchen Martha must have been very surprised when Jesus gently rebuked her. According to Jesus, Mary had done the right thing, while she, Martha, hadn't.

There was nothing wrong in Martha preparing food for Jesus. However, the problem came when she decided to continue cooking instead of sitting at the feet of Jesus. The food could have waited or have been prepared earlier. Every day, we are presented with choices that will either steer us towards the flesh, or push us towards the Spirit. Mary made the better choice of leaving the works of the flesh to listen and learn by sitting at Jesus feet.

While Martha was pre-occupied with the external (show), Mary was immersed in the eternal.

“Few things are needed – or indeed only one.”

It appears Martha tried to outdo herself in preparing this great feast for Jesus and His disciples. It meant more to Jesus to see her sitting at His feet, receiving His Word, than any amount of food she could have prepared.

Are we engaged so much in daily life, activities, that we have no time to study the Word, listen to the Word or even sit down and listen to the Word preached? A career, marriage, sports, family, education, financial investments, just to mention a few, are things that can stand in the way of spending time with Jesus. All these things are legitimate in themselves, but it all goes wrong when we place them above spiritual concerns. They will all come to an end one day. All the above are temporary concerns.

“Mary has chosen what is better...”

Careers will end, marriages will not continue in Heaven (Matt. 22:30), sports activities will fizzle out, family members will leave home and go their own way, education will lead to retirement, financial investments will eventually be used up, but one thing will remain: God’s Word. “The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever” (Isaiah 40:8). Mary chose “what is better.” Jesus said the Word of God would never be taken away from her.

Making Christ our PRIORITY.

Every believer should make Jesus Christ their priority. Those things that steal our time and take us away from hearing God’s Word should be noted and dealt with. We all have choices to make, we have been

given the power of free will, to make free choices. It is within our power to spend time with God and listen to His Word. We can determine that nothing will take away from what will give us eternal value: God's Word. We must give PRIORITY to the Word of God.

Let us think carefully about what takes precedence over Spiritual matters in our lives. What equates to Martha's kitchen in your life? Do you have so much going on in your life that you are in danger of hearing those dreaded words, "Depart from me, I never knew you." (Mark 7:21-23). We are to come out of Martha's kitchen and sit down at Jesus feet. When the frivolous, superficial, and meaningless aspects of life take so much of our time that it cuts into the time we should spend with God, we know we have become like Martha, in Martha's Kitchen. Mary chose "that good part." Let God's Word be your PRIORITY today. Let God's Word be exalted in your life forever (Psalm 138:2).



Notes



Jesus the centre of our faith

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Jesus speaks directly about Himself as the object of faith. He is the only way of salvation, the only one who can pardon sins and give salvation. His terms are clear, plain and simple:

“whoever believes has eternal life.”

He is the author of eternal salvation, the saviour of the soul. He is the all- sufficient One. Nothing else satisfies.

Trust, lean back, rest on Jesus Christ. He cares for your soul, be committed to Him alone. Only Jesus can save, the hope of glory.

Celebrate the King today!





Day 86:
The Blessedness
of Trust in the Lord

Jeremiah 17:7,8

Month

Date

Time

Whoever receives Christ in their heart is a child of God. This is why the term “believer,” or “child of God,” is preferred to the term “Christian”. For many, the term, “Christian,” is just a name they tick while filling out a form. For others, it is a term they grew up using; they may have been born into a family which used the term or they grew up in a predominantly Christian nation. It is possible for a person to grow up using the term, “Christian,” without having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

It may surprise many that there are people who believe in Jesus Christ and believe that He is the Son of God, yet, do not call themselves Christians. Merely calling/naming oneself a “Christian”, ticking a box, does not equate to being a Child of God. Church membership, the multitude of good works, or being good, does not mean you are saved.

“As many as received Him”- John 1:12

Whoever receives Jesus Christ, whoever believes in His name: He gives the right to become a child of God. Whether Pharisee, Sadducee, learned, unlearned, male or female, to them He gave the privilege of Sonship to God.

Who are those adopted into God’s family?

The natural family that a person is born into does not make you a “son of God.” The Church a person attends does not qualify them as a “son of God.” Only those who have become born again (those who have received the new-birth), are re-born into God’s family. These are the true “sons of God.” Only those who have been adopted into God’s family, can be called a true son or daughter of God. To them, He has given power to become the “sons of God.”

You become a child of God by faith in Jesus Christ alone (Galatians 3:26). Whoever believes that Jesus is Christ, is born of God, is a child of God (1John 5:1). There is no sonship to God without living faith in Christ. Only those who believe in the son of God are the true sons and daughters of God.

Come boldly before His throne of grace today. Receive Jesus Christ, accept Him with a willing heart if you have not already. Take Him as your personal Lord and saviour.

Rejoice and again I say, Rejoice!



Notes



Day 87:
In all things: the purpose
of God stands

Matthew 25:1-13

Month

Date

Time

The earth is the Lord's and everything, and all who live in it (Psalm 24:1). Jesus Christ came to His own people, but they did not receive Him. His ministry among the Jews was not received or accepted. They rejected Him and this made their sin even more sinful. Israel was His inheritance:

“From the care of the ewes with suckling lambs He brought him To shepherd Jacob His people, And Israel His inheritance.”

Yet there were those who received Him!

Though Christ was rejected by His own people, it did not stop God's plan and purpose from going ahead. God's plan still stands.

As many as believe on Christ and acknowledge Him as the Messiah, have the right to become the children of God. Those who believed in His name, whosoever and whatsoever receive Him (whether Pharisee, Sadducee, learned or unlearned, male or female, Jew or Gentile) are privileged to be the sons of God.

By faith in Christ many are adopted into God's family (Gal.3:26). Those who believe in the Son of God are the children of God. With out faith in His Son, you cannot be His child. The children of God have been given the right to become the children of God. They have sonship, they are God's children.

God's plans and purposes for this earth can never be defeated (Prov. 19:21; Isa. 46:9-11, John 6:37-39). Through faith in Jesus Christ we have a wonderful inheritance. It is God's gift of free love and free grace.



Notes



Day 88:
Priceless

John 3:16

Month

Date

Time

A priceless gift of Love has been given to this world. This gift, sent from Heaven, has been given to, “whosoever believes.” (John 3:16). This “whosoever believes” may be Jew or Gentile, it is salvation offered freely. It is amazing that God should Love a wicked world, it’s such an amazing love. This Love is a wonderful free gift and it should be celebrated!

Such marvellous Love is expressed through Christ’s death on the Cross. The mercy of God is demonstrated in the sun rising, unfailingly, every morning. His mercies are new, each day and this mercy is out of His free sovereign good pleasure. From the depth of His goodness, He has chosen heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ.

The elect have much higher privileges, but God’s mercy is not confined or constrained to the elect. He has a special electing love for His children, yet He still shows mercy, and compassion, in various ways to humanity.

The pity and compassion of God for this world extends to all. It is shown in Matthew 5:45, “He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.” His Love is such that no one can accuse Him of injustice in judgement and in judging the world. He is a righteous judge (Ezekiel 33:11, John 1:10, John 4:10, John 6:32, John 6:51, 2 Peter 3:9, 1 Tim. 2:4).

The goodness and mercies of God extends to this world (John 3:16). He loved this world so much, that He sent His only begotten glorious Son to save it. That those who believe in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life. This everlasting life has been given to those who come to Him by Faith. Those who come to Him in repentance, through

Faith in Jesus Christ, shall have everlasting life. Jesus Christ came into this world as a consequence, as a reaction, of His Love. Jesus is the precious gift to a world full of sin.

Nobody will have an excuse on the last day. It is the day that everyone will stand before a righteous judge (2 Peter 3:9). He is the Saviour, the Redeemer and the Friend of sinners (Matthew 11:16-19, John 8:1-11) and this redemption has its source in the free and sovereign love of God.

A sufficient atonement has been made for all (Romans 4:25, 8:32). Jesus was despised, rejected, mocked, crucified, and counted guilty for the the offences of all. This love is so unique. "But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners." - Romans 5:8. Since He did not spare even His own Son, but gave him up for us all, won't He also give us everything else?
Romans 8:32

Truly God is Love!

The Love of God is pure and undefiled. Tell someone about His Love today.



Notes



Day 89:
Believe in the Son

John 3:36

Month

Date

Time

A New World Order ideology, teaches that all roads leads to Heaven. It says that any faith or religion can give you direct access to God. The Bible clearly teaches us that no one can approach Almighty God directly because of sin. The human race is in a sinful condition and there is no form of self-effort, adherence to a set of rules, good works or religion that can make a person righteous before God. God is Holy. The human race was in need of a mediator to, bring reconciliation, to stand in the gap, between God and man. Being good, self-efforts, self – works, or any form of self-righteousness, cannot and can never please God.

Almighty God took pity on mankind in its sinful condition. He loved the world so much that He gave His one and only Son as a living sacrifice for sin. That whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life (John 3:16). The Spirit of God came to earth to save mankind through our Lord Jesus Christ. He is One with God, He is the eternal Son of God. Without Him, we can not see God. He is the righteousness of God, it is only through Him that a person can become right with God.

There is something innate within the human heart that knows it needs to get right with God. This manifests itself in all forms of self-works, self-efforts and the keeping to sets or forms of rules. None of these things can please God, no matter how hard we humanly try. This is why we need a Saviour, one who has already paid the price for our sins with His own life.

Jesus Christ is the way, the truth and the life and it is only through Him that we have Salvation. There is no other way.



Notes



Job

-

Satan raged through Job's life like fire out of control. However, it was only for a season.

When God turned Job's mourning into dancing, it was like a dream. God is able to give you something to rejoice about. He is able to fill your heart with so much joy that you will not be able to contain it. You will burst forth in rejoicing and singing, with shouts of joy and songs of praise. Those who make God their dwelling place will always find refuge and sanctuary in Christ (Psalm 90:1). He is a very present help in times of trouble (Psalm 46:1), so you can rejoice today, don't wait until tomorrow.

Rejoice and again I say, rejoice!





Day 90:

*He called Himself
“The bread of Life”*

John 6:35

Month

Date

Time

He called Himself “The bread of Life.”

Jesus is the only food that feeds the soul: there is no other bread that satisfies. Jesus Christ is the physician of the soul: He supplies all our spiritual needs. He is our Mediator, Redeemer and Priest. He fills empty souls from a supply that never runs dry. He is life itself: The Bread of Life.

There is beauty in the name: “Bread of Life.” Bread is eaten all over the world, it is universal and can be found on most break-fast tables. People abstain from meat, others vegetables, but Bread is generally eaten by all. Jesus is Bread that is available to all.

Bread is something that can be eaten daily, while most other foods are only eaten occasionally. There is a never a day on this earth that we do not need The Blood of Jesus. We can not live without His righteousness. He intercedes for us daily and covers us with His Grace.

It is only Jesus Christ that can relieve the spiritual hunger of the believer. There is no other name that can satisfy. You could search the whole world for the kind of bread that will never satisfy... Only Jesus can fill an empty conscience and feed a starving soul; This is Christ’s business and office.

Are you hungry and thirsty today? Come straight to Jesus and eat to your satisfaction. Drink from the well that never runs dry. Jesus is saying to you this today:

“I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.

“Be filled today, be filled with the “Bread of Life.” It’s a token of His grace.

Celebrate the goodness and greatness of God today. Rejoice and again I say, Rejoice!



Notes



Day 91:
Come out from there

John 8:1

Month

Date

Time

Come out from the valley of despair, regret and defeat. Christ made a way out from the heavy burden of guilt, sin and condemnation by giving us His son Jesus Christ.

Before the foundations of the earth, God's plan of Salvation existed. Those foreknown have a predetermined destination. They are called and justified (made acceptable to God). Justification is the opposite of condemnation. Every human being is condemned in Adam. Those in Christ have been acquitted from Adam's sin and are therefore acceptable to God, He is holy and righteous.

The Spirit of God quickens every believer to desire spiritual things, over the flesh (the corrupt nature of man). We are to watch and pray because of the weakness of the flesh. To walk after the Spirit is to be led and ushered by the Chief Shepherd. It is to be led by the counsels of God at all times (Matt 26:41, John 3:6, Gal.5:17).

The world has so much within it to distract you, so be jealous over your time here. Be jealous over your soul. Amen



Notes



Day 92:
The Light of the World

John 8:12

Month

Date

Time

Where would this world be without the LIGHT? In a very dim and dark condition, is the answer. Darkness covers the earth, but where ever there is even a glimmer of light, it brings HOPE.

Jesus Christ is the Light of this world. He is the only remedy for the depth of darkness present in humanity. Christ is the only solution for this world. He is the redemption plan, the divine substitute, taking the place for sinners.

Many search for Light in the wrong places. However, Jesus Christ is the only place a person can find light. "In your light we see light." Psalm 36:9. Christ is like the sun, the earth cannot revolve without it. Christ is the giver of life, all who follow Him shall never walk in darkness, but have the light of life (John 8:12).

Choose LIGHT over darkness today.



Notes



Day 93:
Lifted up from the earth

John 12:32

Month

Date

Time

The crucifixion of Jesus Christ on the Cross did not stop people from following and believing in Him. Rather, it did the opposite, it drew people to Himself. He was nailed to the Cross and lifted up. This caused all kinds of people, not absolutely everyone, but a people from every nation, tribe and language, to be drawn to Him. He is, and forever will be, the desire of all nations.

To die on a cross was the greatest form of humiliation. They made a spectacle out of Jesus, but He humbled Himself, in obedience. He was even willing to die on a Cross (Phil.2:8). He died like a common criminal, He was lifted up on a Cross into the air. Though He suffered indignity and shame, He is highly exalted and honoured and is the name above every other name (Phil. 2:9).

His unfailing promise:

Today, a great number of people from the nations of the earth are the followers of Jesus Christ. They have been saved, by grace, through faith in Jesus Christ. Till this day, His fame and name still draws crowds of people. He is the centre of attraction in all the earth. People still hear about Him and believe in Him every day. His promise is established forever (Revelation 11:15).



Notes



Day 94:
Always be full of joy

John 16:33

Month

Date

Time

Always be FULL of joy.

Christ's Mission to Earth was, and is, a work accomplished. He came to us in all humility from Heaven. He lived and walked upon this earth, just like a human. He also returned to the glory of Heaven, just like He said He would. Those who have faith in Jesus have peace, not just peace of the conscience and heart, but peace from trials, troubles and tribulations. Christ finished what He came to earth to do. It is a work finished and accomplished.

We have overcome.

Every believer has overcome this world and all its temptations and troubles. You have overcome, because Jesus has overcome. He is the Captain of our Salvation and we have overcome under His leadership. His victory is our victory. He has overcome satan and this world (John 16:33). He has overcome a world that hates God and the gospel of grace (2 Tim. 3:12).

Take Heart!

We have reason to rejoice in the comfort of this divine Truth. You are more than a conqueror with Christ on your side (Romans 8:37). Even the greatest trials are used by God for our benefit and for His purposes. The believer not only overcomes the worst trials, but more than overcomes his enemies and all those things which seem to work against him.

Rejoice and again I say, Rejoice!(Phil 4:4) Always be full of joy in the Lord.



Notes



His promises are absolute

“Happy are those whose greatest desire
is to do what God requires:

God will satisfy them fully!”

Matthew 5:6





Day 95:
It takes faith
to believe God

Joshua 1:9

Month

Date

Time

Where did Joshua get the unction and zeal to lead the children of Israel? His boldness and courage came directly from God. Again and again, The Lord encouraged Joshua, “Be strong and courageous.” Joshua was totally dependent on God. He needed this encouragement daily. He did many great things, including toppling Jericho, to get to the promised land, Canaan.

Trust in God

It seemed ludicrous that the walls of Jericho would fall down by marching round them several times. But these were the instructions God gave. Joshua made sure they were followed. God desires “truth in the inward parts”(Psalm 51:6).

We must follow God’s instructions to be successful in any battle, regardless of how ridiculous the instructions seem.

The good fight of Faith

You must fight for what you believe in by living in obedience to God’s Word. Christ has given us the power and grace to submit ourselves to the authority of His Word.

Difficulties and dangers

Why does God say, “do not be afraid or dismayed”? Because He doesn’t expect you to face these battles on your own. God is in the, “fight to the end.” The battle belongs The Lord.

Anyone who believes in Christ will face many challenges and struggles through out their life time. It is a badge that every believer must wear. The assured thing is that Christ will be present through it all. Learn to trust in Jesus. He will never fail you or abandon you (Deut.31:6).

Therefore, be strong in The Lord and the power of His Might (Eph.6:10).
Endure till the end (Matt.24:18). Fight the good fight of Faith (1 Tim.
6:12).



Notes



*Day 96:
Have I not
commanded thee!*

Joshua 1:9

Month

Date

Time

It was not an easy feat for Joshua to give the officers the commission he received from God (Josh.1:10-11). He reacted to the instruction given him, without delay. How many times do believers in Christ reason and delay for weeks, months and even years without end, the instructions of Almighty God?

To obey, at the Lord's command, is what brings victory and success (Joshua 1:8). David understood the importance of obedience when he said, "I made haste, and did not delay to keep Your commandments" (Psalm 119:60). Lack of faith, is what often causes a person to disobey God. Have you ever seen a person stand up to do something, but in their heart they are sitting down?

"Whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not to men," says Colossians 3:23. Prompt obedience and immediate action is required for the success of whatever God asks His children to do.

Do you run swiftly in the path of His commands? ***Psalm 119:32 says it more clearly, "I run in the path of your commands, for you have broadened my understanding."***

FAITH and OBEDIENCE

How you respond to the Lord's command is evidence of your faith. The believer is to trust in God's ability. He is able! God is able to see you through whatever He requires of you. Joshua was given an impossible task, but the Lord did not leave him on His own to do it. He strengthened Him. He emboldened him with these words: ***"I will be with you: I will not fail you or forsake you. Be strong and of good courage"*** (Josh. 1:5,6).

The believer must have faith that God's Words are true. With the belief that God's Words were true, Joshua and the children of Israel entered into their possession. Faith and obedience walk hand in hand. Trust in the Lord with all your heart today! (Prov.3:5)



Notes



Day 97:
*“Go into possess the land
which the Lord is giving
you to possess”*

Joshua 1:11

Month

Date

Time

God's spoken word is divine authority. This is the authority Joshua exercised when he passed on the command (by divine authority) to his officers. Nothing can contend with God's divine authority. When God says it, it is as good as done. Titus 2:15 says, "Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you." (Titus 2:3).

"Prepare provisions yourself" - Joshua 1:11

Just like a Soldier equips himself before going for battle, every Soldier in Christ must be fully equipped with God's Word. Before engaging in any form of spiritual warfare, you must be loaded with God's Word. 1 Timothy 4:6 says,

"We are to be nourished on the truth of faith." The Word of God is what provides supernatural support, strength and zeal. It is God's Word that provides sustenance for the journey ahead. Joshua and the children of Israel embarked on a Journey, with the assurance of God's word.

Joshua had already been instructed to meditate on The Word, not occasionally, but "day and night." (Joshua 1:8). To "possess the land", the Christian Soldier must do the same.

"Possess the land which the Lord is giving you."

God's promises are Yes and Amen. "No matter how many promises God has made, they are, "Yes" in Christ (2 Cor.1:20). The believer must respond in faith to the promises of God. Be strong and courageous, you can do all that God has commanded you to do. No believer should be deprived of what God has promised. You can, and must, possess what belongs to you. Amen.



Notes



Day 98:
Joy for the righteous; woe
to His enemies

Psalm 118:15

Month

Date

Time

Shout for joy if you love the Lord Jesus. Salvation is yours! Only the counsel of the Lord shall stand. If God is on your side, who can ever be against you? (Romans 8:31). David had many adversaries, but they failed in their schemes against him. Just like Jesus, David had many enemies without cause. However, the Lord was jealous and zealous over David.

The sound of rejoicing is produced by the voice of rejoicing. Give thanks to the one who causes His children to triumph. He is the one who gives victory. (1 Cor.15:57). He gives strength to those who are weak, (Isaiah 40:29). Let the weak say that they are strong (Joel 3;10). He opposes the proud person, but gives grace to the humble (James 4:6).

The right hand of the Lord is a symbol of His might and strength. It arises at the appointed time for the glory and honour of His name. Those who place their trust in Jehovah will never be put to shame.

Encourage someone today, tell them what the Lord has done in your life. Salvation belongs to God and He has accomplished this for you.

Rejoice and again I say, rejoice.



Notes



Where ever you live on the earth this morning,
whoever you are (both Jew and Gentile) rise up
and praise the Lord. Do not be inhibited or restricted
today, come boldly before His throne of grace.

North, South East and West stand in awe of
Him. He is great. The whole earth displays His
majesty and glory. He is a God who speaks and it
comes to pass. "For He spoke and it was done."
Discard your idols, stop all forms of hero worship
and idolatry, worship God and Him alone. He
created all things, the whole earth belongs to Him,
it's an insult to bow down to anything or anyone
but the Creator.

Worship the Lord with ALL your heart this morning.
Bow down before Him, worship Him and
HIM ALONE.





Day 99:
Justification

Romans 8:4

Month

Date

Time

Whoever seeks to be justified by the works of the law disclaims the righteousness of Christ. The death of Christ is meaningless to this person. If a person is made right by the law, then Christ's death on the Cross is ineffectual.

“What the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit (Romans 8:4).

The objective of Christ coming and dying was to supply us with a righteousness, received by faith. This righteousness enables us to stand before God. There is only one way of justification and one way of salvation for both Jew and Gentile: belief in Jesus Christ. This faith works by love, not only towards God, but also towards man.



Notes



Day 100:
*“Let my people go, that
they may serve me.”*

Exodus 9:16

Month

Date

Time

The magicians and diviners could no longer stand before Moses because they were covered in boils (Ex.9:11). Without a shadow of doubt, the spies and adversaries of Israel knew the power of God was real, but they refused to have a change of heart. The wickedness in the human heart can only be removed by the hand of God (Ezekiel 36:26).

Moses remained alive and untouched by the power of God. He was raised from nothing for the glory of God. The power of God and His mighty works were constantly met with rebellion, hardness of heart and tyranny from Pharaoh. Even when Pharaoh's witch doctors exclaimed, "this is the finger of God!" Pharaoh's heart was hardened, he wouldn't listen. Still yet, Pharaoh would not, "let my people go."

No one compares to God.

The Lord executes justice for all who are oppressed (Psalm 103:6, Psalm 146:7). Pharaoh exalted himself against the children of God (Exodus 5 – 10), but God allowed His wickedness to come into its fullness to demonstrate the fullness of His power and glory.

What is it that desires to exalt itself against the power of God in your life? Every Pharaoh will be brought to the ground. God will crush Pharaoh by the mighty works of His hands. The Lord will use every Pharaonic situation (i.e situations met with defiance, rebellion, effrontery, opposition and determination) to show that He is God. Who can challenge the power of God and live?



Notes



*Day 101:
Keep your
Lamp burning!!!*

Matthew 25

Month

Date

Time

Nobody knows the day or hour of the Lord's triumphant return. The desire of Satan is to see believers go around with no Oil in their lamps. The wicked one loves it when he can trick believers into believing they are serving the Lord: engaging them in endless activities. The plan is for these activities to leave little or no time for a personal relationship with the Lord.

Matthew has made it pretty clear in his gospel: this is what the Lord's response will be to this: "I do not know you." - Matthew 25:1

These are words that no Believer wants to hear; these are words that no one particularly wants to meditate on, but we must. How can these words be ignored?

Lamps with no oil? What does this really represent?

If a lamp has no oil in it, it is simply an empty vessel. It bears all the hallmarks of a lamp, but produces no light. A lamp can be made up of costly material. If polished and kept well, it can become a beautiful ornament, a show piece to be kept on a shelf, but not used for its purpose. Naturally, a bridegroom will expect his bride to be well prepared and wearing her wedding dress on the wedding day. Imagine him showing up only to find her fast asleep? He would be absolutely horrified and astonished, as well as all the invited guests!

Today, a great number of people from the nations of the earth are the followers of Jesus Christ. They have been saved, by grace, through faith in Jesus Christ. Till this day, His fame and name still draws crowds of people. He is the centre of attraction in all the earth. People still hear about Him and believe in Him every day. His promise is established forever (Revelation 11:15).

In ancient Jewish tradition, the bridesmaids of the bride would run out with lamps at the appearance of the bridegroom. They were to guide the bridegroom to the ready and waiting bride. The concept of the ten waiting virgins in Matthew 25 comes from this tradition. Every believer should be ready and expectant for the return of Christ. The bride that is not ready represents the hypocritical Christian. He or she carries out all the external motions with no expectancy in his or her heart. This person wears external badges for people to see, but does not believe that Christ will return. They are not expectant, they are not prepared. Their hearts are not ready and they end up compromising during the long wait.

Lamps with oil.

A lamp filled with oil will shine brightly. The believer filled with the Word of God will shine like a diamond. The Word of God is what gives the child of God light. The Word of God is light that beams into the dark crevices of this world (Philippians 2:15). Light represents power. The power of the Holy Ghost produces zeal and unction in the life of the believer. The light of God produces a healthy spiritual life in the believer. It will sustain them during the darkest times; times of discouragement, despair and uncertainty.

The Word of God is the ROCK that the believer will stand upon when everything else seems to be shaking and sinking. This child of God will stand firm in FAITH.

The Church is a city that sits on a hill. No matter the distance a person stands from a hill, the lights upon it can always be seen. The Church is the Bride and Christ is the Bridegroom. He will come for a Bride that is ready and alive (Rev. 19:7,9). Christ is not coming for a dead Church.

Do you wait upon Him, love, adore and worship Him? Are you at His feet daily, praising Him, bringing Him your weaknesses, supplications and prayers? Let us remember that all of the ten virgins in Matthew 25 were tired. It was not just the five virgins, but all ten who fell asleep as the story goes. It is natural for the Believer to grow weary and tired. There will be dark and down days... days where the believer will say, "I can no longer go on." The question is, do you give up and go into the flesh... keeping up the external motions for the eyes of the brethren? Or do you continue to hold on to God, leaning into the the Spirit, praying, trusting and believing, by Grace, that He will see you through?

I pray that you will be that expectant bride, with your lamp filled with oil, expectant and waiting for the bridegroom to arrive. Even if He tarries, you will remain strong, pouring in your reserved oil, keeping your lamp ablaze and burning until Christ returns. AMEN



Notes



Whoever covers an offence seeks love,
but he who repeats a matter separates
close friends.

Proverbs 17:9





Day 102:
Believe in the best

1 Corinthians 13:7

Month

Date

Time

It is better to believe the best in a brother or sister than believe the worst and destroy God given friendships. It is better to give credence to a brother or sister and be disappointed before judging them, even before getting to know them. 1 Corinthians 4:5 says judge nothing before its time. It is naïve to accept everything you hear. Satan hates unity and friendships. When believers gather together in unity against Satan's kingdom, it pulls Satan's kingdom down. A divided kingdom will be weak against the strategies of the evil one.

Love hopes in all things:

Love never gives up. It perseveres through the storm. Love hopes for the best. It refuses to accept failure as the final outcome and will look for the best possible outcome in any event or situation.

Love endures all things:

Love will endure trial, sorrow, sickness, disappointment, hurt feelings and offence.

It forgives abuse and slander just like Jesus did:

“When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly” (1 Peter 2:23).

In Christ, you just have to come to the place of maturity and be tolerant of others. Persecution is part and parcel of the territory the believer walks in. The anointing attracts flies. The believer must pray constantly for his or her enemies. By forgiving and showing kindness to your enemies you leave the judgement to God. Romans 12:20 says:

“If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him some-

thing to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.”

To “bear” with something, means to carry or endure it. I encourage you brother or sister in Christ to run your race with endurance. Believe in the best, hope for the best. Endure for the sake of Christ.

Meditate on these scriptures

Proverbs 13:12

Proverbs 11:13

Proverbs 17:9

Proverbs 17:9



Notes



Love Rejoices

-

Love does not rejoice in the downfall or failures of others. It rejoices in goodness and truth. Love does not celebrate when others go wrong. Love lifts others up, it does not pull them down. Love is happy when it sees others succeed. Love points to the goodness in others. Love covers others when they they are bare.





Day 103:

Christian Love & Charity

Luke 6:36

Month

Date

Time

To love your enemies may seem one of the hardest things to do. As a child of God this is just one of the ways you can manifest God's love to a blind and unbelieving world. The Bible encourages you to love your enemies. God promises to give you the grace to do it.

Christian charity is unselfish. It does not think about what it is going to get in return. Jesus was long-suffering, meek and lowly of heart. He showed mercy to a world that treated Him so badly. If the Lord treated the world the way the world treated Him, we would all be doomed. Jesus Christ went out of His way to become a friend of sinners.

True giving is when a person gives, expecting nothing in return. Almighty God shows mercy to all the peoples of the earth. The thankful, the ungrateful and evil all benefit from His benevolence. For example: the sun never ceases to shine; year by year, seed times turn into harvest time. The seasons of the earth are constant in their change: Autumn, Winter, Spring and Summer.

Though the world does not acknowledge or thank God for His Mercy, He has promised that His mercies endure for ever (Psalm 136:1). They are new every morning (Lamentations 3: 22 - 23). Great is His faithfulness. He never grows weary or tired of doing good (Isaiah 40:28, Psalm 121:3) and neither should every Believer in Jesus Christ. Ungrateful, thankful and evil people, should not stop us from doing good.



Notes



Day 104:

*Ridiculous and
Absurd to the World*

Mark 8:36

Month

Date

Time

That which enriches the soul, is unprofitable to the world. What blesses the soul and gives glory to God, is in opposition to what gives glory to the people of this world. The idolatry of this world must be fought and opposed, in every way possible, by the child of God.

Those who want to wear a crown of righteousness, cannot despise the Cross. "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me," says Philippians 4:13. Everything that Christ stands for, includes those things which enrich soul.

Does your Christianity cost you anything?

I have learnt, from personal experience, that to engage in anything that enriches the soul, you must first of all, yield to the Spirit of God. There are certain things in the flesh that cannot accompany you when climbing a steep mountain. You will simply fall to the ground. There are some people who will not be able to climb the heights you are climbing because of the weights they carry. To enter great heights and see the fullness of God's glory, you must make a choice. Joshua 24: 14- 15 puts it this way, "chose this day whom you will serve." Selah.

The enrichment of your soul

You may have heard of the word, "soul-tied". Is your soul tied to Christ, or is it tied with a million and one things, or a million and one people? The enrichment of your soul comes from no other place than pursuing and knowing Christ.

You need to have a personal relationship with the giver of all riches. Esau sold his birthright for a bowl of food. A person can sell out on God for the enticing riches of this world. All the opulence of this world cannot reimburse you, if you find yourself in the wrong place, when Christ returns.

We need to think about the things that Christ wants. It is called, self-less-ness. It is thinking less of ourselves, and more of Christ. With this in mind, let us lean towards the Spirit, every day. In fact, let us cast our gaze to Jesus every hour of the day. Let Him shape our thoughts, and all that we seek to do. Let us watch out for those things that lure us away from the nourishment of our souls,

“For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his soul?” (Matthew 16:26)



Notes



Day 105:

Go Tell

Matthew 28:19

Month

Date

Time

Jesus gave His disciples a solemn charge in Matthew 28:19, He said,

“Go and Teach all nations.”

They were given something of immeasurable value and they were not to keep it to themselves. Every believer in Jesus Christ has been given this great commission to Go tell the nations about the joy they have found. You are to tell the whole world.

The Work of the Spirit

The Spirit of God that makes you believe in Him, but you must first of all hear the gospel. How will a person hear, if the Word is not spoken to them.

Daily opportunities

Every Believer in Christ, has daily opportunities to Go and Tell. Where is your faith if you do not tell others about the treasure you have found.

Four lepers

There is a story of four lepers in 2 Kings Chapter four. There was famine in the land and they ventured out to find food. They stumbled upon a great treasure of gold, silver clothing and food. They had enough to last them for a life time. However, rather than keep this great bounty to themselves, they decided to go and tell others.

This is the same way you should tell others about this great treasure you have found in Christ. The price already has been paid. What you have been given so freely, you should freely give to others.



Notes



Rest

-

Cease from striving in the flesh concerning
that matter.

The Lord wants to give you rest, will you
let Him?

He will remove the heavy yoke from your
shoulders.





Day 106:

*Just like Christ,
be light on this earth*

Matthew 5:14-16

Month

Date

Time

Jesus Christ was born to save souls. He gave the commission to all who believe in Him to preach the gospel, to be light, that shines in darkness. Jesus Christ is a blessing to this world and those who believe in Him are a blessing to this world.

If you believe in Christ, you have been born to SHINE. This is not to draw attention to your self, but to point the world to the ONE who gives hope, the Saviour of your soul. He is the LIGHT of the world (John 8:12). The believer in Christ is a beacon of light to this evil world. Everything he or she does speaks of Christ glory. His honour and praise shines through the works of their hands, to the honour and praise of HIS HOLY NAME. The beauty and brightness, the child of God displays, comes from the Beautiful One.

It is a great honour to serve the Lord. He bestows grace, dignity and beauty upon His children, to the point where people see this good work, and glorify the Father in Heaven. Great riches are in Christ. You are peculiar and distinct from the world, if you belong to Jesus. Be that spark of light that cannot be ignored.



Notes



Day 107:

*The tender concern
for souls*

Matthew 9:37

Month

Date

Time

While Jesus lived on earth, He had compassion on the multitudes of people scattered about like lost sheep.

“But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.” (Matt.9:36)

Moved with compassion, He saw the neglect of a people. They were ignorant, hopeless, helpless and in a bad spiritual condition. Jesus was moved with great pity. His heart was in anguish because of the condition of their souls.

How do you feel about the spiritually destitute around you? Do you have any compassion for their souls? Are you tenderly concerned about people in this ignorant position? Do you have a longing and deep hearts desire for the conversion of souls? 1 Cor. 2:16 says, “we have the mind of Christ.” If we have “the mind of Christ,” we should earnestly desire that those whose minds are darkened, should come into the glorious light. Jesus came for souls. This was His primary mission on earth.

The salvation of any man or woman is by grace and not by any form of works. Grace can pull a person from any situation or circumstance. Let us pray that the Lord of the Harvest will raise up hearts of compassion and send forth labourers into His Harvest. Amen



Notes



The Commission of Christ to Disciples every where:

PREACH THE GOSPEL

Jesus Christ, the highly exalted one, has been given a name above every other name. (Phil.2:9). “All authority in heaven and in earth has been given to Him.” (Matthew 28:19). The Saviour of souls, abundant in compassion and mercy. holds the keys of death and hell.

He judges the nations of this earth, He created the universe. Out of Him flow rivers of Living Water, He gives it freely to all who thirst. He is the Bread of Life and He gives it freely to the hungry. He is the fullness of the Godhead. He is the door to eternal life.

Tell someone today about the One who forgives sins and gives eternal life. He is the Saviour of our souls.





Day 108:

This day is holy: Rejoice.

Nehemiah 8:11

Month

Date

Time

This is a day to celebrate the goodness of God. During the feasts of the trumpets, everyone rejoiced before the Lord. Food and gifts were sent to those who were less fortunate, just like in Deut. 16:11, 14; Esther 9:19, Lev. 23:24. It was not a day for anyone to mourn, while others rejoiced. God is calling everyone, regardless of your situation, to rejoice in HIM.

Everyday, every month, every year, we live on this earth, is a day to celebrate Christ. In reflection of what Christ has done, we must rejoice daily. The joy of the Lord must continually be our strength and this must reflect in our lives and every thing we do.

Go out today in the joy of the Lord as God's Word has prescribed. Let your heart be filled with thankfulness. Let your body and soul be restored with the joy of the Lord. With cheerfulness, give your best to the Lord. With joyfulness, lift up your voice in thanks giving. Let the joy of the Lord be your strength today and always. Sorrow weakens the body, but joy strengthens it. Has the Lord not been good to you? Rejoice and again I say, REJOICE!!!



Notes



Day 109:

*New affections, New
thoughts, A new creation*

2 Corinthians 5:17

Month

Date

Time

If you are in Christ, you are a new creation, old things have passed away and all things have become new. The only power that can bring about the new birth is the Spirit of God. If you believe in Christ, you are born again. This is not a physical birth, like how you were naturally born. It refers to a birth that comes from God (John 1:12-13). It is the plan of God's saving grace in His plan of salvation.

The restored image of God:

The ability to believe in Christ is part of God's regenerating grace. It is the Spirit of God that works upon us to restore us to Himself. We have no power within us to restore ourselves to God. It is a work of grace. God's ultimate purpose is to restore His image in us. We have all fallen short of His glory (Romans 3:23), no one meets the standard. It is only the Spirit of God that brings us to faith and true repentance.

Old passions, desires, understandings, disposition, concepts, and inclinations gradually change, it is a divine process.



Notes



Day 110:

*Unobstructed Light
in a dark world*

Matthew 25:1-13

Month

Date

Time

The Spirit of God does a special work in ensuring the light of the Church burns brightly. Like a city set on a hill, it is visible everywhere. A city on an elevated height is prominent. It can be seen from the highest mountain, even the deepest valley.

A Challenged Church

As a governor, Zerubbabel had the responsibility of rebuilding the Temple. It was a daunting task. “Unless the Lord builds a house, the builders labour in vain.” (Psalm 127:1). Zerubbabel would finish the rebuilding of the Temple, however, not by human hands. They rebuilt the walls by the power of God.

This is a beautiful illustration for the Church today:

The Church is a witness to the world. Though it faces many challenges and obstructions, it shall prevail, the enemy shall not succeed against it. It shall overcome, not in its own strength, but by the Spirit of the Lord.

The oil that fuels the Church is the Holy Spirit. It is a blazing torch, shining ever brightly, despite the caliginous clouds. Why not join millions of believers world-wide in praying for the Church today. God has already made the crooked places straight (Isaiah 45:2).



Notes



It was strange to the Pharisees, yet it was approved by God. He was the Shepherd that would lay down His life to take it up again, He would die and rise again. Christ's death on the Cross was part of His plan and purpose. He did it voluntarily, nobody forced Him to do it. It was part and parcel of God's divine plan.

John 10:17 -18





Day 111:

*Faith that overcomes
the world*

1 John 5:5

Month

Date

Time

The world's system is designed to take you away from God and encapsulate your mind with perishable things. The world holds fast its victims, feeding them with lust, temptation and anything that will drag them away from the spiritual, into the sensual. However, the world has no power over the believer immersed in Christ. When the devil attempts to distract and occupy the Believer, he or she will overcome because they believe in Jesus Christ. Anyone who is born of God will overcome the world by faith. Even the weakest believer overcomes by faith.

Jesus fills the soul with such great things about Himself to the point where there is no time for anything else. The temporary things, which are seen, are nothing compared to the things which are not seen, the eternal.

The face of Jesus reflects the brightness of God's glory. Rejoice and celebrate Jesus today, yes you, you overcomer of the world!



Notes



Day 112:

*What can compare
to peace in Christ?*

John 14:27

Month

Date

Time

The peace of this world is based on external things, it is temporary and deceitful.(Jer.6:13-14). The peace of the world, provided by material possessions, is costly to the soul. It adds no spiritual value. On the other hand, inward peace of conscience, peace of mind is what we should desire. It is peace from knowing that our sins have been forgiven and that we are reconciled to Christ. It is lasting secure peace, based upon the promises within God's Word. It is peace, purchased with the precious blood of the Lamb. The blood never loses its power. It sustains and strengthens the mind, body and soul through every trial.

Never be troubled

Before Jesus departed, He encouraged His disciples. They would go through adverse situations, stand before the authorities and face many dangers, but they were not to be troubled. Neither were they to be afraid. In the midst of it all, they would have peace. You will also have peace if you see the situations and circumstances you go through, with the eyes of Christ. He is ever ready to forgive. He is medicine to the troubled heart.

Christ is a giver of peace, though the world rejects it. What Christ gives is established forever, it is eternal. He is ever ready to give abundantly, above all that we can ask or think. Psalm 81: 10 says, "Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."

Open your mouth wide this morning so that God will fill it with His goodness. May the peace of God which surpasses all understanding guard your heart and mind (Philippians 4:7) Amen



Notes



Be that joyful shining star in a gloomy world

Shine like the stars today, let the whole world know about the Joy you have found. Just like the stars light up the dark sky, bring the light of God's Word to the hearts and lives of men.

The Word of Life is light, share it with others. Tell someone about Jesus today.





Day 113:

*Power, Love and
a Sound Mind*

2 Timothy 1:7

Month

Date

Time

1 Distress, anxiety, faint-heartedness and cowardice are not what God desires for His children.

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and a sound mind.” (2Tim.1:7).

During these last days, Believers every where will need to keep their eyes firmly fixed on Jesus. In the face of a world that opposes the gospel, the children of God will need fortitude and courage. It is the power of God that will enable the Believer to stay in the faith, even when there is every reason to give up the faith. The Spirit of God gives courage during these distressing times.

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5). This love gives us the ability to serve God wholeheartedly. It enables us to love our brothers and sisters in Christ. This same love reaches out to a hostile world, in desperate need of Christ. It does not fear man (Psalm 118:6, Rom.8:31). The love of God compels us to share the Good News, with courage, to a lost generation.

Peace is a gift from God. Jesus Christ paid such a heavy price for our freedom. Because of Him, we have a sound mind. The peace God reigns, regardless of the environment, situation or circumstance.

May the peace of God, which surpasses all human understanding, guard your heart and mind through Christ Jesus (Phil.4:7).



Notes



Confidence in prayer

-

Pray for grace to enable you to do
and be what God wants you to be.
As far as your present bodies will
permit: pray according to His will.
God's will is revealed in His Word.
You must study His Word to know
Him better, and understand His
ways. He will lead you by His Spirit
and give you understanding of His
Word. His power will enable you to
do His will.





Day 114:

More precious than Gold

John 3:16

Month

Date

Time

Grace can not be purchased with silver and gold. The Word of God leads where the natural senses cannot go. It is free from error, it gives what no one else can give: eternal joy. The “statutes of the Lord are right,” every instruction a person needs, is embedded in God’s Word. It is a manual for life. When the heart is right, it brings freedom. The rejoicing of heart belongs to those who seek wise counsel from the Lord. The Oil of Gladness is free and He gives it liberally to His children without measure.

Scripture gives clear “eyesight,” showing what is near, and also, what is afar. The purity of The Word corrects poor vision, removing blurriness and bringing precision. The eyes of an enlightened person are not heavy or downcast. To be enlightened means, to show understanding, to be knowledgeable and not follow old-fashioned or false beliefs. In the Spiritual sense it means to become spiritually aware, to be switched on, by the Spirit of God.

No human mind can conceive the things God has prepared for those who love Him. The Spirit of God searches all things and knows all things, even the deep things of God.(1 Cor.2:9,10). True wisdom, discernment and knowledge can only be found in the instructions of The Lord. (Psalm 19:8).



Notes



Day 115:

*Those who fear and
trust the Lord: The
Son of God*

Exodus 9:16

Month

Date

Time

Looking at Psalm 31:19, we can ask the question, “who are those who FEAR and Trust the Lord?”

These are the people who fear and trust the Lord. The faith of the believer in Jesus Christ truly demonstrates God’s faithfulness. It is the faithfulness of God which causes them to believe... Selah

How great is God’s goodness

The goodness of God is “laid up”, hidden; preserved; set aside, for those who love the Lord. His goodness is bestowed, without measure, upon those who believe. 1Peter 1:4 says, “they have an incorruptible and undefiled inheritance laid up for them in Heaven.” A son or daughter of God has Kingdom Privileges. The fullness of the earth belongs to God and they partake of His goodness, even now, while they live on earth.

It’ll be evident to all:

The enemies of God will look on and see the display of God’s glory, upon the sons of God. They will not be able to stop or block it. Psalm 10:15 says, He breaks the arm of the wicked man and brings the evil doer to account for his wickedness. Psalm 61:3 says, they have an incorruptible and undefiled inheritance laid up for them in Heaven. He is a refuge and a fortress a place of safety where the enemy cannot reach.

It will be evident to the whole world right now, and in the world to Day
116:



Notes



Day 116:

*The battle belongs
to the Lord*

Psalm 37:39

Month

Date

Time

The battle belongs to the Lord

The salvation of the righteous belongs to the Lord. They have been rescued by grace from the power of sin and will reign in glory when Christ returns. Until that time, the battle rages on and it belongs to the Lord!

Salvation in battle

The deliverance of the righteous is in the hands of Almighty God. Daniel was rescued from the mouth of the Lion by the unseen hand of Almighty God. The Psalmist spoke about being delivered from a powerful enemy in Psalm 18:17:

“He rescued me from my powerful enemy, from my foes, who were too strong for me.”

Those who put their trust in the Lord may look like easy pickings, a low hanging fruit, in the eyes of the enemy. However, there is one stronger, who fights their battles, and defends them. He will not allow the enemy to overcome them. He rescues them at the right time and giving them the victory.

Stand firm

The children of God must stand their ground and always remember, the battle is not theirs, but the Lord's. In the face of strong opposition, those who trust in the name of the Lord will be victorious. (Psalm 20:7).

In trust and quietness, wait on the Lord and the clamour of enemy will prove to be simply noise.



Notes



Day 117:

Divine Repetition

Psalm 62:11

Month

Date

Time

The Spirit of God will repeat things over and over again: He knows our frailties and weaknesses.

Scripture is full of repeated words and phrases. When God has a message He wants to get across, He repeats it. Though out scripture, we see inspired writers, repeating words, as repeated to them, by the Spirit of God. In this modern age, we embolden, Italicize and underline words, sentences and paragraphs to highlight whatever it is we are trying to say. This is the same way messages, repeated by God in the Bible, are used to highlight and impress certain messages. For example in Genesis 41:32 Pharaoh was given two different dreams, scripture said:

“The reason the dream was given to Pharaoh in two forms is that the matter has been firmly decided by God, and God will do it soon.”

The Spirit of God will often use different scenarios in dreams which mean exactly the same thing. This is to point out the dream is real, and that He means what He says, and the He says what He means. It is for us to specifically observe the message and take it seriously.

In Matthew 16:5-12, Jesus used repetition, to make His point clear; hit the nail on the head, in the minds of the Disciples. Within the same passage of scripture, He repeats words to give a very strong message. He was warning them against the influence of the Sadducees and Pharisees, as He warns us today, through His Word.

Looking at Jesus style of teaching, it's quite clear He wants us to think very carefully about what ever He says. In other words, He wants us to use our brains. We are to think and meditate about it

and gain understanding.

Where the Holy Spirit repeats messages and we do not understand what He is trying to say, we are not to abandon it. We are to pray and press in for divine understanding and revelation. Until we get the point: that underlying message the Spirit is trying to convey, we must keep on praying. Amen



Notes



Day 118:

Meditating on God's word

Psalm 104:34;119:97

Month

Date

Time

Isaac, Joshua, David, and Paul, just to name a few, found solace and joy in the meditating on God's Word. Isaac went out into the lonely fields, in the silent of the night, to meditate and pray (Genesis 24:63).

Joshua believed in meditating on God's Word, "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success." Joshua 1:8

David started meditating on God at a very tender age. As he walked his fathers sheep through the wilderness, he would contemplate, and talk about the nature and character of God. He praised Him all day long. Psalm 119:97 says, "O how, I love your law! I meditate on it all day long."

The Apostle Paul said, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. "

The soul that meditates on God's Word rejoices. Delight in it like David, do it cheerfully. Determine to hide God's Word in your heart today. (Psalm 119:11).



Notes



“O Give Thanks”

Let all nations, all peoples of the earth, give thanks for the mercies, manifold providence, and favour of God. Let the earth tremble and take notice of His judgements. The Lord gives His manifold blessings to all people. Everyone benefits from His steadfast love and mercies (Lamentations 3:22-23), they are new every morning. Everyone has reason to give thanks to Almighty God. He is the giver of life and the air you breathe. He provides rain to nourish the earth and sunshine for the crops you eat.

Cast your eyes upon the Lord today and see His goodness. Praise Him for His nature, He is merciful. Bow down in honour of the Lord God Almighty. Give Him thanks for He is good. His loving kindness is EVERLASTING!





Day 119:

Rejoicing over God's word

Mark 8:36

Month

Date

Time

What a privilege to rejoice over God's Word this morning! The Word of God reigns supreme over every form of writing, arts and wisdom of men. God's Word nourishes the soul. David walked in the fear of the Lord. It was the reverential fear of the Lord that made him stand in awe of Him. He embraced God's Word with great JOY.

David compared His JOY over God's WORD, to one who has fought a long drawn out battle and won the VICTORY. He likened it to one enjoying the treasures of victory. The challenges of daily living should make God's Word even more precious to us. The Word of God is greater than the greatest treasure a person can ever find.

What or who is it that seeks to compete with God's Name and HIS Word? Christ engaged in battle for us. He has given us what is more precious than diamonds, gold or silver...We can enjoy God's Word because the battle has been already won for us. The battle you have as a believer is to contend for TRUTH, and fully understand it. Psalm 119:162 says:

"You have exalted above all things your name and your word."(ESV)

Let nothing stand between you and God's Word today. The enemy desires to corrupt your soul, nevertheless, you must rejoice in the full knowledge and understanding that the battle has already been won. Rejoice and again I say, Rejoice!



Notes



Day 120:

*Surrounded, Fortified,
Covered*

Psalm 125:2

Month

Date

Time

There is nothing that can harm a believer except by the permissive will of God. There is a spiritual picture of how God protects His children in the way the mountains surround Jerusalem. These mountains are symbols of His greatness and strength. They are pictures of how the Lord protects His beloved children. The Psalmist was very aware of the words he put down:

“As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about His people from this time forth and forever. (Psalm 125:2).

Mountains are steadfast and unmovable. Those who trust in the Living God are fortified behind His strong hands, just like the mountains protect and cover Jerusalem. They defend them from every storm and assault of the enemy. There isn't a single day that God does not watch over His children with protective arms. He takes, no “days off.” This is a promise and It is “forever and ever.” (Ps.125:2).

Celebrate the goodness and greatness of God today. Rejoice and again I say, Rejoice!



Notes



Day 121:

*The power and authority
of cruel tyrants shall
come to an end*

Psalm 125:3

Month

Date

Time

There are seasons, and the season of oppression of the enemy is limited by Almighty God. As long as the believer lives in this world, there will continue to be challenges. Ishmael challenged and mocked Isaac, the chosen seed. Even though Assyria laid its sceptre upon Zion, and Egypt's rod was heavy upon Israel, there was a set time for God's judgment to fall upon Assyria and oppressive rod of Egypt to be broken.

The children of God are to pray for the promise of God's judgement upon the wicked:

"Lest the righteous reach out their hands to iniquity..." (Psalm 125:3).

Even though justice seems delayed, the believer must still pray to see God's justice fulfilled. It is God's promise. There is a set time for the "sceptre of wickedness." No weapon formed against the believer shall prosper (Isaiah 54:17). God will not allow the hand of oppression to move His children into sin or take matters into their own hands. He places a limitation on tyranny of the wicked. He breaks the arm of the wicked (Psalm 10:15). He never forsakes the righteous. The rod of the wicked may fall, but it will never "rest" on the lot of the righteous. God's grace is sufficient for the righteous to stand and rejoice even in the midst of their trials.

Celebrate the goodness and greatness of God today. Rejoice and again I say, Rejoice!



Notes

Congratulations!

Dear Reader,

You have now come to the end of the first volume of “Oil for the Journey.” I pray that every day of these one hundred and twenty one days of Bible Readings have been a great encouragement to you. It’s a daily journey.

You must remember, that God never said the journey would be easy, however, He has promised to be with you always, indeed, right to the very end (Matthew 28:20). He wants you to persevere, and fight the good fight of Faith (1 Timothy 6:12). The good thing is that you have not been left, to face the challenges this life brings, on your own. I encourage you to be strong and courageous, God will never leave you or forsake you (Deuteronomy 31:6).

The journey does not end here. Volumes two and three of “Oil for the Journey,” continue, where this volume ends. If you do not have a copy of volume two or three, you can do so, by sending a request by email to:

info@gihonpublishing.com, stating the volume/s you need.

**You may know of someone in need of daily encouragement.
Why not be a blessing and share or give them this volume to read.**

I Pray the velocity of your flame will increase daily,

Wishing you every blessing,

Ruth Dickson.