

Volume 4

A Collection of "Today's Manna"

By Pastor Duane A. Barrett Sr.

> Compiled & Edited by Robert Farmer

Daily Manna For Your Spirit

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Foreword

Daily Manna is a "Heart Felt - Spirit Led" Devotional that is considered easy to read and designed to encourage, uplift and challenge the reader.

You will be refreshed with the Lord's strength and renewed with joy as you learn how to enjoy a life with God through these daily prayers and apply them to your daily lives.

These Compilations of Daily Manna Devotions will inspire you with hope and gratitude as you lay down your cross and listen to God's still small voice while falling in love with Him all over again.

I have known Pastor Duane for years. He is gifted to teach a simple, balanced, uncompromised, Word of God in a manner that all can grasp easily and this would also make this a perfect gift to the loved ones in your life.

Bob Farmer

TODAY'S MANNA

Chapter 1: Do you understand God's Government system?

This is why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. Give everyone what you owe him. If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

Romans 13:6-7 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

This is God's financial budget plan. First your tithe goes to God, 2nd you pay Caesar - what you owe, your bills, this includes your taxes etc. & what is necessary to run government, 3rd what is left is yours for living on. But where would we be without government, order and laws? While we may not like how the system functions today what if we had no system at all?

Can you imagine what society would be like then if the governing authorities are from God and we do not

submit to them, then we are in rebellion unto God. Remember that rebellion is the greatest of all sin! It's what cost Lucifer his position in heaven and caused him to be cast out, to be known for ever more as the evil one, Satan.

Pay authority to the office even if you do not like or agree with the man/woman holding the office. Then next election seek God and vote for candidate that you hear from God to vote for.

If everyone would do the same before voting (instead of voting party lines) then God could put the person in office that He wanted there. If God was able to do this can you imagine how much better our government would be running! Wow!

A Godly government, just imagine that. Remember God has to use man to do His work here on Earth.

MY PRAYER...

am free in You and belong to no man or power. Yet because I want Your name to be respected, I pledge to obey the laws of this land as long as they do not run directly in contradiction to Your will, which is Your Word.

At the same time, I fervently pray that You heal our land, and restore to us devout men, Christian men, as leaders.

Father, I thank You for our current President, a man not afraid to let the world know the he consults in You daily in all that he does. Father, continue to lead and guide him and all of his advisors, that we may lead Godly and peaceable lives in You.

In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 2: Do you want to accelerate your spiritual growth in the fastest possible way?

"Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate you; reprove a wise man, and he will love you. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser; teach a righteous man and he will increase in learning."

Proverbs 9:8-9 The Amplified Bible

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

o you want to accelerate your spiritual growth in the fastest way? Then you need to learn to take correction, from the Spirit of God and through His people when He sends correction through people. Most of us love it when our pastor preaches about something we already know, or about some aspect of life we've already submitted to the Lord in, we think he's a great pastor.

We like him because he makes us feel good. But let that same pastor stand up and begin to preach about something we're doing wrong, or some area that we need to change in or turn over to the Lord for His help and we immediately put up a wall and begin to take offense.

How dare him preach that! There will even be some who will get up and leave while he is yet preaching! How dare them leave, when God is trying to correct them!

They can't take or don't want correction in their walk with God, they are not submitted to God's correction in their lives. We have got to get over that and learn to esteem the gift of the pastor that has been given to us by God and learn to accept the Lord's chastening through him. Or for that matter through any of the leaders the Lord has placed over us.

We need to learn to receive that word of correction or guidance and begin to examine ourselves and ask the Lord; "Is that right? Does that agree with Your Word? Do I need to make some adjustments or changes in this area?"

If any of the answers are yes, then make them and watch your spiritual life begin to flourish even more.

A man once said, "If you think you've already arrived, you really aren't going anywhere anyway."

Remember correction is not rejection, it is direction given unto perfection!

MY PRAYER...

Thank you, Father, for loving me and sending me

Jesus to be my example. I ask, that by Your Holy Spirit,

You help me to live the life that Jesus would have me to

live.

Father help me to allow the 'Teacher' to teach me Your ways and help me Lord to receive correction when correction is due.

Lord I want nothing more than to grow and mature in You more each day. In Jesus' mighty name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 3: Do you speak wholesome words or are you spouting forth polluting, worthless weed talk?

Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Ephesians 4:29-30 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

on't speak corrupt or unwholesome talk (the amplified bible says it this way: "foul, polluting language or worthless talk") to those around you.

Do not gossip as it is polluting talk. But, rather speak words that will be a blessing that will be beneficial to the building of a strong spiritual faith and are fitting for the occasion.

Words that are founded on the "Rock", God's Holy Word. Because Verse 30 starts with "And" I believe it is a condition tied to verse 29 to remind us that to speak evil or corrupt speech does grieve the Holy Spirit. Certainly we do not want to grieve the Holy Spirit, we

want Him at work in our lives at all times.

MY PRAYER...

Deavenly Father, I give You all praise and glory forever. Father, help me to have in me a pure heart, a kind heart, and a heart that is full of Your love, joy, and peace in the Holy Spirit.

That way I can speak pure words, kind words, and words of encouragement and love.

Father, bring those people across my path today that need encouragement, that I may be a blessing to them and glorify You also. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 4: Remember words are seeds that you plant every time you speak!

But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine: that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience;

Titus 2:1-2 New King James Version.

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

od tells us to be sure and watch what we speak, to make sure that what we are speaking is only those things which produce sound doctrine or teaching. To speak only those things which you would want to come to pass in your life.

Remember words are seeds that you plant every time you speak. God's Word and the laws of nature dictate that you will reap what you sow.

Every seed planted will produce after its own kind. Corn produces corn, beans produce beans, unbelief produces unbelief, hate produces hate, evil produces evil, love produces love, faith produces faith.

Make sure what you are planting lines up with the Word

of God and is not the doctrines or teachings of men, or demons, or of some other so-called religion but rather put it to the test and ensure that it fully lines up with His Word.

If it doesn't line up with God's Word don't speak it, throw it out, it is NOT good seed. Even some so-called churches try to propagate their own doctrine instead of God's Word. Don't fall for their doctrines of demons, be sure to rightly discern the Word of God.

God tells us we should be schooled in the things that will produce in us temperate lives, people whose strong faith in God, will produce love and patience in our hearts.

MY PRAYER...

If ather God, I thank You that You have given us Your Holy Word to follow. Word that produces sound doctrine and sound faith when rightly divided by the Spirit of Truth (Your Holy Spirit).

Father, thank You that You have told us through Your Word to beware of those who would deceive us, appearing to be Godly men, but have crept in unawares and bring unsound doctrine and teachings not from Your Word. Help us Father, to be able to discern what is in line with Your Holy Word and what has been tainted

by the doctrines of men.

Help us Father to be able to discern Your sound doctrine from that of the religious crowd, just as Jesus separated it when He was among men.

Father help us to be able to separate the true Godly men from those who try to creep in stealthily.

Father help us through Your Holy Spirit to receive only that which truly is from You that it may produce sound doctrine in our hearts.

I give You all praise and glory forever. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 5: Is your commitment to Jesus and your Faith being tested?

Bo not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.

Hebrews 10:35-36 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

There are always some tough times in life, there will always be trials and tests that we will face! They're inescapable. Jesus said, "But take heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you up to councils; and in the synagogues ye shall be beaten: and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them."

That's when our faith in the Lord and our relationship with Him will be tested! It is one thing to stand in a worship service at church and sing "it is well with my soul", but it is quite another to be able to sing it when you are in stocks and chains in a prison dungeon like

Paul and Silas were.

Or when they auction your house off at the courthouse steps or you've lost a child to some horrendous act of the Devil.

That's when the commitment to your faith must be at its strongest. That's when we must know that we know that we know and can walk in that faith in the Lord. We can't wait until that happens and then try and build our faith.

Our faith can't take a holiday and then us try and travel through the ghettos of hell or we'll never find our way out. So don't throw your faith in Jesus away, or push it aside because you don't think you need it right now.

No, stand on it, always, at all times and declare it to the world. Build up your faith day by day.

MY PRAYER...

Doly and Mighty Father God, today is a good day for me. But I am acutely aware that some of those I love, some of my brothers and sisters are wrestling with and are throwing away their confidence in Your love, mercy, grace, peace, and deliverance.

Please use me, but even more I pray that You use Your Holy Spirit through me to renew their hearts. I pray that

You reveal unto them the errors they have been making.

Reveal unto them the real need for holding on to their faith and confidence in You.

Lord, place Your mighty hand upon their lives and our lives and intervene directly to change the course of events and give us relief through Your rest. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 6: What are we to do when we are in a financial bind and in debt?

Pring the WHOLE TITHE into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.

Malachi 3:10 New International Version

"And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field," Says the LORD of hosts;

Malachi 3:11 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

To you know what we, as Christians, are to do when we are in a financial bind and in debt?

Should we submit to God and give our tithes to Him first? Verse 10 above says that God says: "Test me in this" this is the only place in the Bible where God allows

us to test Him.

The Word of God says that the first fruits of our income belong to the Lord.

Will God be trusted to provide for our needs in a tight financial situation if we tithe when it looks like we can't afford to? Actually you can't afford NOT to tithe —you just don't understand that. Or will you be like the rest of the world and let money rule you? God has NEVER failed to come through for my wife and I NEVER!

The Word of God says if we will put the Kingdom of God and His righteousness first, then He will see that all of our needs are met. (Matthew 6:31-34)

Notice its needs not wants.

Too many Christians claim to know God's Word and yet refuse to tithe. (Shall I name names here? I could!)

Why? They are robbing God and themselves! See verse 11 above! Are they ignorant? Do they want the curse?

Have they let man offend them? Remember the tithe is unto God, NOT to a man or the preacher or the church!

They sit and listen to the Word about tithing and give their 'Amens' and nod their heads that they understand the Word, and yet when it comes time to give their tithe or an offering they often just pass the plate on to next person. I could name names here because God has given me first names of those who claim to know the

Word concerning Tithing and the difference between a Tithe and an Offering and yet they barely give an offering once in a while. But, He wants me to pray for them to get a true Revelation of His Word, not enumerate them publicly.

Giving an offering once in a while is NOT tithing, it is NOT even in-line with His Word. We are supposed to have our tithes and offerings ready to give every time we come into the house of God according to His Word. And besides His Word says to give tithes AND offerings. They are different.

Do you know the difference? A tithe is you move the decimal place one place to left in your check and that amount is a Tithe, and an offering is something you give above and beyond the tithe!

When you do not tithe and you know God's Word says to, you are in disobedience and are rebellious.

You set yourself up for the curse to come in clean house on you.

You tie God's hands and He can NOT do His part (Verse 11 above) because you have NOT done yours!

MY PRAYER...

J ather God, I pray that You would continue to help us

purge ourselves of the I and Me, and show us how to refill with more of Jesus.

Help us, Lord, to lay our cares at Your feet, and to not get caught up in the things of this world, but that we would be doers of your Word. Father, You said in Your word, for us to seek first Your Kingdom and Your righteousness and then You would add all these THINGS (things of the world) unto us.

Help us Lord to understand truly that in our hearts and to learn to bring unto that which is Yours anyway, That in so doing we will be able to receive Your Blessing back in our lives. Help us Lord, to maintain our spiritual well-being first and foremost. I thank You, Father, for Your perfect grace and mercy. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 7: Who are you presenting your bodies and lives to?

Ibeseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and the perfect, will of God.

Romans 12:1-2 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

The Most High God ("Elyown") wants us to give ourselves, our bodies, our lives to Him as a living sacrifice. A sacrifice that He can take and change and mold and make into a vessel that He can use for His work and His purposes.

But He warns us, to be not like the world. He wants us sanctified and set apart unto only Him. He wants us to

Transform Ourselves through His Word (the renewing of your mind). When we have put His Word into our hearts and continuously meditate on His Word instead of the

things of the world, we prove His will.

We will do His will, and it will be holy and acceptable to Him. We will have presented ourselves as a living sacrifice unto Him. He will, for His part, cleanse and make us clean before Him and righteous in His eye, and acceptable for every work to which He sets to do.

MY PRAYER...

Poly Father, help me to present myself unto You for Your service. Give me the power through Your Holy Spirit to overcome this world's ways and the corruption of this earth. To be able to lay aside myself and to pick up the life of the Spirit of Christ.

Help me to be strong, Oh Lord, through Your Holy Spirit that I might be an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to You in every way. Lord take me, change me, mold me, and shape me into what You want me to be.

I give myself unto You from this day forward. I give You all praise, glory and honor forever. In Jesus name, I pray. Amen.

Chapter 8: Do you trust in God to sustain you in life?

The Lord says, "Even to your old age and gray hairs, I am He, I am He who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.

Isaiah 46:4 NIV

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

The you want an awesome promise from God? Hear the Words of the "Great God Jehovah" to the remnant of the house of Israel.

To the children of Abraham who by Faith have become children of the Most High God with the same rights and privileges as the house of Israel.

(That's us Christians folks!) He is telling them; "put your trust in Me, believe in Me, have faith in Me, for it is I who will keep you and carry you, it is I who will rescue you, and it is I who will sustain you, not those graven idols you have been worshiping."

Then in verses 9 & 10 (of Isaiah 46) He tells them this; "Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and

there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:"

He is telling the remnant of the house of Israel to return to Him and He will show them His salvation (the Hebrew word translated here as salvation means: liberty, deliverance, prosperity, saving and salvation: it means all of these).

By the time it got down to the "New Testament", the Great Jehovah had extended that offer to all the rest of the people on Earth (the unbelieving heathen and gentiles of the world, if they would believe in Him and His Son Jesus) as well as just Israel.

Now, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8), He is telling us this same thing today, trust in me and I will deliver you and keep you! Is your source the Lord? Or do you trust in the world, worse yet do you trust in SELF instead of God?

MY PRAYER...

Almighty God, I give You all praise and glory forever.

Lord I thank You that You carry me when I am in times of trouble, that You are always there to rescue me, and that it is You who sustain me when I can no longer

continue.

Lord, now I understand why at times I see two sets of footprints behind me and yet at other times I see only one set.

I used to think that You had left my side, but now I know that when there was only one set, that was when You were carrying me in Your arms and in Your grace.

I thank You Lord that You have never and never will leave me nor forsake me. I put all my trust in You Lord and in Jesus name, I pray. Amen.

Chapter 9: Did you know that God created man (humanity) because He needed someone He could love?

Why Did God Create You?

" Phat we have seen and [ourselves] heard we are also telling you, so that you too may realize and enjoy fellowship as partners and partakers with us.

And [this] fellowship that we have (which is a distinguishing mark of Christians) is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ, the Messiah."

1 John 1:3 The Amplified Bible

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Some people get the idea that God made man so He'd have someone to dominate and control, someone to beat up on.

But God is not a dominator. In fact if you will read Genesis 1:26 you find that God made man to be the dominator.

No, God is LOVE and love needs to give to someone. That's why God made man. He made man (mankind male and female) so He could give His love to them. He made man something really special. God made us in the very image and likeness of Himself.

He made us to have fellowship with Himself, for God loves our fellowship more than anything else.

God could have given His love to the angels, and He did that too. But giving to angels didn't provide Him with total fulfillment.

Why? Because the angels aren't made in His image and likeness, but we are! Angels were created beings to serve a purpose, we were created to be sons and daughters of the 'Most High God'. Enjoy that fact and fellowship with the Father God, The Son Jesus, and with the Holy Spirit!

MY PRAYER...

Abba Father, I will never understand how You could love me so much that You would create me in Your image. Or why You would chose to fellowship with me over the angels of heaven. But one thing I do know, and that is You love me beyond compare.

Please help me to love others as You have loved me. Help me Lord to be what You would have me to be. In Jesus name, I pray. Amen.

Chapter 10: Do you see God as someone looking for a way to condemn you?

God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

John 3:17 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE(s)...

Wow do you view God? Do you see Him as someone looking for a way to condemn you? Do you see Him as an out-of-touch old man who doesn't really know what it's like in our modern world? Do you see Him as too holy to soil himself with the concerns of mere mortals and so has left it up to us to work everything out for ourselves?

Do you see Him as a wrathful judgment & punishment wielding God just waiting for you to mess up? I pray that your answers were No!

No, God is a loving Father, who is Love in its finest form! God chose to enter our world and experience it from the side of mortality. He chose to experience everything that we would, so that He could be our example of how to deal with the circumstances.

God chose to enter our world, not to condemn us, or it, but to redeem us and it. Jesus is the great reminder that it is God's desire that we all be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth in Him.

God doesn't have to judge us, we were judged already in Jesus. Thank God for God!

Thank God for Jesus who was and is God with us, the Word made flesh. Thank God that Jesus (God made flesh) came and paid the price for ALL of humanity's sin once for ALL!

MY PRAYER...

Doly and Heavenly Father, thank You that You live with those who are contrite and repentant and who long for Your presence.

You know we are only mortal, but You love us. You know that we are flawed, but You redeemed us through Jesus.

You know that we are not perfect, but You sent Jesus as the perfect sacrifice to not only save us, but to provide for all that we would ever require.

Thank You that Jesus bore not only my sins, but my sickness, my disease, my poverty, my bondage, my fear, and all else that was not of You.

I thank You that I have been made the righteousness of God, not because of me, but through Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

Through my Lord and Savior I offer my sincerest gratitude and praise and I offer myself a living sacrifice unto You. Amen.

Chapter 11: Are you a doer of the Word or are you one of the deceived?

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.

James 1:22-24 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

nears the Word but doesn't do it, they deceive themselves.

They forget what kind of a person they are. They sit in service on Sunday morning and listen to the sermon and give their "amen and hallelujahs" because it all sounds so good.

Then when they leave and go about their weekly routine they forget everything they just heard on Sunday.

They return to the everyday world and do what everybody else in the world is doing the rest of the week, instead of what the Word says.

I didn't say that, the Word of God did. But, I know some who are like that! I sure see it happening all around me and through-out the church today.

It's obvious they don't have a daily relationship with Jesus or with His Word by their lifestyles.

Don't show up on Sunday morning and punch your time card thinking you have free fire insurance now and then live like the world (the unsaved) does the rest of the week.

It makes you hypocrites and actors one and all. Make it a point to do the Word all the time (24/7) don't just listen to it and let it pass in one ear and out the other like there was nothing in-between. Let it re-new your mind.

MY PRAYER...

Doly Father, help us Lord to not allow Your Word to fall on deaf ears, but Lord give us ears to hear, eyes to see, and a heart to understand with.

Lord, help us to plant Your Word so deep in our hearts that we walk it out without even thinking about it.

Lord, help us to not deceive ourselves and go the way of the world.

In Jesus' name I pray. Amen

Chapter 12: God's desires for us are not hard to discern, His Word is full of His desires and promises for His people!

God has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:8 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

od's desires for us are not hard to discern, His Word is full of His desires and promises for His people. He wants to bless us with salvation (the full meal deal not just eternal life).

The incredible gift of His Son is powerful testimony to this truth. But salvation from sin and death is not something He wants to happen in our lives only once and then be forgotten.

He wants our lives to reflect daily fellowship with Him apart from the world around us. He wants us to step into His throne room, speak with Him, and to meet Him in that secret place for fellowship. He wants us to separate ourselves from the world, and unto Him only.

We should always embrace and pursue His fellowship and His mercy in our relationships, and honor Him with our worship from a humble heart.

MY PRAYER...

Almighty and compassionate Father, as I embrace Your fellowship, help open the eyes of my heart so that I may see what Your heart sees.

Teach me to hate sin, not the person, but to be merciful to the one who is repentant. Teach me to know the truth and to act fairly.

Help me, Oh Lord, to discern between Your ways and the world's ways, that I might unveil the wiles of the devil and make known his temptations.

Through Your Holy Spirit, stir me to repentance and change my heart oh Lord that I might become a vessel worthy of the Master's use daily. In Jesus name, I pray. Amen.

Chapter 13: Have you become one with Jesus through baptism?

JFor ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all ONE in Christ Jesus.

And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Galatians 3:26-29 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

NE! Basic, simple, and easy to understand. When we became Christians through our faith and baptism into Christ, we were made one with all other Christians (Not religious people!) around the world. We became part of a new heavenly family.

Race, gender, nationality, color of skin, and social status are all gone. All that's left is One "The One", Jesus.

We are now the Body of Christ, ONE body. Our lives are His and thus are connected to each other, we are His members here on the earth. Our destination is the same, Heaven. Our family is the same, His church, His Body. No barriers.

No closed doors. We are one in Christ and heirs to the Kingdom of God. But, there is only ONE way to get there and that is through Jesus Christ and Him crucified for you!

There is NO other way - though many would try to deceive you into thinking there are other ways. They are liars and lying is the Devil's middle name.

MY PRAYER...

Abba Father, thank You for adopting me into Your family, for grafting me in.

May we be one on earth now, as we will be when we are all together around Your throne in heaven.

I pray for unity in the Spirit among all those who call upon the Name of Jesus and share Your Spirit so the world may know there is a solution to conflict, strife and division.

Father I pray that we, the body of Christ would unify and stand tall against the darkness in this world.

That we would take our rightful places and walk out Your plan for mankind until the coming of our Lord Jesus.

Through Jesus the Christ, our Lord, Savior, and Righteousness I pray. Amen.

Chapter 14: Did you know that God predestined you before the foundations of the world?

Pour eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed.

And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them.

--Psalm 139: 16 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSES...

ou (we) were chosen and predestined. You didn't happen because some slime formed on a pond somewhere billions of years ago and then crawled out onto the land, became an ape, and then a man. That is pure garbage from the pit of Hell itself!

No, God has a plan and a purpose for your lives and He predestined you before the foundations of the world! He made us in His image and likeness, not an ape's image. We have a calling on our lives people, each and every one of us has a perfect plan that God has predestined for our lives. Pray and fast and seek God and find out what God's perfect plan for your life is!

MY PRAYER...

Precious Father, thank You for making it so easy for me! So easy that You planned the very days of my life before I was.

Father, thank You for providing for my righteousness through Your Son and my Lord Jesus. Thanks Abba Daddy for loving me so much that You laid out my life for me in advance.

Father, I exercise my faith and I accept that which I was not worthy to have, but that which You have freely given me. I accept the plan and purpose that You have for me, help me Lord to understand that plan and purpose for my life.

Thank You Lord for sending me Jesus to show me the way, the only way! In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 15: Are you deceived?

 \mathcal{J}_f we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

--1 John 1:8 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

There isn't a man (or woman) that ever walked the face of the earth that didn't have sin, save the man Jesus Christ Himself. I don't care who you are or that you say you've never sinned.

The Bible says: "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Rom 3:23)

For we were born of Adam's seed, who put mankind into sin, and we deceive ourselves if we say we have no sin or have never sinned. But, God (everybody say, "But, God") in His great mercy saw fit to send His only Son to pay the price for us.

He had to because there was no other way we could be made righteous before Him. His righteous judgment would have demanded our death.

But, Jesus bought us out of sin, sickness, poverty,

depression, bondage and whatever else you might need recovered from with His blood on the cross that great day over 2000 years ago.

We must now walk (be renewed by) in the light of His grace and mercy. Receive what Jesus has already done for you and allow His Word to change and conform you into the image of Him.

MY PRAYER...

Loving Father, thank You for making a way for me where there was no way. Thank You for showing me the sin in my life and making a way for my forgiveness through the blood of Jesus.

Father, help me by the power of Your Holy Spirit to walk and live a sinless life from this day forward.

Change me Lord and renew my mind in You. Help me to know that I have been cleansed with the blood of Jesus and been made righteous before You, through His righteousness. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 16: Do you go to God for your wisdom and revelation or to the world?

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power...

--Eph. 1:17-19 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

ot in OUR power, Not by OUR might, but by HIS Spirit and His power! Notice that Paul is praying and asking for wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of God. He is also asking that your spiritual eyes be opened or enlightened so that you can know what God's plan is for your life.

God already knows and has known since before the foundations of the world, we just need to find out so that we can pursue it and walk it out. We need to be right in the middle of God's perfect will for our lives.

For then and only then will His blessings overtake us.

Do you want God's perfect will in your life? Pray this prayer over yourself and your family daily and then listen as God speaks to you. Remember God may use someone else to speak to you, just be sure you know that it is from God. Listen by your spirit.

MY PRAYER...

recious Father, I know that I was not worthy for You to justify and to plan my life for me. But because You loved us so much You made a plan for my life, You set the days of my life in Your books.

Lord now I ask that those plans be revealed unto me. That I might see Your perfect pathway for my life.

Lord I know that on my own I cannot find it or have the strength to walk in it if I do find it. So please strengthen me by Your Holy Spirit.

I pray Father, that everyone reading this will get a revelation of Jesus Christ and Him crucified for them. That Your plan for their lives will be revealed unto them and that they will pick up their cross and find Your perfect pathway for them. In Jesus name. Amen.

Chapter 17: Who's counsel do you call upon for guidance in your daily life?

LESSED is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

--Psalm 1:1-3 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Isn't it awesome! God lets me choose which sources of information I feed my soul and my spirit man with. Even though He gives me the freedom to choose, He also gives guidance on what I should chose. But with this privilege and freedom also comes a responsibility.

God longs to bless me, but that blessing remains dormant until my heart delights in knowing and doing His will. Dormant, until I seek the Holy Counselor and take Godly counsel, NOT worldly un-Godly counsel. I find His will in His Word through study and meditation, through prayer and through pondering. When I choose

His will and walk in His ways then He will cause all that I put my hand to, to prosper.

He will rebuke the devourer for my sake and He will cause my enemies to flee seven ways. I didn't say that, He did in His Word!

MY PRAYER...

Deavenly Father, Wondrous Creator, just as You fashioned such a beautiful world and put me together in my mother's womb, I also ask that You create in me a desire to know Your truth. I ask that as I study and meditate Your Word You give me the knowledge and insight into how to live that truth.

Father, I ask that the eyes of my understanding be enlightened unto the knowledge of You. I know Your Holy Spirit is in me to help me in this journey, but I want so much to please You and honor You because of all the ways You have blessed me. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 18: Do you follow the Lord Jesus Christ, or some religion/denomination?

It is the Lord your God you must follow, and Him you must revere. Keep His commands and obey Him; serve Him and hold fast to Him.

-- Deuteronomy 13:4 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

o many church denominations in the world want us to follow their lead and obey their voice, to worship and have church their way, to follow their doctrines. But Paul said it best, "Is Christ divided?

"Jesus did not have denominations, the disciples/early church served Him! Jesus served and represents God the Father to us as Christians.

Therefore it should be God's Word, His doctrine we follow and NOT the doctrine of or demons. God has proved Himself faithful and loving through the ages. In His might He is to be revered. But rather than seeing reverence as a "denominational church thing," (i.e.) Baptist or Protestant, or Catholic, or whatever, we are reminded that it is a "life thing." We are to obey and

keep His commandments, and we are to serve Him and depend upon Him in our daily lives.

Reverence is not necessarily silence in the assembly, reverence is action to the leading of His Holy Spirit and to His glory in all that we do and say! Reverence is obeying His commandments and His Word, not some denominational decree or doctrine, unless it is totally in agreement to His Word.

A seminary is really a cemetery if it is teaching incorrect Bible doctrine. If its doctrine will bring death instead of life! Reverence is having a Christ-like walk in our day to day life. Reverence is calling on Him in a time of need and not some priest or even the Pope, God is our source period.

Reverence is spending quality time with our Holy Father, and with Jesus, and with the Holy Spirit in the secret place.

Don't forget to invite the Holy Spirit also! Whatever the Father says, I will do.

MY PRAYER...

Oly and Righteous Father, help me take my worship outside the church building through my body, the temple of the living God, and into my day to day life as I live what I sing, practice what I say, and pursue what I

pray.

Lord help me to be a doer of Your word and not just a hearer.

Lord, help me to show the world around me reverence unto You, My Father in my daily life and all that I do and say. In Jesus name. Amen.

Chapter 19: Do you know that we are a Royal Priesthood according to God?

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God's] own purchased, special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light:

Once you were not a people but now you are God's people: Once you were un-pitied, but now you are pitied and have received mercy.

--1 Peter 2:9-10 Amplified Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Do you know what it means to be a Royal Priesthood? We have been made into a royal priesthood, God has chosen us to be His Holy nation.

We were created to praise Him and now He has called us out of darkness into His Kingdom of light. He wants us to shine forth with that marvelous light that He has given us through Jesus, His only begotten son.

He took a people that were messed up, full of sin, walking around in the darkness that Satan has put forth

and translated us into His Holy Kingdom.

He has placed His Holy calling on our lives to do His will. How many of us will answer His call and be among the chosen?

The chosen of God are those who answer His call. It's our choice, anyone can be called, but will you be chosen? Will you answer the call? Jesus is on the "Main" line!

MY PRAYER...

Precious Father, thank You for calling me into Your marvelous Kingdom and for translating me out of darkness.

Increase in me the knowledge of You, Oh Lord, that I may know the full calling You have placed upon my life. Take me

Lord and do with me what You will, I have chosen to give myself unto You, I have made the choice. I have made the choice that You told us to make.

I have chosen life! (Deut. 30:19) Father take this earthen vessel and mold and shape me, put me into Your fire and burn up that which is not of You.

Oh Lord, change me and make me worthy to do Your

work. Thank You Lord that You have made me a royal priest in Your Holy Kingdom.

In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 20: Did you know that you and I are Kings and Priests according to God?

And has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever.

Amen.

--Revelation 1:6 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

id you hear that, did you get the revelation of what that verse said? He (Jesus) has made us kings and priests unto God! It did NOT say like kings and priests, It said: "And has made us kings and priests to His God and Father."

Praise God, I know the end of the story, we win! We have been made priests unto the Most High God and kings in His Kingdom because of our faith in Jesus Christ and His grace unto us, not by anything else we can do. There are no works of the "Law" that can justify us before God.

Only the Mercy and the Grace of God received through the Blood of Jesus.

MY PRAYER...

Boly Father, I thank You for Your grace unto me.

For taking what I was (useless) and making me a vessel worthy of Your honor and glory.

For changing and rearranging my life into Your way of doing things.

Thank You Lord that You have made me a king and a priest unto You. That I may be an able minister of Your Gospel to all the world.

In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 21: Did you know, the Good Fight of Faith always ends in victory, in triumph?

"Dow thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place."

-- 2 Corinthians 2:14 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

As you fight the good fight of faith today, remember this: Your mind is where the battle will always take place.

Whatever you allow to captivate your mind and your thoughts will rule your life. Will it be the Word of God or the lies of Satan told through the things and people of the world?

The decision is yours. Listen for the 'Still Small Voice' of God, it's usually just a delicate whisper in your inner most being.

If you want God's Word to reign in your life, then make up your mind now to resist the devil, resist the lust of the flesh and the world, and refuse to surrender to the circumstantial pressure Satan brings your way. Decide at the onset that you will not succumb to this trial. Press in to God and stand immovable upon the promises of God's Word.

When thoughts come that are contrary to God's Word and His will, cast them down immediately, don't give them a second thought. And above all, don't worry and fret.

Worrying is meditating on the thoughts Satan has brought your way. When you recognize you are worrying, stop it immediately. Replace worried, fearful, and doubtful thoughts with the Word of God, and meditate on those.

Be assured, Satan will continually try to tell you that your situation is hopeless. He will persistently peddle doubt, defeat, and discouragement. If you don't buy his lies, he can't cause them to come to pass in your life. Remember he is a liar and the father of all lies. You need to remind him of his future!

God has promised that He will always cause you to triumph in Christ. You are guaranteed victory over any adversity you face today, if you face it with Christ. Make up your mind right now to be a winner.

MY PRAYER...

Joly Father God, I thank You for my triumph in and through Christ. I thank You Lord that You have made me the head and not the tail.

I thank You Father that You have said in Your Word that I can do ALL things THROUGH Christ, who strengthens me.

Father, I thank You for making me a winner and a victor in and through Christ Jesus. In the mighty name of Jesus I pray. Amen.

Chapter 22: Do you know that you are seated in Heavenly places with Jesus?

If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

-- Colossians 3:1-3 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Scripture says that if you believe in Jesus and have been baptized into His death that you are also raised up with Him and made to sit in heavenly places with Him (Eph. 2:6)

This is known as a positional truth because it is what God says about us. We need to see ourselves as God does in His positional truths. We should seek those things that are of heaven, those things which will last with us through all eternity.

We should lay up treasures for ourselves in heaven, where they cannot be destroyed or taken by thieves. We need to get our eyes off of ourselves and the things

of this world, the things that distract us from heavenly things, and get them unto Jesus...the Author and the Finisher of our faith. Only He can change our circumstances.

MY PRAYER...

Eternal Father, who was before creation and who is the Great "I AM", help me to sow seeds in my life that will bear eternal fruit.

Help me to see where You have raised me to be seated. Let Your Spirit guide and teach me to sow to the spirit and to avoid those things that are carnal and lead to death and destruction.

Help me to keep my eyes on Jesus, my Author and my Finisher for I know that I cannot accomplish anything on my own, but I need You and Your Holy Spirit to help and to guide me every step of the way.

So Father, I ask You to fill me afresh each day with Your precious Holy Spirit, that indeed I may be endued with power from on High to accomplish that which I cannot myself do for Your Kingdom. In Jesus' mighty name, I pray. Amen.

Chapter 23: Did you know, we are called to participate in the divine nature of God Himself by God?

Phereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

-- 2 Peter 1:4 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

od made us in His Image, His Character and His Holiness, because He wanted us to be as much like Him as we could be.

We were made not just to look like God, but also have His nature and character. We are called to participate in the divine nature of God Himself according to His Word. He has promised that if we have died with Christ in baptism, that we have then been seated in heavenly places with Christ.

That we have then been made more than conquerors. We are assured that we will escape the corruption and destruction destined for the world. His promises are sure, they are eternal, and His Word will never change.

He does not lie nor change His mind, if we will hearken unto His Word and follow it wholeheartedly we shall reap His precious promises!

MY PRAYER...

Almighty God, my Everlasting Fortress, thank You for giving me Your great and precious promises.

Help me Lord to understand them and to walk them out in my life.

Lord, I long to know You more fully and to be able to see Your face today, just as I believe I will one day in heaven.

Thank You for giving me the means to protect myself and my heart from this world's corruption.

Lord, help me through Your Holy Spirit to walk in the spirit and not in the flesh. In all love and appreciation of what You have given me, I pray, in the name of Jesus.

Chapter 24: Did you know that God has told us to put Him in remembrance of His Word?

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

--Philippians 4:6-7 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

od wants to hear our prayers, He's a loving Father and wants to bless His children just as any earthly father would and even more so. But we must present our requests unto Him in prayer. Prayer is nothing more than talking to God!

His word says to put Him in remembrance of His Word. We need to base our prayers on what His Word already says about the situation, what-ever that situation is. We need to be careful not to turn our prayers into a pleading, begging, and request line of what we want God to do for us. But rather into a thanks giving and praise time for what He HAS ALREADY

DONE for us according to His Word. And in all things, always giving praise and thanks unto Him.

MY PRAYER...

You. In the face of trials and hardship in this world I have Your promises to rely on. Your promises that are always Yes and Amen, promises You will never break. In that moment of victory I have You to thank for my abilities, for I of myself can do nothing. But through Jesus, who lives in my heart, all things are possible, if only I will believe. Thank you, Father God, for being so great and yet so loving, for giving me the peace that passes all known understanding when I put my trust in You.

In Jesus' name, I give You all praise, and glory, and honor forever. Amen.

Chapter 25: Did you now that God loves ALL people, everywhere in the World?

Five thanks to the Lord, call on His Name; make known among the nations what He has done and proclaim that His Name is exalted.

-- Isaiah 12:4 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

It is wrong to think God's love for the nations began only with Jesus and the Great Commission.

Remember Jonah's preaching to save Israel's great enemy, Nineveh and the whale? Remember the precious story of Ruth? God loves all people and wants them to come to share in the truth of the knowledge in Him and in His grace.

As Christians, we are His salt and His light. We are here as His great workmen, to touch all the peoples of the world and to share with them The Truth that will set them free. We are to convince them to listen to and believe The Truth of His Word and to repent and turn from their worldly ways unto the Father through Jesus who gave His life for them.

MY PRAYER...

fost Holy God, I give You praise and glory and thanks giving forever. Father I thank You for Your covenant promises made through Jesus for us. Holy Father, stir within our hearts a greater passion to share Your love with the world.

May our lives, our money, and our concerns be used to do more of Your work throughout the world. Father I thank You for

Your protection and care of all those who share the Gospel of Jesus especially in a culture other than their own.

I know that You are not a man that should lie and that what You have promised in Your Word must be true. In Jesus mighty name, I give You praise and glory forever. Amen.

Chapter 26: No man has or ever will walk this earth without sin, except the Man Jesus Christ.

 \mathcal{J}_f we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

-- 1 John 1:8 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

There isn't a man that ever walked the face of the earth that didn't have sin, save the Man Jesus Christ Himself.

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.(Rom 3:23)" For we were born of the first Adam's seed, who put mankind into sin, gave us a sin nature by inheritance, and we have deceived ourselves if we say we have no sin or have never sinned. But, God (everybody say, "But, God") in His great mercy (un-merited favor) saw fit to send His only Son to pay the price for us and for our sin.

He had to because there was no other way we could be made righteous before Him. NO priest, or minister can absolve your sins for you, the Bible says: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1John 1:9) He, God, Jesus will forgive us.

He did not say to go ask the priest to forgive you, he can't, God has to. God's righteous judgment would have demanded our death. But, Jesus bought us out of sin, sickness, disease, poverty, depression, bondage and whatever else you might need recovered from with His blood on the cross that great day over 2000 years ago.

We must now walk (be renewed by) in the light of His grace and mercy. Receive what Jesus has already done for you and allow His Word to change and conform you into the image of Him. Go to God, in the name of Jesus, and ask for His forgiveness.

The Word says, "He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1John 1:9). The priest, or reverend, or Mary, or some other canonized saint can NOT forgive your sin. It is God who forgives, not some man or woman and God alone.

MY PRAYER...

Loving Father, thank You for making a way for me where there was no way. Thank You for showing me the sin in my life and making a way for my forgiveness through the blood of Jesus.

Father, help me by the power of Your Holy Spirit to walk

and live a sinless life from this day forward. Change me Lord and renew my mind in You.

Help me to know that I have been cleansed with the blood of Jesus and been made righteous before You, through His righteousness. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 27: Do you know you have a lawyer that represents you before God the Father?

Ally little children, these things write I to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

-- 1 John 2:1 King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

e are not to sin, but God knows that man is fallible, so He provided a way to be cleansed and made righteous before Him if we did sin (Not that He wants us to). The Word of God is the truth and it says He is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us.

"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14), the Word is alive for evermore.

God provided us with an advocate (a lawyer if you will) (G3875. parakletos, par-ak'-lay-tos; an intercessor, consoler:--advocate, comforter), a mediator to go before God the Father on our behalf. But we must first ask Him for that forgiveness, a heartfelt repentance

(change), not just lip service, He knows our hearts. Then we must allow Him to effect a change in us.

MY PRAYER...

If ather, thank You for giving me an advocate with You, someone I could go to when I need forgiveness. Someone who is not of this flesh that can stand before You on my behalf.

Father, I thank You for Your Son Jesus, whom You gave for me and to me, to be my Lord and Savior.

Thanks Dad that I have a way back into Your righteousness. A way for You to welcome me Home. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

Chapter 28: Does your lifestyle make God appear a Liar?

De who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself: he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son.

--1 John 5:10 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

If you believe in the Son of God the Word says you will have an inner witness within you. That means that you will know from the inside out that you are saved, that Jesus is at work in your life. That you will begin to change and be conformed into His image as He leads and guides you. The worldly and un-Godly ways in your life will begin to disappear.

You won't have to rely on someone else telling you, you'll know beyond the shadow of any doubt that the change is necessary. You'll know that you know, that you know, that you know. Your 'knower' will tell you so!

But if you don't believe what the Word of God says about you, you've made God out to be a liar. I sure wouldn't want to be in those shoes!

MY PRAYER...

Abba Father, Most Holy God, thank You for filling me with Your Spirit. Thank You for that inner witness at times when doubt tries to creep in.

Thank You Father for Your ever present presence in my life. Thank You for knowing me and having a plan for my life to please You.

Help me from this day forward to glorify You in what I do and say. Let Your Holy Spirit lead and guide me in all things, teaching me Your will and Your ways, by being my inner witness.

Help me Father to remove all un-Godly things and ways from my lifestyle and to become God inside minded. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Chapter 29: Have you really received the Grace of God?

JFor the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in the present age, looking for that blessed hope and glorious appearing of the great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

--Titus 2:11-13 New King James Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

In a world that has no absolutes, in a world of failing, decaying moral standards, lost ethics, and just plain degeneration to an animalistic state, salvation by the unmerited grace of God beckons us to change our lifestyle in response to God's grace.

In a world that has digressed to the same state as Sodom and Gomorrah, which God destroyed because of their degenerate homosexual lifestyles?

Anyone who receives grace and refuses to pursue Godly righteousness (refuses to allow the Word to change them) demonstrates his/her ignorance or just their

plain hardness of heart. Have they really received His Grace?

God will give them up to their unrighteousness (He will allow them to do what they want to), before they are destroyed for it along with those of the world who practice homosexuality and other degenerate immoral lifestyles.

That does not mean He approves of it or is a part of it, they make their own choice. In our day, in our time, to be saved means we must also pursue righteousness -- not so that we may earn our salvation, since salvation is the gift of God and not of works, but so that God's saving grace will not be fruitless in us.

It also means we should NOT stand idly by and let the world become an immoral, homosexual cesspool. We need to stand our ground and help keep the moral and civil laws governing us pure and Godly in nature.

Looking to Jesus, who HAS (past tense) redeemed us with His precious blood, making Him the Lord of our life. When Jesus is the Lord of your life you will let

Him lead and guide, change you from the inside out. You will begin walking the talk of a Christian life, not just talking it, but living it every day. Being a Christian means living a lifestyle according to the Word of God. Living like Jesus did! Knowing and understanding "Jesus Christ and Him crucified for us!"

MY PRAYER...

Poly Father, I confess that I live in a confusing time. Satan is always distorting the distinction between right and wrong, good and evil, moral and immoral.

Father, I thank You that You have sent Your Holy Spirit to be our Comforter and our Guide and Teacher. That He will lead us into all truth of You and will expose the lies and deceitfulness of Satan in the world around us. Because You have been so gracious with me, may my life today reflect the righteousness You gave (past tense) me through Jesus.

May the words of my mouth, the thoughts of my heart, and the actions of my life be pleasing in Your sight. That which is not from or of You I denounce in my life. Through my Lord, my Rock, and my Redeemer, Jesus, I pray. Amen.

Chapter 30: Why would you want to humble yourself?

Bumble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

-- James 4:10 New International Version

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY'S VERSE...

Unable yourselves. That sounds ridiculous, why would you want to humble yourself? At least to the world and those that believe "get ahead at all costs" and "don't look back, the competition is gaining on you" it sounds ridiculous.

But, humility is a forgotten virtue, a virtue God highly prizes in His children. Often confused with weakness or timidity; humility is really ALL about knowing your proper place in the spirit realm and in the world without flaunting it. Humility is about kneeling before God and saying "Not my will Lord, but Yours be done." Being humble is NOT being weak or timid or letting people walk all over you. And it's NOT about being poor and doing without so as to appear humble, that's not humble – that's just plain stupid ignorance and being poor, plain and simple. Being humble is about knowing that only God can exalt someone in a permanent way,

so the key is to know your place before Him and let Him put you in the place He chooses for you, to honor Him.

Jesus said, "If any man DESIRE to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all." (Mark 9:35) That's what humble is. If you want to be at the top in the Kingdom of God, then you must first humble yourself before God. You do not want God to have to humble you because you won't humble yourself.

That would be like a boulder falling on you, it would hurt big time!

MY PRAYER...

Abba Father, Most Holy God, thank You for allowing me into Your presence. When I think of all that You have done, the incredible universe You have made and hold together by Your Word and Your Spirit, I am amazed that You would invite me into Your presence and care about my needs. Thank You for knowing me and having a plan for my life to please You.

Help me this day to glorify You in what I do and say. Let Your Holy Spirit lead and guide me in all things, teaching me Your will and Your ways. Lord keep me from pride and teach me to be humble before You. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

About The Author

Pastor Duane was born in Adrian, Michigan in 1950. He was raised in an essentially non-Christian home. But at the age of 7 he was taken to a vacation Salvation Army Bible School by an older cousin. Duane went on to reject the Gospel of Jesus and to live his life apart from God and the Bible until the age of 47 when he gave his life to Jesus.

While at work one day he cried out to God and as he did he was genuinely Born Again and filled with the Holy Spirit. Since then he has prayed for many to be saved, baptized with the Holy Spirit, and healed in their bodies.

Duane studied the Bible for four years in his senior pastor's Bible school, Liberty Bible Institute of Word & Spirit Church in Bremerton, WA. He completed his Bachelors in Church Ministry and his Masters in Biblical Studies from The Sure Foundation Theological Institute and recently completed his PHD in Theology from the Institute.

He is currently the Associate Pastor of Word & Spirit Church in Bremerton, Washington where he assists his senior pastor with the pastoral duties. Duane is gifted to teach a simple, balanced, uncompromised, Word of God in a manner that all can grasp easily. He is

the author of "Unveiling the Mysteries, Christian Truths Concerning the Laws Found in Romans".

He has been on 2 mission trips to Africa with his senior pastor and one mission trip to the Philippines accompanied by his wife Laura of 42 years.