

EAT · BREATHE · & PRAY



JOURNAL

Prioritise your day around God's word and His presence



VOLUME 11

This Journal Belongs To...

'This book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful 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. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for Yahweh your God is with you wherever you go.' Joshua 1:8-9

Welcome

To your Thematic Journey Through The Bible In One Year
Journal!

I'm so excited to be bringing this Eat Breathe & Pray Journal to
you!

You are about to embark on an exciting journey into a much
greater understanding of, and familiarity with the Word of God,
and a deeper awareness of His presence, both with you and in
you.

I've designed this journal to help you prioritise the time You
spend in God's Word and in His presence, as you read through
God's Word in one year; and to help you keep a record of the
focus of your prayer life from day to day, and throughout the
year, so you can see how that focus changes as you spend
more time in His word and in His presence; and begin to co-
labour with Abba Father in prayer.

I love and appreciate you so much!
Be blessed, and be a blessing!

Jenner

Table of Contents

- 7. Welcome
- 8. Table of Contents
- 9. How to Use
- 12. Year at a Glance
- 14. Month in View
- 16. Monthly notes
- 18. Daily Planner /Journal
- 198. Month in View
- 201. Weekly Planner Pages

Undated Planner

This planner has been left undated so that you can start your Thematic Journey Through The Bible In One Year at any time. You can pick up wherever we're at with the live broadcasts, or start from the beginning, and listen along with the recordings.

The year is broken up into 4 quarters of 3 Journals: 31 days, 30 days and 30 days; Journal 12 will have 30 days +1 to make up 365 calendar days.

When starting at the beginning, the date that you start your journey on becomes Day 1 in your journal.

There are five **The Week Of** pages at the end of each journal; these give you the week-in-view on one side and an I Get To Do list on the other, and can be placed at the beginning of each calendar week throughout the journal.

Day 1 – Genesis 1-3

Daily Planner *Satur day: July 19*

You will need to fill in the **Year**-in View and **Month**-in-View based on the Year and month that you start.

Month *July* Year *2026*

Many of the journals will need to incorporate dates from two months, either starting with a few days from the previous month, or ending with days from the next month.

Start your thematic journey through the Bible whenever you are ready!

How To Use

24-Hour Planner

The 24-Hour Day Planner is to help you prioritize your day around spending time in God's Word and in His presence; and to provide a place for you to record the times God calls you to pray with Him, no matter what the time, day or night.

Use your planner to schedule the journal elements you want to include in your day.

Start slowly with as many as you're comfortable with, and build from there.

The more time you spend in God's word and in His presence, the more elements you will want to incorporate into your day.

Prayer Focus

A Prayer Focus is the conversation that is going on throughout the day between your spirit and the Spirit of God. This conversation occurs in the background as we go about our day, but by intentionally bringing that conversation to the forefront of our attention, we start to actively co-labor with Yahweh to pray what is on His heart for that day.

There are two pages at the end of each day to record the focus of your prayers, so that over the year, as you spend more time in God's word and His presence, you can see how the focus of your prayers change from being needs/requests focused to praying from the heart of the Father God.

Bible Reading

This is a daily thematic journey through the Bible in one year. These readings are divided up into seven themed groups; the books of the Law, The books of History, the Psalms, The Books of Poetry, The books of Prophecy, the Gospels, and The Epistles. Read the daily passages from Scripture in your own time or join us online on the Eat Breathe & Pray Journal YouTube Channel, Facebook page, or Podcast.

Memory Verse

There is a memory verse provided for each day; You choose how many you want to memorize. One per week equals 52 verses by the end of the year; one per day will be 364 verses. You choose what works for you.

Bible Study

These Bible studies are not designed to spoon-feed you what we want you to know about the Word of God, but rather to stimulate a hunger for the Word, and encourage you to delve into the study of the Word for yourself. Each Bible study gives you the opportunity to delve deeper into the readings for that day. Please give yourself time to make notes of what Yahweh highlights to you, and to read the verses that are mentioned in each study, as well as researching and answering the questions for each day.

Daily Devotion

Make time for the Devotional when you can still yourself in God's presence and meditate on His word. There are scripture references in each devotion that you will need to look up and read for yourself; these are key verses for gaining understanding in each devotion.

Year At

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S

March

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April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S

June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S

A Glance

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S

Month:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday

Year:

Thursday	Friday	Saturday

My Focus:

[illegible]

This Month

Personal Goals

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Health Goals

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Important Dates

	Important Dates

To Do List

[illegible]

Day 305 – Ecclesiastes 3-4

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*He is no fool who parts with
that which he cannot keep. when he is
sure to be recompensed with that which
he cannot lose.
Philip Henry*

Notes:

Memory Verse:

'There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every matter under heaven. A time to give birth and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to uproot what is planted; a time to kill and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance. A time to throw stones and a time to gather stones; a time to embrace and a time to shun embracing. A time to search and a time to lose; a time to keep and a time to throw away. A time to tear apart and a time to sew together; a time to be silent and a time to speak. A time to love and a time to hate; a time for war and a time for peace.' Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Daily Devotion

"Two are better than one because they have good wages for their labour. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not a second one to lift him up. Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm alone? And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can stand against him. A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart."
Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

This passage is often used in reference to marriage and for good reason, but it is actually speaking about any partnerships in work and life. One person doing anything alone is going to have struggles that they would not if they were working with a partner. This principle goes back to the very beginning when YHWH said, "It is not good for man to be alone" (Genesis 2:18), and continued with Jesus' ministry (Mark 6:7-13; Luke 10:1-3). When we as believers are choosing who we will partner with in any venture in life, we need to remember Paul's advice to the Corinthians (2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1) for two reasons; firstly, if we are unequally yoked we will go off track very easily as one will pull harder than the other; and secondly, because when we have a bond of unity in Christ Jesus, YHWH becomes the third strand in the partnership and that three-stranded cord is not easily torn apart (Ecclesiastes 4:12). Jesus also prayed that we would be one (echad) even as He and the Father are One (John 17:20-23).

Prayer: Abba Father, help me to realise the importance of partnership, and not to try to go it alone; that You have made us to need each other, according to Your design, for You are Echad, three as one, and You have created us in Your Image. Amen.

Bible Study

"Two are better than one because they have good wages for their labour. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not a second one to lift him up. Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm alone? And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can stand against him. A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart. "
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Prayer: Abba Father, help me to realise the importance of partnership, and not to try to go it alone; that You have made us to need each other, according to Your design, for You are Echad, three as one, and You have created us in Your Image. Amen.

Discuss:

Questions:

1. What else are you waiting for, or seeking for, apart from YHWH?
2. How does Mark 10:28-31 apply to Ecclesiastes 3:11-14?

Answers:

[illegible]

date:

Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus

date: _____

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Day 306 – Zephaniah

Daily Planner day:

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I'm not waiting to be noticed - I'm being nurtured by heaven. My name is whispered on sacred places. My heart held in holy hands. The same God who sculpted galaxies is scripting my love story with glory.

Dr. Angela L Hood

Notes:

Memory Verse:

"Therefore wait for Me," declares YHWH, "for the day when I rise up as a witness. Indeed, My judgement is to assemble the nations, to gather kingdoms, to pour on them my indignation, all my burning anger; for all the earth will be devoured by the fire of My zeal. For then I will change them to people with purified lips, that all of them may call on the name of YHWH, to serve Him shoulder to shoulder." Zephaniah 3: thanks 8-9

Daily Devotion

"Sing for joy, O daughter of Zion! Make a loud shout, O Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! YHWH has taken away His judgments against you; He has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, YHWH, is in your midst; you will fear evil no more. "
Zephaniah 3:14-15

The future of Israel is sure. Am Israel chai! Israel lives! We can know this without a doubt, because every prophetic voice in Scripture says the same thing, starting in Genesis and going through to Revelation (Genesis 12:1-3, 15:18-21; Psalm 2:1-6; Jeremiah 29:10-14; Joel 3:16-17; Zephaniah 3:13-20; Revelation 14:1). God has declared it! Israel lives! Am Israel chai!

Prayer: Abba Father, thank You that it is Your plans for Israel that will be fulfilled; the nations may make their plans and meditate upon a vain thing, but it is You who will bring Your good plans for Israel to pass. Teach me Your ways, reveal Your words that You have spoken over Israel to me so that I can co-labour with You in prayer for the people and land of Israel. Not my will, but Yours be done. Amen.

Bible Study

"Be silent before Lord YHWH! For the day of YHWH is near, for YHWH has prepared asacrifice; He has set apart His guests. " Zephaniah 1:7

What is it that you think about when you hear, "The day of YHWH is near"?

"He has set apart His guests"?

For many in the church, it does little to stir them one way or another; they have come to the place where they don't really believe that God will do anything. They have become stagnant in heart (Zephaniah 1:12).

For many others, this conjures images of "the wedding feast of the Lamb" (Revelation 19:7-9), the post-rapture party in the sky where Christians get to hang out with Jesus while God gets on with the job of judging the world and the Jews, before Jesus returns to take His throne (once everything has been swept up and given a nice buff and polish, even if it is by fire.

All nicely sanitized and wrapped in plastic so that we don't have to get our hands dirty). Somehow, we have separated the day of YHWH from the wedding feast of the Lamb, as if they are two distinct events. But what do the Scriptures tell us?

Let's take a look at Zephaniah 1:14-18, and then compare that to Revelation 19:7-19. Zephaniah depicts a very clear picture of the "great day of YHWH", as do many other passages of Scripture. It is a day of distress and destruction (Zephaniah 1:14-18; Isaiah 13:6-9; Joel 3:9-16; Malachi 4:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-3; 2 Peter 3:8-12). Yet when it comes to Revelation 19:7-21, the wedding feast of the Lamb, we have a tendency to focus on verses 7-9 and gloss over the rest. But verses 15-21 are clearly describing a day of distress and destruction. There are three things I want you to see clearly:

First, that the wedding feast of the Lamb and the great and terrible day of YHWH are the same day (Malachi 4:1-6).

Second, that "the bride" and "the armies of heaven" are the same people (Revelation 19:7-8, 14).

Third, the imagery of meeting the Lord in "the clouds" and in "the air", and the armies "in heaven", are the same concept (1 Thessalonians 4:17; Revelation 19:14). The Greek word "ouranos", which is translated as "heaven" in Revelation, literally translates as, "the vaulted expanse of the sky with all things visible in it." This also aligns with the Hebrew word for heaven.

Discussion:

Questions:

1. What misconception has caused us to view the wedding feast of the Lamb and the great and terrible day of YHWH as different things?
2. What can we do to keep from becoming stagnant in spirit?
3. What is the Hebrew word for heaven, and what is the Hebraic understanding of the word?

Answers:

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date:

Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus

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Day 307 – Acts 11-12

Daily Planner day:

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*'But the word of the
Lord continued to grow and to be multiplied.'
Acts 12:24*

Notes:

Memory Verse:

"When Peter came to himself, he said: Now truly I know the the Lord has sent His angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting." Acts 12:11

Daily Devotion

"And behold, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter's side and woke him up, saying, 'Rise up quickly.' And his chains fell off his hands." Acts 12:7

Have you ever had a moment like this with the Lord?
Where He's trying to get your attention, and you're just so oblivious that He
has to give you a bit nudge?
"Hey, wake up!"

Peter is in prison, under guard and in chains, waiting for Herod to put him to death like he had just done to James (Acts 12:1-6). And he's sound asleep. So much so that when an angel appears and a bright light fills the prison cell, Peter doesn't even stir.

Peter wasn't praying, he wasn't crying out to YHWH to save him, he wasn't waiting expectantly for God to move on his behalf. He was asleep, "but prayer for him was being made fervently by the church to God" (Acts 12:5).

Sometimes it's the faith and fervent prayer of others that causes God to move on our behalf and we are so oblivious that He has to do something to wake us up; and even then, we find it hard to believe that God is actually doing it (Luke 5:17-26; Acts 12:8-9, 11-17).

Prayer: Abba Father, thank you for praying friends and family, for praying congregations, who pray fervently on behalf of Your children when we are too far gone to pray or have faith for ourselves. And thank You for the wake-up call and the clear instructions when we need them. Amen.

Bible Study

"And when Peter came up to Jerusalem, those who were circumcised took issue with him, saying, 'You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them.' But Peter began speaking and proceeded to explain to them in orderly sequence, saying..." Acts 11:2-4

How often in the church does a failure to clearly communicate with each other cause offense and resentment to rise up, and in turn cause division?

In this case, Peter gave those who took issue with what he had done a clear, orderly, sequential explanation (Acts 11:5-17). And for their part, they listened carefully and received what He had to say (Acts 11:18). Communication is a two-way street – the onus was not just on Peter to explain clearly what had happened, but it was also on those listening to be willing to actually hear what Peter was saying.

Too often, we are so convinced of our own "rightness" on an issue that we listen only to find points to argue against, rather than listening to really hear what the other is saying.

What was being discussed here was an issue of core belief amongst the Jewish people. YHWH had commanded that the people of Israel were not to intermarry with or make a covenant with the peoples of the nations that He would dispossess before them (Deuteronomy 7:1-6; Numbers 25:1-9). And from this had grown up the Rabbinic tradition that Jews were not to enter the home of a non-Jew, or even eat with them. This had the potential to divide the early church. But a clear and reasoned explanation, and a willingness to truly listen, created the atmosphere where something new and wonderful could arise (Isaiah 1:18).

Discuss:

Questions:

1. Did God tell Peter to do something that was contrary to His Law?
- 2 . What do the Scriptures say about the sojourner living amongst the people of Israel or the foreigner in their midst?

Answers:

[illegible]

date:

Prayer Focus

[illegible]

Prayer Focus

date:

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Day 308 – James 4–5

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*There is no such thing
as a call from God that is not a call
out of the world.
Watchman free
Sit, Walk, Stand & Love/rot the World*

Notes:

Memory Verse:

"Be subject therefore to god. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double minded. Be miserable and mourn and cry. Let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you." James 4:7-10

Daily Devotion

"Therefore be patient, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the soil, being patient about it, until it receives the early and late rains. You too be patient; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand." James 5:7-8

This last part of the book of James is all about patience and perseverance. Wait patiently through tribulation, and God will deal well with you (James 1:12, 4:10-11). Pray earnestly, with faith, until God answers your prayer (James 5:14-15, 17-18). Deal well with one another, not grumbling against one other but praying for each other, submitting ourselves to one another in every circumstance, and leading those who stray back to the truth (James 5:9, 12-14, 19-20).

Why?

Because "the coming of the Lord is at hand" (vs. 8b), and "the Judge is standing right at the door" (vs. 9b).

James, like many of the disciples in Acts, believed that Jesus' return was imminent and he lived his life as if it was. He is exhorting those of the twelve tribes who are dispersed amongst the nations to live their lives in the same way.

Now, more than 2000 years later, we have lost sight of the imminence of Jesus' return and fallen into the trap of becoming stagnant in spirit (Zephaniah 1:12). We are in danger of being caught napping when the Master returns (Mark 13:33-37).

Prayer: Abba Father, wake me up to the signs of the times, open my eyes to see the lateness of the hour, and stir up in me an urgency to be awake and performing the tasks You have set before me when Jesus returns. Amen.

Bible Study

"What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members? You lust and do not have, so you murder. You are envious and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures. You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore, whoever wishes to be a friend of the world sets himself as an enemy of God. Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: 'He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us?'" James 4:1-5

What James is talking about here, John refers to as, "the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the boastful pride of life" (1 John 2:15-17). The dross of world that is to be burned up in the Refiner's fire (Isaiah 1:25; Malachi 3:3; Zechariah 13:9; 1 Corinthians 3:12-15). When we continue to seek after these things, we set ourselves in opposition to God because we are actively sabotaging the work that He is wanting to do in us. And the result is that our prayers, when we ask of Him, are not answered because we are not asking from the place of His presence (John 14:13-15), or according to His will (Psalm 37:3-5; James 4:3). And the result is that God gives us exactly what we desire (Deuteronomy 4:20, 23-24, 26-29; Jeremiah 29:12-14; Matthew 7:7-8; James 4:8-10; Romans 2:24-25, 28).

Dsicuss:

Questions:

1. What is the Scripture that James is quoting in James 4:5?
2. What does it mean, He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us, in the context of the previous verses?
3. What does it mean, He will give you the desires of your heart?

Answers:

[illegible]

date:

Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus

date:

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Day 309 – Deuteronomy 1-4

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*I thank God for the letter
We in 1 Corinthians 1:26: 'For you see your calling,
Brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh,
not many mighty, not many noble, are called'
Otherwise, the verse would read, 'not any noble.'
Selina, Countess of Huntingdon*

Notes:

Memory Verse:

'Then you said to me, 'We have sinned against YHWH: we will indeed go up and fight, just as YHWH our God commanded us.' And every man of you girded on his weapons of war and regarded it as easy to go up into the hill country. And YHWH said to me, 'Say to them, 'Do not go up and do not fight--for I am not among you--so that you are not defeated before your enemies.'" So I spoke to you, but you would not listen. Instead you rebelled against the command of YHWH and acted presumptuously and went into the hill country. And the Amorites who lived in that country came out to meet you and pursued you as bees do and crushed you from Sier to Hormah.' Deuteronomy 1:41-44

Daily Devotion

"And I commanded Joshua at that time, saying, 'Your eyes have seen all that YHWH your God has done to these two kings; so YHWH shall do to all the kingdoms into which you are about to cross. Do not fear them, for YHWH your God is the one fighting for you.'" Deuteronomy 3:21-22

When YHWH stiffened the necks of the Sihon king of Heshbon and Og king of Bashan, it was so that the people of Israel would experience warfare and the victory that comes when YHWH is fighting for them (Deuteronomy 2:30, 3:1-2). The last time the people of Israel had gone up against an enemy, it was in their father's rebellion against the word of YHWH and they were severely defeated (Deuteronomy 1:26-27, 34-36, 41-44). The victories over these two kings were to train them in actual warfare and to build their faith before entering into the land He had promised to their fathers (Psalm 144:1, Judges 7:9-15). When we walk in obedience to God, from the place of His presence, He trains us and encourages our faith so that we can do what He has commanded us to do.

Prayer: Abba Father, thank You that in You I have everything I need for life and godliness; that You are the one who trains me for the good works that You have prepared beforehand that I should walk in them, and that it is You who builds my faith, for You are the author and completer of my faith. Amen.

Bible Study

"It is eleven days' journey from Horeb by way of Mount Seir to Kadesh-Barnea. Now it happened in the fortieth year, on the first day of the eleventh month, Moses spoke to the children of Israel, according to all that YHWH had commanded him to give to them . . . Across the Jordan in the land of Moab, Moses undertook to expound this law, saying . . . "
Deuteronomy 1:2-3,5

A journey of eleven days took the people of Israel forty years
Why didn't YHWH allow the people of Israel to enter the land the next day when they recognised their sin and said they were ready to go in
(Deuteronomy 1:41-44)?

Because YHWH had sworn an oath that these rebellious men would not enter into the land (Deuteronomy 1:26-35).

So why didn't YHWH just destroy them all then and there and allow the rest of the people to enter in?

Because if He destroyed them, He would have to destroy them all, as those who remained were the women, children and elderly. It was the men of military age who had rebelled against YHWH; without them, the rest of the people would not have survived and certainly wouldn't have been able to go up against the military forces of the nations they were to dispossess. In fact, YHWH had intended to do just that, but it was Moses' intercession on behalf of the people that changed His mind (Numbers 14:11-20). For the sake of His great name, YHWH did not destroy them all on the spot, and for the sake of the people, He allowed them to travel through the wilderness for forty years until a new generation of men had grown up to the age of military service (Numbers 14:26-31).

For some things there is an appointed time; and if, in our rebellion, we miss that appointed time, we run the risk of missing out on what YHWH has promised and YHWH will raise up another (Esther 4:13-14; Psalm 95:6-11; 2 Corinthians 6:1-2; Hebrews 3:15-4:7).

Discuss:

Question:

1. What was another appointed time that many of the people of Israel missed?

Answer:

[illegible]

date:

Prayer Focus

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[illegible]

Day 310 – 2 Chronicles 33–36

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*Pray; and as you pray surrender; and as
you surrender, believe.*

A.W. Tozer

Notes:

Memory Verse:

then YHWH spoke to Manasseh and his people, but they paid no attention. Therefore YHWH brought the commanders of the army of the king of Assyria against them, and they captured Manasseh with hooks, bound him with bronze chains, and took him to Babylon. And when he was in distress, he entreated YHWH his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers. Then he prayed to Him, and He was moved by his entreaty and heard his supplication, and returned him back to Jerusalem to his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that YHWH was God.' 2 Chronicles 33:10-14

Daily Devotion

"Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia—in order to complete the word of YHWH by the mouth of Jeremiah—YHWH stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he had a proclamation pass throughout his kingdom, and also put it in writing, saying, 'Thus says Cyrus king of Persia, YHWH, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and He has appointed me to build Him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all His people, may YHWH his God be with him, and let him go up!'" 2 Chronicles 36:22-23

There are times when YHWH raises up someone to change the course of a nation. We see this again and again in the book of Judges with Gideon, Sampson and Deborah (Judges 4:4-7, 6:11-14, 13:1-5). And sometimes that person is from another nation. YHWH raised up Cyrus, king of Persia to restore the temple in Jerusalem and to restore the people of Israel to their land. Cyrus knew that it was YHWH who had given him success, he knew that he was appointed for a specific task, and he knew that he needed to call the people of YHWH to action (2 Chronicles 36:23). There are many people throughout history who have affected the people and the nation of Israel, for good or for harm (Job 12:23; Psalm 75:7; Daniel 2:21). The promise that YHWH made to Abram continues to remain true even to this day, I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you (Genesis 12:1-3).

Prayer: Abba Father, thank You that it is You who raise up kings and brings them down, who makes nations great and destroys them. The nations can rage against You and Your anointed but it is You who will establish Your King in Jerusalem. Amen.

Bible Study

"And YHWH, the God of their fathers, sent word to them again and again by the hand of His messengers, because He had compassion on His people and on His habitation; but they continually mocked the messengers of God, despised His words and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of YHWH arose against his people, until there was no remedy. " 2 Chronicles 36:15-16

"Behold then the kindness and severity of God" (Romans 11:22a).
YHWH never gave up on His people; over and over He sent word to them because of His compassion for them, "until there was no remedy".

What a tragic place to come to.

The Scriptures tell us that God is slow to anger and abounding in loving kindness, but He will not let the guilty go unpunished (Exodus 34:6-7; Psalm 103:6-14; Nahum 1:3). And that His compassions do not fail (Lamentations 3:22-23).

YHWH's delay in bringing His judgment on His people is always for our benefit; but when the time comes, when mankind has hardened their hearts and stopped up their ears, and will no longer listen to instruction, then His judgment will come quickly and all that He has spoken through His messengers the prophets will come to pass (Ecclesiastes 8:11; 2 Peter 3:9).

Discuss:

Question:

1. Do YHWH's compassions come to an end once "there is no remedy"?

Answer:

[illegible]

date:

Prayer Focus

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Day 311 – Psalms 128–130

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*The true Christian
loves his Savior with his whole heart and
wants nothing to do with the sin that
nailed his Redeemer to the cross.
Kirk Cameron*

Notes:

Memory Verse:

waits for the Lord more than the watchmen for the morning, the watchmen for the morning. O Israel, wait for YHWH: for with YHWH there is lovingkindness, and with Him is abundant redemption. And it is He who will redeem Israel from all his iniquities." Psalm 130:5-8

Daily Devotion

"May YHWH bless you from Zion, that you may see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life. Indeed, may you see your children's children. Peace be upon Israel!" Psalm 128:5-6

The greatest blessing we can receive is to see the blessing of Israel, to be there to see YHWH establish Jerusalem as a praise in all the earth (Isaiah 62:6-12, 52:7-10, 2:1-3). Why? Because in Israel's blessing we are blessed, in the fulfilment of YHWH's promises to Israel, our own promises are fulfilled (Genesis 12:1-3, 22:18; Malachi 3:12; Galatians 3:6-9). To be there when YHWH establishes Israel as a praise in all the earth will be to be there at the fulfilment and culmination of the promises and prophecies of Scripture, to rejoice with the bridegroom and the bride. The promises and prophecies to the church are not separate from or different from the promises to Israel and Jerusalem, they are one just as we are one (Galatians 3:26-29; Ephesians 2:11-14).

Prayer: Abba Father, thank You that the blessing of the church and the body of Messiah are inseparably bound up with the blessing of Israel, that we have been grafted in to the promises to Israel, becoming sons of Abraham by faith, and without them we have nothing. Amen.

Bible Study

How blessed is everyone who fears YHWH, who walks in His ways. When you shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands, how blessed will you be and how well will it be for you. " Psalm 128:1-2

This promise is seen throughout Scripture: "Walk in My ways and it will go well with you" (Deuteronomy 6:3, 12:28; Jeremiah 7:23). YHWH's plan and purpose for us is good, and all His promises are yes and Amen (Jeremiah 29:11; 2 Corinthians 1:20).

And yet, over and over we see in Scripture and in our own lives that we choose to walk in our own ways (Jeremiah 7:24, 6:16).

YHWH has shown us the way that we should walk, but we need to humble ourselves to walk in it (Micah 6:8; James 4:6-10).

We have these amazing promises from God to prosper us, to give us a future, and then it will be well with us; and yet, we are not willing to walk in His ways in order to receive those promises (Deuteronomy 30:8-16).

Discuss:

Questions:

1. Can we walk in our own ways and still expect the blessing of YHWH?
2. What does it mean to walk humbly with your God?

Answers:

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date:

Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus date:

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Day 312 – Ecclesiastes 5–6

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*'One day you will have to
give an account of what you did with that
(God's) calling. Obedience to God's call will
bring blessing and satisfaction to your life.'
Kenneth E. Hagin*

Notes:

Memory Verse:

Here is what I have seen to be good, which is beautiful to eat, to drink, and to see good in all one's labour in which he labours under the sun during the few days of his life which God has given him for this is his portion. Furthermore, as for every man to whom God has given riches and wealth, He has also empowered him to eat from them and to take up his portion and be glad in his labour: this is the gift of God.' Ecclesiastes 5:18-19

Daily Devotion

"Guard your steps as you go to the house of God and draw near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools; for they do not know they are doing evil." Ecclesiastes 5:1

How often do we come into YHWH's presence just to listen? For most of us, we are drawn into His presence when we are in need or are searching for an answer or guidance, and invariably we come with our heart and our mind running around in circles and raging at God, believing that to get our request across to God we need to ask loudly and often. Yes, we are to make our requests known to God, but how we do that is of utmost importance (Matthew 6:31-33; Mark 11:24; Philippians 4:4-7; 1 John 5:14-15). Let's make a practice of entering into YHWH's presence to be silent and listen on a regular basis through out our days (Psalm 46:8-11). Verse ten of Psalm forty six is written as, "Cease striving and know that I am God." The word striving is not in the original but is added to give the sentence context, the literal translation is 'cease and be silent' so this verse could be rendered "Cease striving, be silent and know that I am God."

Prayer: Abba Father, thank You for Your patience with me when I come bursting into Your presence with my many words, pouring out to You the turmoil of my heart; help me to learn to enter Your presence rejoicing in You, anxious for nothing, and with a listening heart. Amen.

Bible Study

"He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves abundance with its produce. This too is vanity. When good things increase, those who consume them increase. So what is the success to their masters except to look on with their eyes? The sleep of the labouring man is sweet, whether he eats little or much; but the satisfaction of the rich man does not allow him to sleep." Ecclesiastes 5:10-12

Let's start by clarifying what the Scriptures are NOT saying: The Scriptures do not say that money is evil; they do not say that attaining wealth is evil, or reserved for those who do not serve YHWH; they do not say that those who serve YHWH cannot have nice things. The Scriptures do tell us that one of the attributes and personifications of YHWH is wisdom, that if we lack wisdom, we are to ask the Father and it will be given freely, and that "By wisdom a house is built, and by discernment it is firmly established; And by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant things" (Proverbs 8:22-30; James 1:5; Proverbs 24:3-4). They also tell us that it is YHWH who teaches us how to get wealth (Deuteronomy 8:18). 1 Timothy 6:10 is one of those verses that is misquoted so often that its true meaning has been as a result.

The first and most popular misquote being: "MONEY is the root of ALL evil." The second, and almost as damaging is: "The love of money is the root of ALL evil."

Neither of these statements are true, but they have been the source of many belief systems that still permeate the church, and attitudes toward the church, today.

It is the love of money that the Scriptures speak about, and this can afflict both the wealthy and the poor alike. We are not to allow money to become our master, or an idol (Ecclesiastes 6:1-2; Matthew 6:19-24; 1 Timothy 6:10; Hebrews 13:5).

The love of money will never be satisfied, but those who seek after YHWH will be satisfied with good (Psalm 17:15, 22:26, 37:3-4, 90:14; Proverbs 19:23; Isaiah 58:11; Jeremiah 31:25; Matthew 6:33; Philippians 4:11-13, 19).

Dicuss:

Question:

1. What does 1 Timothy 6:10 actually teach us?

Answer:

[illegible]

date:

Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus

date:

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Day 313 – Haggai

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*'It's only because He
(Jesus) became like us that we can become
like Him.'
Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

Notes:

Memory Verse:

"But now, be strong, Zerubbabel," declares YHWH, "be strong also, Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and all you people of the land, be strong," declares YHWH, "and work; for I am with you," declares YHWH of hosts. "As for the promise which I cut with you when you came out of Egypt, My Spirit is standing in your midst; do not fear!" Haggai 2:4-5

Daily Devotion

"Is the seed still in the barn? Even including the vine, the fig tree, the pomegranate, and the olive tree, it has not borne fruit. Yet from this day on I will bless you."

Haggai 2:19

There are times when we are waiting on the fulfillment of a word or promise that YHWH has given us, and it can seem like we're working and doing what God has called us to do but we're just not seeing the fruit of it. It can be disheartening, and the temptation to quit can be strong. But we are called to persevere, to have enough oil in our flasks to keep filling our lamps until the Bridegroom comes. YHWH says that He will bless us, that He will prosper the work of our hands. Just because we can't see the fruit yet does not mean it's not there. Jesus said that the righteous will be unaware of the good works that they have done (Matthew 25:34-40).

What is the fruit that you're looking for? Is it the fruit of your own effort or the fruit of the Spirit (Matthew 7:15-23; Galatians 5:16-26; 1 Corinthians 3:6-9)?

Prayer: Abba Father, thank You that it is You who brings the increase. Help me to walk in obedience to You, my heart wholly dedicated to You, knowing that it is You who will prosper the work of my hands, it is You who will bring the increase, that You strongly support those whose hearts are wholly Yours.

Amen.

Bible Study

*"So now, thus says YHWH of hosts, 'Set your heart to consider your ways!'"
Haggai 1:5*

The book of Haggai is made up of four words that come to Haggai for the leaders and the people of Israel who have returned to the land. The first three words have a clear theme running through them, "set your heart to consider". This phrase appears five times: twice in the first word (Haggai 1:5, 7), three times in the third word (Haggai 2:15, 18), and in the second word there is a call to consider (Haggai 2:3).

The first word is a call to action: They are called to consider their ways, to recognise that the reason they are not finding the blessing and prosperity they are looking for is because they have neglected the house of YHWH (Haggai 1:2-4, 6, 9).

The second word is a call to step up, to hone their skills. They are called to consider the quality of their work; told to take a good look at the work they are doing on the temple, and compare that with the glory of the first temple. It is an exhortation to work to the best of their ability for YHWH is with them and His Spirit is in their midst, and YHWH Himself will fill the temple with gold and silver and the desirable things of all nations (Haggai 2:3-9).

The third word is a call to return: The people are doing the work; they have completed the foundation of the temple, but their hearts have still not yet returned to YHWH. And so the people are unclean, the work of their hands is unclean, and all that they bring near to Him is unclean. This a plea from the heart of the Father. He doesn't reject the people because they are unclean and He doesn't reject the work of their hands. He reaches out to them in compassion and says, "Yet from this day on I will bless you." (Haggai 2:14-19)

The fourth word is a declaration that YHWH has chosen Zerubbabel (Haggai 2:20-23).

Discuss:

Questions:

1. How would you compare the words of Haggai with the parables of Jesus?
2. How is the gospel of the kingdom reflected in the book of Haggai?

Answers:

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Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus

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Day 314 – Acts 13–14

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*God often hides His
blessing in trouble or trial, which makes it
all the sweeter when it
comes our way.
AWTozer*

Notes:

Memory Verse

'Brothers, sons of Abraham's family, and those among you who fear God, to us the word of this salvation was sent. For those who live in Jerusalem, and their rulers, recognizing neither Him nor the utterances of the prophets which are read every Sabbath, fulfilled them by condemning Him, and when they had finished all that was written concerning Him they took Him down from the tree and laid Him in a tomb. But God raised Him from the dead.' Acts

13:26-30

Daily Devotion

"And while they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, 'Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.' " Acts 13:2

Do you have a work the YHWH has called you to do?

Many people in the church feel called to a specific work, but are waiting to be set apart for that work by the church.... and they're feeling frustrated.

They feel that their calling is not being recognised; they become offended, and blame the church and the leadership for their lack of discernment. But here's the thing...

Paul and Barnabas had been doing the work that YHWH had called them to for many years before the Holy Spirit told the church to set them apart for that work. They would have continued in that work even if they were not set apart by the church.

The setting apart of Saul and Barnabas was not for their benefit or recognition as workers. It was for the sake of the church that they officially recognised that YHWH God was doing a work amongst the Gentiles (Acts 11:1-18, 13:44-49).

If YHWH is calling you to a specific work, get out there and do it, find a way.

If that work needs to be recognised by the church, it will be...at the appropriate time.

Prayer: Abba Father, help me not to seek either the recognition or permission of others before I set my hand to do the work that You have called me to. Let me be like Jesus, being about the Father's business at all times. Amen.

Bible Study

"Therefore they spent a long time there speaking boldly with reliance upon the Lord, who was testifying to the word of His grace, granting that signs and wonders be done through their hands." Acts 14:3

What we are seeing here in Acts 14 is the outworking of the prayer of the Apostles in Acts chapter 4 (Acts 4:29-30).

There were three things that they prayed for:

- *The ability to speak God's word with all confidence.

- *While YHWH extended His hand to heal,

- *And signs and wonders happened in the name of Jesus.

This is a prayer that YHWH is only too happy to answer (Acts 4:31, 14:3).

It's interesting to note that this prayer was not prayed lightly, it was prayed earnestly, in response to persecution and threats; and that the answer to the prayer came in the form of the place they were in being shaken and the disciples being filled with the Holy Spirit...again (Acts 2:1-4)!

In both Acts Chapter 2 and Acts Chapter 4, the result of the disciples being filled with the Holy Spirit was that they spoke word of God with boldness (Acts 2:4-12, 14-43, 4:31, 14:3).

Discuss:

Questions:

1. Is boldness a sign of being filled with the Spirit?
2. What are some OT examples of this sign of being filled with the Spirit?

Answers:

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date:

Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus

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Day 315 – 1 Peter 1-3

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*Forgiveness is an act
of the will. And the will
can function regardless of the temperature of
the heart.*
Corrie Ten Boom

Notes:

Memory Verse:

'for you have been born again not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, that is, through the living and enduring word of God. For, 'All flesh is like grass, and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls off, but the word of YHWH endures forever.' And this is the word that was proclaimed to you as good news.' 1 Peter 1:23-25

Daily Devotion

"Like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation, if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord." 1 Peter 2:2-3

What an interesting statement! This is one of those verses that we remember and quote the first part of, but tend to ignore the rest. However, it's the last two statements that are particularly fascinating:

"So that by it you may grow in respect to salvation"

How can we grow in salvation? Don't you just pray the prayer and it's done? I get the idea of growing in faith, or growing in power, but what does it mean to grow in respect to salvation?

The Scriptures tell us that we can be saved (Acts 2:21, 16:31; 2 Timothy 1:9), that we are being saved (Philippians 2:12-13, Hebrews 3:14), and that we will be saved if we

persevere to the end (Matthew 24:9-14).

So, what does it mean to "have tasted the kindness of the Lord"?

This idea is explained in the parable of the sower (Matthew 13:20-23). We see this idea in Hebrews also (Hebrews 6:4-8). To have tasted the kindness of the Lord is what we now think of as the 'act' of salvation, or being born again. So, 1 Peter 2:2-3 could read, "If you have been saved, then long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you will grow in salvation."

In the natural we are born, and then as we mature we are moving continually towards death and destruction, but in the Spirit we are born again (saved) and then as we mature or grow in salvation, we are moving towards life and salvation.

Prayer: Abba Father, cause me to grow in respect to salvation, as I hunger for Your word, and work out my salvation with fear and trembling. Give me the faith and courage to persevere to the end. Amen.

Bible Study

"And who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed. And do not fear their fear, and do not be troubled, but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and fear, having a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who disparage your good conduct in Christ will be put to shame." 1 Peter 3:13-16

Although this is four verses it is actually just two sentences; jam packed sentences that could probably have a whole book written about them; but nonetheless we will try to unpack them together.

"And who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good" (2 Kings 6:15-17; 1 John 4:4; Romans 8:31)?

"But even if you suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed" (Matthew 5:11-12, 10:16-22; Romans 8:32-39; Philippians 1:29; James 1:2-4; 1 Peter 2:21-25).

"And do not fear their fear, and do not be troubled, but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts" (Isaiah 8:12; Psalm 42:5; Matthew 24:6; John 14:1, 27, 16:33).

"always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and fear" (Mark 13:9-11; Ephesians 4:14-15; 2 Timothy 2:15).

"having a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who disparage your good conduct will be put to shame" (Philippians 2:14-15; Titus 2:7-8).

Discuss:

Question:

1. The temptation is to expand on what is written in these verses, but how would you summarize this passage?

Answer:

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Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus

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Day 316 – Deuteronomy 5-9

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*'Behold, bless YHWH,
all you slaves of YHWH, who stand in
the house of YHWH by night! Lift up
your hands to the sanctuary and bless
YHWH. May YHWH bless you from Zion,
who made heaven and earth.' Psalm 134*

Notes:

Memory Verse:

'Hear, O Israel! YHWH your God. YHWH is one! You shall love YHWH your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall speak of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as phylacteries between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gate.' Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Daily Devotion

"Do not say in your heart when YHWH your God has driven them out before you, saying, 'Because of my righteousness YHWH has brought me in to possess this land,' but it is because of the wickedness of these nations that YHWH is dispossessing them before you." Deuteronomy 9:4

It can be very, and I mean VERY, easy to slip from being the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus into a state of self-righteousness, and it makes absolutely no difference how subtle the shift may be. We must be ever vigilant over our hearts and minds to remember that no amount of blessing, whether material, financial, spiritual revelation, children or grandchildren, or any other thing, is an endorsement of our goodness before God (Deuteronomy 8:11-14; Job 1:1-5; Proverbs 4:23). It is Christ, and Christ alone, Who justifies us before the Father (Isaiah 64:6; John 14:6).

Prayer: Abba Father, help me to understand that my righteousness is not my own, but also teach me how to lean into Your righteousness fully, pressing into You every moment and every day, until I see You face to face. Amen.

Bible Study

"You shall know therefore that YHWH your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness to a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments; but repays those who hate Him to their faces, to make them perish; He will not delay with him who hates Him, He will repay him to his face. " Deuteronomy 7:9-10

How awesome is the lovingkindness of YHWH to those who love Him and keep His commandments! Not only is it to a thousand generations, but it is complete and full to overflowing in every aspect of life (Deuteronomy 7:11-14a). How often do we recognise that we have been grafted in to these promises? That this exceedingly great blessing is for us and our children and children's children to a thousand generations, if we love YHWH and keep His commandments (John 14:15). Too few of us in the church are able to receive the abundant blessing of YHWH that He promised to those who love Him and keep His commandments because we believe we have to work to earn YHWH's blessing in the natural, that the only blessings YHWH wants to pour out on His church are spiritual blessings. But this just doesn't add up with Scripture. YHWH states clearly that He is the one who teaches us to make wealth so that He may confirm His promise (Deuteronomy 8:18).

Discuss:

Questions:

1. What are the two conditions for us to be able to receive the blessing of YHWH both in the natural and the spiritual?
2. Why are keeping YHWH's commandments important?

Answers:

[illegible]

date:

Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus date:

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Day 317 – Ezra 1–5

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*The highest service
which a man may obtain on earth is to
preach the law of God.
John Wycliffe*

Notes:

Memory Verse:

"Thus says Cyrus king of Persia, YHWH, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and He has appointed me to build Him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all His people, may his God be with Him! Let him go up to Jerusalem which is in Judah and rebuild the house of YHWH, the God of Israel. He is the God who is in Jerusalem. So everyone who remains, at whatever place he may sojourn, let the men of that place support him with silver and gold, with goods and cattle, together with a freewill offering for the house of God which is in Jerusalem." Ezra 1:2-4

Daily Devotion

"Now let it be known to the king, that if that city is rebuilt and the walls are completed, they will not give tribute, custom or toll, and it will damage the revenue of the kings. Now because we are in the service of the palace, and it is not fitting for us to see the king's dishonour, therefore we have sent and made known to the king, that a search be made in the record books and come to know that that city is a rebellious city and damaging to kings and provinces, and that they have incited revolt within it in past days; therefore that city was laid waste." Ezra 4:13-15

It's interesting that this accusation is sent to Artaxerxes after the enemies of Judah and Benjamin attempted to "assist" in rebuilding the temple, but were rejected. It is not specifically highlighted in Scripture but there appears to be some prayer and/or discernment going on in the background, because their enemies' apparently sincere request to help is not received and they are told "you have nothing in common with us" (Ezra 4:2-3).

It's also interesting that Artaxerxes' order to search the historical record is based on true information, but only partially so; Jerusalem was a city of powerful kings and had a history of violence and controversy (Ezra 4:19-21) and the work is ordered to cease. It isn't until the second year of king Darius' reign that a second records search, this time looking for Cyrus' original edict instead of the history of Jerusalem and Judah, is ordered (Ezra 5:17). We must always remember that God's plans and purposes can never be thwarted. It may look that way for a time but that's exactly the point - we still live inside of time - but He is not bound by anyone or anything (Isaiah 55:11; Matthew 19:26; Galatians 6:9).

Prayer: *Abba Father, help me to walk by faith at ALL times, even in the waiting, even when it looks like I'm losing ground and there's no visible evidence at all to support Your promises to me. Amen.*

Bible Study

"And the prophets, Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo, prophesied to the Jews who were in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel, who was over them. Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and Jeshuah the son of Jozadak arose and began to rebuild the house of God which is in Jerusalem; and the prophets of God were with them supporting them. " Ezra 5:1-2

The people of YHWH, by the decree of Cyrus king of Persia, have returned to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple of YHWH (Ezra 1:1-6). And as with any work of the Lord, they start out well but then the enemies of YHWH and His people get wind of what they're doing and they strive to stop the work of YHWH (Ezra 2:1, 3:3-4 & 10, 4:1, 4-5 & 24-5:2). But the prophets of God were supporting them, and so they were encouraged to continue the work (Ezra 5:2). The work of the prophet is to encourage the people to do the work of YHWH, and the way that they do that is through:

Rebuke - making the people of God aware of their sin (Haggai 1:1-7, 9-11).

Command - letting the people of God know what they should be investing their time and energy in (Haggai 1:8, 2:1-4).

Promise - reminding the people of YHWH's promises that He has made to them in the past, and His future promises (Haggai 2:5-9, 20-23).

Discuss:

Questions:

1. How is the role of the prophets import to the work of YHWH?
2. How is a rebuke an encouragement?
3. Is it right to go against the law of the land to obey the word of God?

Answers:

[illegible]

date:

Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus

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Day 318 – Psalms 131-133

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*'We don't seek God's
power, we seek His presence. His power &
everything else we need is always found in
His presence.'
John Wimber*

Notes:

Memory Verse:

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity! It is like the good oil upon the head, coming down upon the beard, Aaron's beard, coming down upon the edge of his robes, it is like the dew of Hermon coming down upon the mountains of Zion for there, YHWH commanded the blessing--life forever." Psalm 133:1-3

Daily Devotion

"Surely I have soothed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with his mother, like a weaned child is my soul within me. O Israel, wait for YHWH from now until forever." Psalm 131:2-3

What an amazingly beautiful and serene this picture is! We're so aware of God as our Father that sometimes we forget that He Mothers us as well.

Tenderness, nurture, and instruction are just as important as discipline, provision, and protection; and all come from Him (Genesis 1:27; Deuteronomy 31:8; Psalm 23:1-3; Proverbs 30:5, 31:1-2; Isaiah 40:11; Matthew 23:37). This kind of peace is so much more than any superficial absence of activity could ever hope to be. It is a peace that radiates from the very core of our being, it is rooted and grounded in our relationship and communion with Him, and its quality, power and purity are so magnificent that it defies description (John 14:27; Philippians 4:7).

Prayer: Abba Father, I want to know You as my Father and as my Mother. You are my all in all and I want to know You fully, and to see myself clearly in Your eyes, to know thoroughly that only Your opinion of me matters. Amen.

Bible Study

"Behold we heard of it on Ephrathah, we found it in the fields of Jaar. Let us come into His dwelling place; let us worship at the footstool of His feet. Arise, O YHWH, to Your resting place, You and the ark of Your strength. Let Your priests be clothed with righteousness, and let your holy ones sing for joy. " Psalm 132:6-9

This is the cry of the heart of those who love YHWH, in Israel and around the world. This is what Zionism is all about. The people of Israel coming back to the place where YHWH has chosen to dwell, the place He has chosen for His resting place, to dwell in the midst of His people there. Zion is Jerusalem and YHWH is jealous for her (Psalm 132:13-18; Zechariah 1:16-17, 2:10-12, 8:1-3).

Discuss:

Questions:

1. According to Scripture, are the Jews going to join themselves to the church?
2. According to Scripture, are we going to go live with God in the clouds?

Answers:

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Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus

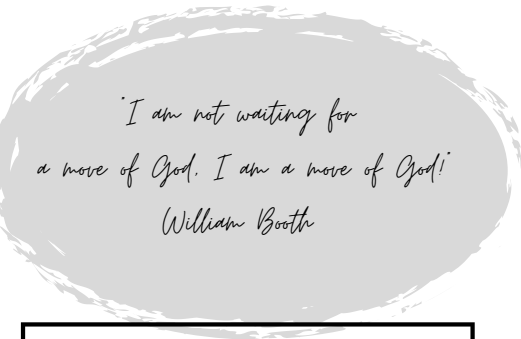
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Day 319 – Ecclesiastes 7–8

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Notes:

Memory Verse:

'I say, 'Keep the command of the king because of the sworn oath before God. Do not be in a hurry to go from his presence. Do not stand in an evil matter, for he will do whatever he pleases.' Since the word of the king is powerful, who will say to him, 'What are you doing?' He who keeps a royal command experiences no evil thing, for a wise heart knows the proper time and custom.' Ecclesiastes 8:2-5

Daily Devotion

"Although a sinner does evil a hundred times and may prolong his life, still I know that it will be well for those who fear God, who fear Him openly. "
Ecclesiastes 8:12

I remember my mother asking me, "If everybody else jumped off a bridge, would you jump off too?" I was too young at the time to fully understand the concept of peer pressure or the dynamics of a mob mentality, but the question still stands and the answer has never been more important. The decisions we make today, the thoughts we entertain and the words we speak and the things we do, are the ONLY things in life we can control. Let's choose to remain steadfast in His righteousness, refusing to be enticed by sin no matter how widespread or popular it becomes (Psalm 1:1-6; Proverbs 1:10-15; Galatians 6:9; Hebrews 11:13-16). And to do so openly and make our voice heard.

Prayer: Abba Father, help me to live a life that cultivates Your favor, that stands strong and immovable in the face of temptation, that leans into Your Spirit at all times and takes refuge in You and You alone! Amen.

Bible Study

"Wisdom along with an inheritance is good and an advantage to those who see the sun. For wisdom is a shadow of protection as money is a shadow of protection, and the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom preserves the lives of its masters." Ecclesiastes 7:11-12

Wisdom can be many things to those who possess her. Here in Ecclesiastes, we see wisdom as a shadow of protection that protects in the same way that money can be a protection; a covering, a lubricant in tight situations, to smooth over difficulties, to effect change, to de-escalate a situation before it gets bad (1 Kings 15:19; Proverbs 17:8; Matthew 5:25). We also see her as providing the strength of more than ten men (Ecclesiastes 7: 19), and causing even a stern face to beam with light and joy (Ecclesiastes 8:1).

Discuss:

Questions:

1. How can wisdom provide strength?
2. How can wisdom bring light and joy?

Answers:

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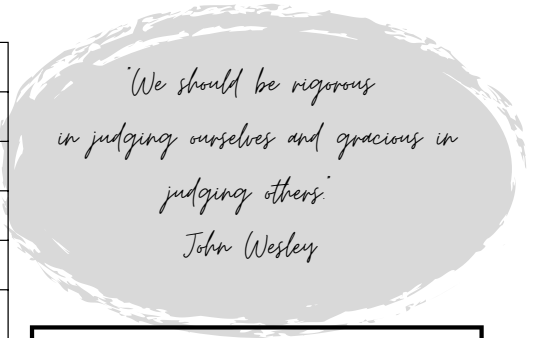
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Day 320 – Zechariah 1-7

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Notes:

Memory Verse

"And many nations will join themselves to YHWH in that day and will become My people. Then I will dwell in your midst, and you will know that YHWH of hosts has sent Me to you. Then YHWH will inherit Judah as His portion in the holy land and will again choose Jerusalem. Be silent, all flesh, before YHWH, for He is aroused from His holy habitation." Zechariah 2:11-13

Daily Devotion

"Then you will say to him, 'Thus says YHWH of hosts, "Behold, a man whose name is Branch, and He will branch out from where He is; and He will build the temple of YHWH. Indeed, it is He who will build the temple of YHWH, and He who will bear the splendour and sit and rule on His throne. Thus, He will be a priest on His throne, and the counsel of peace will be between the two offices."'" Zechariah 6:12-13

On the surface, this passage is a declaration over Joshua the son of Jehozadak, but it is also a prophetic statement about Jesus, the Messiah. It is Jesus who builds the temple, and the building materials consist of the hearts of all believers in His name (Jeremiah 18:1-6; Isaiah 64:8; Romans 12:2). As "foreman" of the construction, He is responsible for chiseling and shaping the "bricks" (us) into the proper shape and size so that everyone is aligned straight and true (Ephesians 2:19-22; Revelation 21:10-27). This is why it is so important to be in the Word daily, and to be obedient to the leading of Holy Spirit, even/especially in the little things.

Prayer: Abba Father, create in me a tender and obedient heart that hears You the first time and responds in faith immediately. Amen.

Bible Study

"The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house, and his hands will finish it. Then you will know that YHWH of hosts has sent me to you. For who has despised the day of small things? But these seven will be glad when they see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel—these are the eyes of YHWH which roam to and fro throughout the earth. "
Zechariah 4:9-10

Zechariah has seen a vision of a golden lampstand with seven lamps and asks the messenger who is with him what they are (Zechariah 4:1-4). In response, the angel gives him the word of YHWH to Zerubbabel (Zechariah 4:6-10). The seven lamps are the seven eyes of YHWH which roam to and fro throughout the earth (2 Chronicles 16:9). The eyes of YHWH will be glad when they see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel.

What an awesome statement. Not only do the eyes of YHWH roam the earth to strongly support those whose heart is completely His, but He also rejoices when He sees the one He has called to perform a task, taking up that task. Do you want to experience the joy of YHWH over you? Take up the task He has set before you and bring it to completion, even if you start small, one step at a time. YHWH delights when we pick up the first tool to do the work, and He will increase your strength and strongly support you as the magnitude of the task increases.

Discuss:

Question:

1. What do you need to begin the task that YHWH has set before you; what is your plumb line?

Answer:

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date:

Prayer Focus

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Day 321 – Acts 15–16

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*'Faith, mighty faith, the
promise sees and looks to God alone; laughs at
impossibilities, and cries it shall be done!'*
Charles Wesley

Notes:

Memory Verse:

'So when they were sent away, they went down to Antioch and having gathered the congregation together, they delivered the letter. And when they had read it, they rejoiced because of its encouragement. And both Judas and Silas, also being prophets themselves, encouraged and strengthened the brothers with a lengthy message.' Acts 15:30-32

Daily Devotion

"And God, who knows the heart, testified to them giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did also to us; and He made no distinction between us and them, cleansing their hearts by faith. " Acts 15:8-9

It doesn't matter what you've said, it doesn't matter what you've done, it doesn't matter who you've hurt – God knows your heart and will receive you with joy if you turn to Him in faith. And the invitation is extended to EVERYONE (1 Chronicles 28:9; Luke 7:36-50; John 3:16-17)!

This is the powerful simplicity of the Gospel. Truly, nothing more needs to be said.

Abba Father, THANK YOU for the exquisite riches of Your goodness, for accepting one such as I. Amen.

Prayer:

Bible Study

"And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing and appealing to him, and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' And when he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to proclaim the gospel to them." Acts 16:9-10

Paul, Silas, Luke and Timothy were seeking to go into Asia but have been finding their path ahead blocked again and again; a barrier was placed before them everywhere they thought to go. And then Paul had a vision in the night. And they immediately took action on it. Dreams were of great significance in Biblical times and people took immediate action upon their dreams as directions from YHWH; a good example of this is Joseph's response to dreams (Matthew 1:20, 2:13-15, 19-21). So it's not surprising that they see the dream as clear direction from YHWH and take immediate action to head to Macedonia; and the results speak for themselves.

The first thing that happens is that they meet Lydia with a group of women praying by a river on the Shabbat (Acts 16:13-15). Lydia's home becomes their base of operations while they are in Philippi (Acts 16:40). It is thought that later the church in Thyatira that is mentioned in Revelation was established by Lydia (Revelation 2:18-29).

As they traveled around the area ministering, they were followed by a slave girl who was possessed by a spirit of divination, who kept crying aloud and declaring who they were and what they were doing. To the point that Paul got annoyed and cast the demon out (Acts 16:17-18). This act landed both Paul and Silas in jail and this is where things get really interesting (Acts 16:25-34). This Philippian jailer and his whole household receive the gospel of Jesus and are baptized, and are greatly rejoicing because he had believed.

Discuss:

Questions:

1. Who was the man in Paul's vision?
2. How seriously do you take your dreams?

Answers:

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Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus

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Day 322 – 1 Peter 4-5

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The Lord is my best friend and my shepherd. I always have more than enough. He offers a resting place for me in His luxurious love. His tracks take me to an oasis of peace, the quiet brook of bliss.
Psalms 23:1-2 TWT

Notes:

Memory Verse:

The end of all things is at hand: therefore, be of sound thinking and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer. Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. As each one has received a gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. ¹

Peter 4:7-10

Daily Devotion

"Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you. But to the degree you are sharing the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation. " ¹

Peter 4:12-13

Suffering for the name of Christ can be hard but most of the difficulty is rooted in a misunderstanding or poor revelation of the tremendous honor being bestowed upon us (1 Peter 4:14, Revelation 6:9-11). It is critically important that our idea of living in the blessing of God is not rooted too deeply in a life of pleasant circumstances (Job 1:20-22, 2:10; Luke 16:19-31; Hebrews 11:32-12:3). God cares deeply about our physical needs but He also knows that this life is only temporary and that our true, eternal needs are met by faith in Christ and Christ alone. He also knows that trials and adversity are sometimes the best way to forge that character and perseverance in us, and that the difficulties He asks us to endure in NO WAY color or affect His love for us (James 1:12).

Prayer: Abba Father, help me to see Your heart for me in the good times and in the bad, and everywhere in between. Build my faith and character in the manner You see fit, and forge in me a strength and endurance I never knew was possible, as I yield to Your Lordship. Amen.

Bible Study

"Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you. " 1 Peter 5:6-7

Did it ever occur to you that anxiety was linked to humility? That when we humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God, all the self-focused thinking that causes our anxieties is done away with and those anxieties can be released into His care. We hear 1 Peter 5:7 quoted all the time, we like the idea of casting all our cares and anxieties on God, but we rarely hear it in context with vs. 6. The idea of humbling ourselves under anything or anyone is foreign to our modern day "selfie" society. It is no coincidence that, with the increase in the self-oriented thinking of our modern western world, anxiety and depression have also increased to epidemic proportions. The cure for anxiety is to get our eyes off ourselves and back on God, to humble ourselves under His mighty hand (Philippians 4:4-7).

When we enter His presence, we come to know Him and know His great love and care for us. In that place anxiety has no place, it has to go. In fact, it's a pretty good barometer of how closely we are clinging to YHWH; if we begin to become anxious, we know that we've taken our eyes off Him and have begun to focus on self again.

Discuss:

Question:

1. Why is so important to God that we remain humble?

Answer:

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Prayer Focus

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Day 323 – Deuteronomy 10–13

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*"In fellowship alone to
God, with faith draw near, approach His
courts, besiege His throne with all the power
of prayer."
Charles Wesley*

Notes:

Memory Verse:

"Behold, to YHWH your God belong heaven and the highest heavens, the earth and all that is in it. Yet on your fathers did YHWH set His affection to love them, and He chose their seed after them, even you above all peoples, as it is this day. So circumcise your heart, and stiffen your neck no longer. For YHWH your God is the God of gods and the Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the fearsome God who does not show partiality nor take a bribe."

Deuteronomy 10:14-17

Daily Devotion

"Only be strong in yourselves not to eat the blood, for the blood is the life, and you shall not eat the life with the flesh. You shall not eat it; you shall pour it out on the ground like water. You shall not eat it, so that it may be well with you and your sons after you, for you will be doing what is right in the sight of YHWH. " Deuteronomy 12:23-25

At first glance, this might appear to be one of those Old Testament passages that no longer apply under the New Covenant. We are free to eat whatever we want, prepared however we want, right? Let's take a closer look before making a hasty decision.

In the book of Acts, a dispute arose concerning circumcision as a requirement for salvation, and eventually the matter was brought before the apostles and elders in Jerusalem (Acts 15:1-2). After much debate on the subject, James (the bishop of the church in Jerusalem at the time) made a ruling and chose men to deliver a letter to all the churches, detailing their decision (Acts 15:28-29). Clearly, the Old Testament prohibition still stands, even to this day. The cool part is that the promise still stands as well... "so that it may be well with you and your sons after you, for you will be doing what is right in the sight of YHWH" (Deuteronomy 12:25).

Prayer: Abba Father, open my eyes to see the truth of Your word, that I may live my life in a manner that pleases You fully. Amen.

Bible Study

"But you shall seek YHWH at the place which YHWH your God will choose from all your tribes, to establish His name there for His dwelling, and there you shall come. " Deuteronomy 12:5

Where is the place that YHWH has chosen to place His name, the place for His dwelling? To answer that question, we need to remember the principle of "first the natural and then the spiritual." (1 Corinthians 15:46-49).

In the natural, the place that YHWH chose to place His name, the place of His dwelling, is in Jerusalem (2 Samuel 24:18-19; 1 Chronicles 21:28-22:6; 2 Chronicles 3:1). And this remains the place that is the apple of His eye (Zechariah 2:6-12). But in the spiritual, YHWH has chosen to dwell in the hearts of mankind and those who receive Him are being built together into a dwelling of YHWH (John 4:19-24; Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Peter 2:4-5).

Discuss:

Question:

1. Does the spiritual dwelling place of God supersede the natural?

Answer:

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Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus

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Day 324 – Ezra 6-10

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*Remember that when
you leave this earth, you can take with you
nothing that you have received - only what
you have given a full heart, enriched by
honest service, love, sacrifice and courage.*

Francis of Assisi

Notes:

Memory Verse:

Now while Ezra was praying and making confession, weeping and prostrating himself before the house of God, a very large assembly, men, women and children, gathered to him from Israel; for the people wept bitterly. And

Shecaniah the son of Jehiel, one of the sons of Elam, answered and said to Ezra, 'We have been unfaithful to our God and have married foreign women from the peoples of the land; yet now there is hope for Israel in spite of this.' Ezra 10:1-2

Daily Devotion

"Then I called for a fast there at the river of Ahava, that we might humble ourselves before our God to seek from Him a direct journey for us, our little ones, and all our possessions. For I was ashamed to ask from the king for a military force and horsemen to help us against the enemy on the way, because we had said to the king, 'The hand of our God is upon all those who seek Him, for their good, but His strength and His anger are against all those who forsake Him.' " Ezra 8:21-22

It can be so easy to declare with our mouth our unwavering trust in God, but here we see Ezra and the Israelite exiles with an opportunity to prove their faith by their actions, and against a very real threat. The trip back to Jerusalem was indeed fraught with danger and Ezra calls for a fast to demonstrate their humility before YHWH and to seek His protection on the way (Ezra 8:23). James puts it another way, "faith without works is dead" (James 2:14, 17, 20, 26). It is also interesting that their fasting and prayer is not merely for their benefit; YHWH's sovereign protection also became a powerful witness to the king and his circle of advisors, as "...and the hand of our God was upon us, and He delivered us from the hand of the enemy and the ambushes by the way. Thus we came to Jerusalem and remained there three days" (Ezra 8:31b-32).

Prayer: Abba Father, teach me how to pray, by Your Spirit, and show me when and how to fast, in order to come before You with a humble and contrite heart, knowing that You are faithful to answer for our good. Amen.

Bible Study

"Now Tattenai, governor of the province beyond the River, Shethar-bozenai and their colleagues, the officials of the provinces beyond the River, keep away from there. Leave that work on the house of God alone; let the governor of the Jews and the elders of the Jews rebuild that house of God in its designated place. Moreover, I issue a decree concerning what you shall do for those elders of Judah in the rebuilding of that house of God: the full cost is to be given to those people from the royal treasury out of the tribute of the provinces beyond the River, and that without negligence." Ezra 6:6-8

The words of Darius to the governors of the lands around Israel, to those who would interfere in the work of restoring the Temple of YHWH and rebuilding the wall around Jerusalem, are the words I have more than once prayed in recent days. That all those who would feign friendship with Israel only to subvert the work of protecting the safety of the people of Israel would be silenced and removed from their place of influence. But YHWH goes even further, not only does He cancel out their authority to affect Israel by the decree of Darius king of Persia, but He commands those who have interfered with the work to be the ones who fund it (Ezra 7:21-24; Proverbs 26:27, 28:10).

Darius goes further to call upon YHWH Himself to overthrow any king or nation who changes His decree of favour to Israel or destroys the Temple of YHWH in Jerusalem (Ezra 6:12). This should stand as a warning even today to those nations and peoples that seek Israel's destruction (Joel 3:1-2, 12-21; Zechariah 12:9).

Discuss:

Question:

1. What Scripture could be used to sum up this passage?

Answer:

[illegible]

date:

Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus

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Day 325 – Psalms 134–136

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'Today, Jesus stands ready to hear your cry and to answer prayer for you. He is interested in every detail of your life. He knows you better than you know yourself.'

Kathryn Kuhlman

Notes:

Memory Verse:

Give thanks to YHWH, for He is good, for His lovingkindness endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of gods, for His lovingkindness endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord of lords, for His lovingkindness endures forever.

To Him who alone does great wonders, for His lovingkindness endures forever.

Psalms 136:1-4

Daily Devotion

"O YHWH, Your name is everlasting, O YHWH, Your remembrance is from generation to generation. For YHWH will render justice for His people and will give comfort to His slaves." Psalm 135:13-14

The English word "bless" in this passage is usually thought of as a verbal or vocal activity. However, in the original Hebrew, the word "barack" means to bless, but it also means to kneel or to bend the knee. We also see in this passage the lifting up of hands to YHWH in worship (v. 2). Elsewhere, we see David dancing with all his strength and the people of Israel worshipping and sacrificing extravagantly as they return the ark of the covenant back to Jerusalem (2 Samuel 6:12-15). Perhaps it's time to worry less about what people may think of us and actually worship God with our whole being and not "just" our vocal cords (Matthew 22:37).

Prayer: Abba Father, teach me how to worship You in Spirit and in Truth, show me the barriers of my heart that are keeping me from worshipping You fully, and help me to yield more and more of myself (body, mind, soul and spirit) to Your love and lordship. Amen.

Bible Study

○ YHWH, Your name is everlasting, ○ YHWH, Your remembrance is from generation to generation. For YHWH will render justice for His people and will give comfort to His slaves. " Psalm 135:13-14

YHWH's remembrance is from generation to generation because of the testimony of what He has done for His people, and the promise of what He will do (Genesis 15:12-18; Exodus 13:3; Deuteronomy 8:2-11; Psalm 77:11-15; Joel 3:12-21). We, like the people of Israel, need to continually call to remembrance the things that YHWH has done for us and the promises He has spoken to us. We recall what He has done so that we remember who He is and how great and powerful YHWH is so that our faith is strengthened to remember His promises and know that He is faithful to bring them to pass (Romans 10:17).

Let's declare together,

"O house of Israel, bless YHWH; O house of Aaron, bless YHWH; O house of Levi, bless YHWH; You who fear YHWH, bless YHWH. Blessed be YHWH from Zion, who dwells in Jerusalem. Praise Yah!" (Psalm 135:19-21).

Discuss:

Questions:

1. What are we to remember?
2. Why is it important?
3. How long did the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob remember the promise of YHWH to Abraham?

Answers:

[illegible]

date:

Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus

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Day 326 – Ecclesiastes 9-10

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*Nothing in or of this
world measures up to the simple pleasure of
experiencing the presence of God.
A. W. Tozer*

Notes:

Memory Verse:

"A wise man's heart directs him toward the right, but the foolish man's heart directs him towards the left. Even when the simpleminded fool walks along the road, his heart lacks wisdom, and he says to all that he is a simpleminded

fool." Ecclesiastes 10:2-3

Daily Devotion

"If the axe is dull and he does not sharpen its edge, then he must exert more strength. Wisdom has the advantage of giving success. " Ecclesiastes 10:10

This verse is actually about discernment as much as it is about wisdom.

The edge of a newly sharpened axe will begin to become dull again as it continues to be used but the process is gradual, even imperceptible, at first. It is impractical and inefficient to sharpen the axe after every swing, just as failing to recognize that the axe has become dull again leads to more effort being expended, or even worse, an injury of some kind. Knowing the tool and your body well can help you better discern the point when another sharpening is needed, but this requires an awareness that we so often fail to exercise.

The spiritual lesson is this – be quick to repent. It is wisdom to discern when Holy Spirit is speaking to us, and the "sharper" our hearing and the quicker our obedient response, the better it will go for us (Hebrews 3:7-8, 13, 15, 4:7). This hardness of heart is not merely spoken of with regard to Pharaoh or the Israelites in the wilderness, it can befall us even today if we are not on guard against it (1 Corinthians 10:11).

Prayer: *Abba Father, teach me how to hear Your Spirit more clearly, even as You have promised in Your word, and help me to train my conscience by being a faithful steward of Your word and Your Spirit. Amen.*

Bible Study

*"If the ruler's temper rises against you, do not abandon your position,
because calmness causes great offences to be abandoned. "*

Ecclesiastes 10:4

One of the attributes of a man or woman of God is their ability to stand firm in the face of opposition or attack, to not give way, or compromise the Truth (Ephesians 6:13-14; Hebrews 10:35-39). Speaking the truth in love and standing firm on that truth, being able to give a logic defense with respect and courtesy (Ephesians 4:14-15; Hebrews 4:14; 1 Peter 3:15; 1 John 4:6-7).

This verse in Ecclesiastes is echoed in Jesus words found in Matthew 10:18-20. And although Jesus says to not prepare beforehand our defense; we are to have a working knowlgerge of the Scriptures, and an intimate relationship with YHWH God (2 Timothy 2:15, 3:16, 4:2; Jeremiah 9:23-24; Hosea 6:3; John 17:3; Philippians 3:10-11; 2 Peter 1:2-3, 3:18)

Dicuss:

Questions:

1. Can we know YHWH fully?
2. Is knowing God a New Covenant concept?

Answers:

[illegible]

date:

Prayer Focus

[illegible]

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Day 327 – Zechariah 8-14

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*Anyone can believe
when God is moving. But real faith is
when it seems that God is not
moving.
Reinhard Bonnke*

Notes:

Memory Verse:

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Make a loud shout. O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold your king is coming to you: He is righteous and endowed with salvation, lowly and mounted on a donkey, even on a colt, the foal of a pack animal. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the horse from Jerusalem; and the bow of war will be cut off. And He will speak peace to the nations; and His reign will be from sea to sea and from river to the ends of the earth." Zechariah 9:9-10

Daily Devotion

"Ask rain from YHWH at the time of the late rain—YHWH who makes the storm clouds; and He will give them showers of rain, the plant in the field of each man." Zechariah 10:1

This verse speaks very clearly of YHWH's faithfulness, but no less important is the need for us to pray in partnership with His will, in accordance with His plans and purposes. We also see this in the story of Solomon – YHWH appeared to Solomon and basically gave him a blank check in prayer, "Ask what I should give to you" (2 Chronicles 1:7b). Solomon could have asked for anything but he put the promise to his father David and the people of Israel's interests above his own, and God was pleased to honor his request, and then some (2 Chronicles 1:8-12). The apostle Paul also reminds us that, "we are His workmanship and that we are created in Christ Jesus for good works" (Ephesians 2:10a). It is important to remember, and it can be easy to miss this, that the good works aren't just the work of our hands but also the fruit of our lips. In other words, our prayer life is to be just as submitted to the leading of Holy Spirit as our heart, mind and body.

Prayer: *Abba Father, thank You for Holy Spirit, who leads and guides me into all truth. Teach me to recognize and dwell in the space of Your presence, so I can align my heart with Yours and pray and do only what I see You speaking and doing. Amen.*

Bible Study

"Thus says YHWH of hosts, 'It will yet be that peoples will come, even the inhabitants of many cities. The inhabitants of one will go to another, saying, "Let us go at once to entreat the favour of YHWH and to seek YHWH of hosts; I will also go." So many peoples and mighty nations will come to seek YHWH of hosts in Jerusalem and to entreat the favour of YHWH. "' Zechariah 8:20-23

Many people in the church, I would go so far as to say that the majority of the church, have no understanding of the depths of YHWH's love for, and jealousy for, the land of Israel and the city of Jerusalem, the place that He chose to place His name (1 Kings 11:36; 2 Chronicles 7:16; Isaiah 2:2-3; Joel 2:18, 21, 3:16-17; Zechariah 8:1-3).

We have gotten so caught up with the idea of the new Jerusalem being an actual physical city, and have lost sight of the figurative language that is used, describing it also as the bride adorned for her Husband, and the Tabernacle of YHWH (Isaiah 54:5; Jeremiah 2:2; John 2:18-20; 2 Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 5:25-27; Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Peter 2:4-5); that it is the body of Christ descending with Him from the clouds, where they met Him at His return (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Daniel 7:13-14; Matthew 26:64; Revelation 1:7-8); that we fail to recognise that the land of Israel and the city of Jerusalem YHWH claims for Himself, and any people or nation who come against them are setting themselves against YHWH of hosts, the one true and living God (Psalm 2:1-12; Zechariah 12:8-9, 14:1-3. And that ultimately all the nations of the earth will come to Jerusalem to worship, and to be taught of YHWH (Isaiah 2:1-5; Jeremiah 3:17; Zechariah 14:16-17).

Discuss:

Questions:

1. Why is it important for us to pray for the peace of Jerusalem?
2. What Scripture tells us to pray for the peace of Jerusalem?
3. Why is it significant that the gates of the new Jerusalem bear the names of the twelve tribes of Israel, and her foundations the names of the twelve apostles?

Answers:

[illegible]

date:

Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus

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Day 328 – Acts 17–18

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*'Great sea captains are
made in rough waters and deep seas.'
Kathryn Kuhlman*

Notes:

Memory Verse:

"After these things he departed Athens and went to Corinth. And he found a Jew named Aquilla, a native of Pontus, and his wife Priscilla, who recently came from Italy because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to depart from Rome. He came to them, and because he was of the same trade, he was staying with them and they were working, for by trade they were tent-makers. And he was reasoning in the synagogue every Sabbath and trying to persuade both Jews and Greeks. But when Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul began devoting himself completely to the word, solemnly bearing witness to the Jews that Jesus is the Christ." Acts 18:1-5

Daily Devotion

"And the Lord said to Paul in the night by a vision, 'Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent; for I am with you, and no man will lay a hand on you in order to harm you, for I have many people in this city.'"
Acts 18:9-10

Even Paul needed encouragement. He performed many miracles and signs and wonders, he was granted incredible revelations from God, and he was such a prolific writer that it can be easy to think of him as a sort of machine-like "super saint", but the truth is that he was flesh and blood just like us; he got tired, he had doubts, and had to resist being fearful at times. I love Paul's response – he obeys the word of the Lord and preaches the word of God to them for a year and a half. I also love what happens next – Paul is arrested and brought before the Roman proconsul, Gallio. This time, Paul doesn't even need to speak in his own defense because Gallio immediately dismisses the case, and the Jewish mobs ends up taking their anger out on the leader of the synagogue (Acts 18:12-17).

Prayer: Abba Father, thank You for the amazing comfort and encouragement of Your Holy Spirit, help me to receive and use it for the purpose it was given, in order that I may run well the race You have set before me, and that I may receive the crown of life, as You have promised to Your faithful ones. Amen.

Bible Study

"Therefore having overlooked the time of ignorance, God is now commanding men that everyone everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He determined, having furnished proof to all by raising Him from the dead. "
Acts 17:30-31

As Jesus hung on the Tree, He prayed, "Father forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34). In so doing, He wasn't praying anything that was a surprise to the Father, but He was praying the heart of the Father (John 12:49-50). YHWH's great love and compassion for us extends to pardoning what we have done in ignorance, but when the time of ignorance has passed and we have received a revelation of the truth, we are held accountable for how we respond to that revelation. And no one is without that revelation (Psalm 19:1-4a; Isaiah 45:22; Romans 1:16-21); therefore, not one of us has any excuse before God.

YHWH has set an appointed day of salvation for each of us (Psalm 95:7-11, Hebrews 3:15; 2 Corinthians 6:2), and He has set a day of judgment for all the earth (Ecclesiastes 12:14; Daniel 7:9-10, 12:2; Joel 3:1-2, 12-14; Matthew 7:21-23, 25:31-46; John 12:44-50).

The whole earth is full of the presence and glory of God, and also His praises (Isaiah 6:3; Jeremiah 23:24; Habakkuk 3:3; Ephesians 1:23, 4:10) and will be full of the knowledge of His glory (Isaiah 11:9; Habakkuk 2:14).

Discuss:

Questions:

1. Does the compassion of YHWH override His justice and judgments?
2. What is the difference between the earth being full of the glory of God, and being full of the knowledge of the glory of God?

Answers:

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Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus date:

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Day 329 – 2 Peter

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It isn't a matter of being worthy, for no man is worthy! It isn't our perfection or our penitence, or a matter of our labours to reach the place of perfection or worthiness. It is God's grace alone!
Kathryn Kuhlman

Notes:

Memory Verse:

"But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some consider slowness, but is patient toward you, not willing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:8-9

Daily Devotion

"I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, that you should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandments of the Lord and Saviour spoken by your apostles." 2 Peter 3:1b-2

Sometimes we as people, and I mean ALL of us, can be pretty dull creatures. We completely forget things or mis-remember important details from events all the time. We remember clearly the things that are important to us but all too often, this ability is colored by our own perspective or self-interest. God knows this well, and it is staggering how often remembrance or reminders are spoken of in Scripture, whether by example or by word usage. We'll explore some of these here but understand that we're barely scratching the surface (Exodus 13:9, 14, 16; Numbers 16:40; Deuteronomy 6:20-25; 2 Timothy 1:6, 2:14; 2 Peter 1:12-15; Jude 1:5).

Extra credit: Exodus 28:29; Ezekiel 29:16; John 14:26; 1 Corinthians 4:17, and many, many more..

Prayer: Abba Father, let me not be so focused on the "new" or the "next" that I forget to remember, and recount, the testimony of faithfulness that You have already brought me through. Amen.

Bible Study

"Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the full knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the full knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. " 2 Peter 1:2-3

The first part of 2 Peter 1:3 is something we quote all the time, "In Him we have everything we need for life and godliness." But like many other Scriptures, we quote it in part and out of context. And in doing so, we defraud ourselves and others of the fullness of this promise of God. This promise comes in the full knowledge of YHWH and Jesus our Lord, and through the full knowledge of Him. This is why it is so important for us to press on to know YHWH (Hosea 6:3). Because it is by His glory and excellence that we become partakers of the divine nature (2 Peter 1:4-8) and gain entrance into the kingdom of YHWH (2 Peter 1:9-11).

Discuss:

Questions:

1. Can you know someone without being known by them?
2. Why is it important to know YHWH and be known by Him?

Answers:

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Prayer Focus

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Day 330 – Deuteronomy 14–17

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*'If you seek nothing
but the will of God. He will always put you
in the right place at the right time.'
Smith Wigglesworth*

Notes:

Memory Verse:

'Now it shall be that when he (the king) sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law on a scroll in the presence of the Levitical priest. And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear YHWH his God, to carefully observe all the words of this law and these statutes, that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his sons in the midst of Israel.' Deuteronomy 17:18-20

Daily Devotion

"However, there will be no needy one among you, since YHWH will surely bless you in the land which YHWH your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, if only you listen obediently to the voice of YHWH your God, to be careful to do all this commandment which I am commanding you today.

For YHWH your God will bless you as He has promised you, and you will lend to many nations, but you will not borrow; and you will rule over many nations, but they will not rule over you. " Deuteronomy 15:4-6

Deuteronomy 15 starts with God's instructions to the Israelites concerning the attitude and behavior of creditors toward the brethren and neighbors who are indebted to them. He then inserts this incredible promise that He will bless them so abundantly that there will be no poverty, but only if they are diligent to obey the voice and commandment of YHWH. He knew that they would fail to live up to this promise (Deuteronomy 15:11; John 12:8) but that in no way nullifies the promise. We would do well to know that the promise still stands because of the One who made it, and that our loving obedience creates a wave of blessing that ripples outward from our lives to the ones around us.

Prayer: Abba Father, help me, by Your precious Holy Sprit, to live a life so totally devoted to seeking and obeying You that I cannot contain the blessing You pour out, and that it would overflow and "splash" onto everyone I come into contact with. Amen.

Bible Study

"Keep the month of Abib and celebrate the Passover to YHWH your God, for in the month of Abib YHWH your God brought you out of Egypt by night. And you shall sacrifice the Passover to YHWH your God from the flock and the herd, in the place YHWH chooses for His name to dwell. "
Deuteronomy 16:1-2

The Passover, or Feast of Unleavened Bread, is one of the three feasts that are to be celebrated in the place that YHWH would choose to place His name each year (Deuteronomy 16:16). Each one of these are feasts celebrated in the presence of YHWH, where the people eat and drink and delight themselves in God's abundance and provision in His presence; a time of communion with their God (Deuteronomy 14:23, 26, 15:19-20), remembering who He is and what He has done for them. The Passover was significant because it was the beginning of the fulfillment of YHWH's promises to their forefathers (Genesis 12:1-3, 13:14-18, 15:12-16); it was when YHWH brought the people of Israel out of slavery (Exodus 3:1-10, 4:29-31; Deuteronomy 15:15); it was the beginning of YHWH setting the people of Israel apart for Himself as a nation, as one people (Exodus 6:6-8). It was significant because unlike any other sacrifices, the lamb was to be brought into the home and dwell with each family before being sacrificed (Exodus 12:1-6).

Discuss:

Questions:

1. Why is the month of Abib and the Passover significant to the church?
2. What is the slavery we have been freed from? understanding of His word and His ways pure?

Answers:

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date:

Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus

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Day 331 – Nehemiah 1-4

Daily Planner day:

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*God doesn't expect
the impossible from us. He wants us to
expect the impossible from Him!*
D. L. Moody

Notes:

Memory Verse:

"Remember the word which You commanded Your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples; but if you return to Me and keep My commandments and do them, though those of you who have been banished were at the ends of the sky, I will gather them from there and will bring them to the place where I have chosen to cause My name to dwell.' They are Your slaves and Your people whom You redeemed by Your great power and Your strong hand. O Lord, I beseech You, may Your ear be attentive to the prayer of Your slave and the prayer of Your slaves who delight to fear Your name, and make Your slave successful today and grant him compassion before this man: Now I was the cupbearer to the king."

Nehemiah 1:8-11

Daily Devotion

"Those who were rebuilding the wall and those who carried burdens took their load with one hand doing the work and the other holding a weapon.

As for the builders, each wore his sword girded at his side as he built, while the trumpeter stood by me." Nehemiah 4:17-18

The builders weren't looking for a fight but they were prepared for one.

There is a valuable lesson in that for us, even today. All too often, we are surprised or even blindsided by personal attacks on us, whether by the hand of man or from the enemy of our souls. There is a reason Scripture says that the devil roams about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour (1 Peter 5:8). However, sometimes we forget in this reading just how impotent the devil is against a believer who is alert and on guard against his schemes.

Many are familiar with Paul's discourse on the armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-17), but no less important is the exhortation to be vigilant and alert at all times (v. 18). When we are prayed up, in the Word, and submitted to Him and His will, there's not a lot he can do to sidetrack us (James 4:7). .

Prayer:

Abba Father, help me remember that the devil is a defeated enemy, and that though his lies and schemes are very real, we do have the power to resist and overcome them by the power of Holy Spirit, as we live in obedience and submission to YHWH. Amen.

Bible Study

"So I responded to them with a word and said to them, 'The God of heaven will give us success; therefore we his slaves will arise and build, but you have no portion, right, or remembrance in Jerusalem.'" Nehemiah 2:20

In Nehemiah, we see a situation that seems to have repeated itself throughout history, even to this day. The enemies of Israel see that the people of Israel are seeking the good of the people and nation of Israel, and become angry (Nehemiah 2:9-10). And when they see the people working, they do all that they can to dissuade, disrupt, and deter the work (Nehemiah 2:19, 4:1-3). But I love the response of Nehemiah and the people – they declared that it is YHWH that would give them success, they brought their concerns to Him alone, and they armed themselves for battle, even as they continued the work on the wall (Nehemiah 2:20, 4:4-9, 15-23).

Discuss:

Questions:

1. What does it mean for you, to stand your ground?
2. How does the phrase, "Give the enemy no quarter" apply here?
3. How can we apply these three principles in our own lives?

Answers:

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Prayer Focus

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Day 332 - Psalms 137-139

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*There will be no peace
in any soul until it is willing to obey the
voice of God.*
D. L. Moody

Notes:

Memory Verse:

Psalm 139 "O YHWH, You have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You understand my thoughts from afar. You scrutinise my path and my lying down, and are intimately acquainted with all my ways. Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, O YHWH, You know it all....." Psalm 139 may seem long but it is worth memorizing it all.

Daily Devotion

"YHWH will accomplish what concerns me; O YHWH, Your lovingkindness endures forever; do not fail the work of Your hands. " Psalm 138:8

If you have walked with the Lord for just about any length of time, I can pretty much guarantee that He has given you a promise that is too big for you and is beyond your ability to accomplish or fulfill it. That's just what happens when righteousness comes by faith (Romans 4:3; Hebrews 11:1, 6). What is often misunderstood is the nature of the journey God takes us on along the way. Our faith isn't proven merely by believing the initial promise, it is also proven by our obedient, loving response to the leading of His Spirit. Day by day, in and through a myriad of situations and circumstances, allowing Him to change and mature us, to the point where we haven't lost hope in the initial promise but it no longer consumes our focus or even remains the goal – the goal is HIM and our trust in His ability and timing is so secure that we know that the promise will come at precisely the right time (Matthew 6:33)!

Prayer: *Abba Father, thank You that I can trust in You as I wait on You, obedient to Your word every step along the way, seeking Your kingdom and Your righteousness by faith; knowing that the fulfillment of Your promise is found in You. You are my hope and my hope is in You. Amen.*

Bible Study

"All the kings of the earth, O YHWH, will give You thanks, when they hear the words of Your mouth. And they will sing of the ways of YHWH, for great is the glory of YHWH. " Psalm 138: 4-5

From the beginning of YHWH's promises to Abram has been the covenant that in Abraham and His seed all the nations of the earth will be blessed (Genesis 12:1-3, 18:17-19, 22:15-18; Matthew 1:1).

YHWH set the people of Israel apart as a nation unto Himself, for the express purpose of blessing them, so that through them every nation would be blessed.

And in the end, every nation will bow before Him and the kings of every nation will declare their thanks to YHWH and sing of His ways (Isaiah 45:22-25; Zechariah 14:16; Philippians 2:5-11)!

Discuss:

Questions:

1. How has the seed of Abraham blessed all the nations of the earth?
2. How will the nation of Israel be a blessing to all the nations in the future?

Answers:

[illegible]

date:

Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus

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Day 333 – Ecclesiastes 11-12

Daily Planner day:

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*The light is sweet, and it is good
for the eyes to see the sun. Indeed,
if a man should live many years, let him
be glad in them all.
Ecclesiastes 11:7-10a*

Notes:

Memory Verse:

'Sow your seed in the morning and do not put your hands down in the evening, for you do not know whether morning or evening sowing will succeed, or whether both of them alike will be good.' Ecclesiastes 11:6

Daily Devotion

"The end of the matter, all that has been heard: fear God and keep His commandments, because this is the end of the matter for all mankind. For God will bring every work to judgement, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil. " Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

One might think of the book of Ecclesiastes as Solomon's treatise, or thesis, on life. He has observed and analyzed all manner of behaviors and truths throughout his life, and here he states his final conclusion – people are to honor and obey God because He sees it all, the public and the private, and will reward the righteous and punish the evildoer (Proverbs 12:28, 14:12; Malachi 3:18; Matthew 25:46; Romans 6:13). It took Solomon a lifetime of searching to come back to the word that God told Moses at the giving of the Ten Commandments (Deuteronomy 11:1).

Prayer: Abba Father, sharpen within me the understanding that all my words, deeds, thoughts and motives are an open book to You, and cause me to live transparently before You by Your Spirit. Amen.

Bible Study

"He who watches the wind will not sow, and he who looks at the clouds will not reap. Just as you do not know the path of the wind and how bones are formed in the womb of the pregnant woman, so you do not know the work of God who works all things. " Ecclesiastes 11:4-5

Some think that Ecclesiastes 11:4 is talking about those who are idle, dreamers who spend their time looking at pictures in the clouds; that those who do such things will neither reap nor sow. And there may be some truth to that; but when we look at this verse in context with those around it, we see a very different picture (Ecclesiastes 11:1-3, 5-6). In simple terms what this verse is saying is, 'Don't be so busy trying to work out what's going to happen next that you miss the opportunities that are right in front of you. Because if you are waiting for the perfect circumstances to sow, it won't happen, and then there will be nothing to reap at harvest time.' Sowing and reaping are time-sensitive and come with no guarantees of what they will produce; therefore sow as much and as often as you can, and believe YHWH for the increase when the time comes (Mark 4:26-29; James 5:7-8).

Discuss:

Question:

1. How often have you missed an opportunity to sow because you were waiting for the “right circumstances”? does YHWH claim possession of in the passages we’ve look at in this study?

Answer:

[illegible]

date:

Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus date:

[illegible]

Day 334 – Malachi

Daily Planner day:

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‘It is a trustworthy saying: For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him; if we endure, we will also reign with Him; if we deny Him, He also will deny us; if we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.’
2 Timothy 2:11-13

Notes:

Memory Verse:

Then those who feared YHWH spoke to one another, and YHWH gave heed and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear YHWH and who think upon His name. 'And they will be mine,' says YHWH of hosts, 'on the day that I prepare My own treasured possession. I will spare them as aman spares his son who serves him.' So you will return and see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him.' Malacjii 3:16-18

Daily Devotion

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this, ' says YHWH of hosts, 'if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and empty out for you a blessing until it is beyond enough. Then I will rebuke the devourer for you so that it will not corrupt the fruits of the ground; nor will your vine in the field fail to bear, ' says YHWH of hosts. " Malachi 3:10-11

It isn't often that God grants us permission to test Him (Deuteronomy 6:16; Matthew 4:7), but here He clearly gives us the "green light" to do just that. Maybe that's because in giving back to Him the tithe, we're acting like Him (1 Peter 1:15) as a generous giver; perhaps it's because the tithe predates the giving of the Law and there is a faith demonstrated in it (Genesis 14:19-20); maybe it's because money can so easily capture our hearts and the tithe helps us obey the first commandment (Matthew 22:36-38). Perhaps it's all of the above, and even more. For whatever reason, God has chosen this topic and said, "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this," says YHWH of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and empty out for you a blessing until it is beyond enough. Then I will rebuke the devourer for you so that it will not corrupt the fruits of the ground; nor will your vine in the field fail to bear," says YHWH of hosts (Malachi 3:10-11).

Prayer: Abba Father, thank You for making it so clear what you require of us, and help us, by Your Spirit, to respond in faithful and loving obedience in all things. Amen.

Bible Study

"Though Edom says, 'We have been demolished, but we will return and build up the waste places'; thus says YHWH of hosts, 'They may build, but I will pull down; and men will call them a territory of wickedness, and the people toward whom YHWH is indignant forever. ' And your eyes will see this, and you will say, 'YHWH be magnified beyond the territory of Israel. '"
Malachi 1:4-5

I can't read these verses without thinking about the nations and peoples that have set themselves against Israel. They may think they are doing so in the name of their god but they are setting themselves against YHWH, the one true and living God, His word, and His anointed (Psalm 2:1-12, 72:5-8; Zechariah 9:8-10; Isaiah 19:18-25). It is YHWH's plans for Israel that will come to pass, and woe to those nations who stand against Him.

Discuss:

Questions:

1. Do you pray the scriptures?
2. Are your prayers influenced by current events or by His word?

Answers:

[illegible]

date:

Prayer Focus

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Prayer Focus

date: _____

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Month:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday

Year:

Thursday	Friday	Saturday

My Focus:

Notes

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The Week Of:

☐ Sunday

☐ Monday

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☐ Saturday

Notes

I Get To Do List

No.	To Do	Y/N	

The Week Of:

☐ Sunday

☐ Monday

☐ Tuesday

☐ Wednesday

☐ Thursday

☐ Friday

☐ Saturday

Notes

I Get To Do List

No.	To Do	Y/N	

The Week Of:

☐ Sunday

☐ Monday

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☐ Wednesday

☐ Thursday

☐ Friday

☐ Saturday

Notes

I Get To Do List

[illegible]

The Week Of:

☐ Sunday

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☐ Friday

☐ Saturday

Notes

I Get To Do List

No.	To Do	Y/N	

The Week Of:

☐ Sunday

☐ Monday

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☐ Wednesday

☐ Thursday

☐ Friday

☐ Saturday

Notes

I Get To Do List

[illegible]



