

## WATERS BURST FORTH UPON THE EARTH

The Lord said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and your whole family, because I have found you righteous in this generation. Take with you seven of every kind of clean animal, a male and its mate, and two of every kind of unclean animal, a male and its mate, and also seven of every kind of bird, male and female, to keep their various kinds alive throughout the earth. Seven days from now I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and I will wipe from the face of the earth every living creature I have made."

And Noah did all that the Lord commanded him.

Noah was six hundred years old when the floodwaters came on the earth. And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives entered the ark to escape the waters of the flood. Pairs of clean and unclean animals, of birds and of all creatures that move along the ground, male and female, came to Noah and entered the ark, as God had commanded Noah. And after the seven days the floodwaters came on the earth.

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, on the seventeenth day of the second month – on that day all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened. And rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. Gen 7:1-12



Yes, Noah was commended by God because of his faith. Over 100 years he warned those who would not listen; but, for anyone who does listen not only our faith but also our trust and confidence increases as we do as Noah and adhere to God's Word. Surely the world needs to hear, but we need to hear and repeat and recall the love, the goodness, the promises of God for ourselves: God has given me His shield of victory and His right hand, Christ Jesus, sustains me (Ps. 18:35).

It's all about what God has done, and He is doing for us through Jesus, through His Word. It's not about what we think or feel or believe because our thoughts and feelings and beliefs change whenever the "whethers" of circumstance arise.

Remember to decree the Word of God when uncertainty, doubt or skepticism... arise for God's Word, Christ Jesus, is the same yesterday and today and forever (Heb.13:7-8).

When the Word of God lives in us, we have overcome the evil one (1 John 2:14). For every child of God has been given power, the Spirit of Grace, to defeat this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith. Who can win the battle against the world? Only those who believe that Jesus is: The Son of God (1 John 5:4-5 NLT).



Yes, the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to those who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written:

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.”

Listen, if you are wise, to what is being said, think about the loving-kindness of the Lord (Ps. 107:38 TLB), for your fruitfulness comes for Him. For the ways of the Lord are right and the righteous will walk in them, but the rebellious stumble. Who is wise? They will realize these things. Who is discerning? They will understand them (Hos. 14:8-9).

If you are wise and understand God's ways, prove it by living an honorable life, doing good works with the humility that comes from Wisdom. But if you are bitterly jealous and there is selfish ambition in your heart, don't cover up the Truth with boasting and lying. For jealousy and selfishness are not God's, kind of wisdom. Such things are earthly, unspiritual and demonic. For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and evil of every kind.

But, the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere. Those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace, and reap a harvest of righteousness (James 3:13-18 NLT).

So stop fooling yourselves. If you count yourself above average in intelligence, as judged by this world's standards, you had better put this all aside and be a fool rather than let it hold you back from the true wisdom from above.

For the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As it says in the book of Job, God uses man's own brilliance to trap him; he stumbles

over his own “wisdom” and falls. And again, in the book of Psalms, we are told the Lord knows full well how the human mind reasons and how foolish and futile it is (1 Cor. 3:18-20 TLB).



God opened my eyes to the foolishness and futility of human reasoning. I wish they could have been opened by different means, but that was not the case I had to learn what Jesus meant when He said:

“Whoever tries to keep the life they have will lose it.

But, whoever gives up their life will save it.”

Luke 17:33 ERV

The error in my reasoning made me who I was, a codependent, people-pleasing fool. What I gained in this world through experience had me striving for control, while at the same time being dependent on the approval of others. An internal war was waging, and the enemy I was in conflict with was me. Talk about hypocritical behavior I wasn't even aware of all the issues that needed to be fixed within myself, yet I would try to fix others.



I never thought of myself as being a self-centered person, but all my attempts to please were actually about wanting to receive what would be pleasing for me. You know a definition for insanity is doing the same thing over and over expecting a different result. So many disappointments, upsets and let-downs when things don't go the way we think or feel or believe they should go.

My philosophy was "do for" because wouldn't I just naturally receive? However, what I hadn't taken into account was human nature, which seems never to be satisfied. I wasn't asking to receive as much as I gave, but surely I wasn't receiving enough. And the flip side of that people-pleasing coin, I couldn't seem to do enough when more would always grow to be expected.

I believed I had to earn what I should have been able to freely receive. However, as a result of my faulty human reasoning what I did earn was a great deal of negativity. I acquired a critical and judgmental spirit. I was filled with fear. I reaped confusion and passive aggressiveness. I accumulated a great deal of shame and guilt and frustration. Believing it was beneficial to be in a one-up position, but my behavior just kept on saying I was submissive.

I never thought 'I'm going to make pride, in other words myself, to be a god,' but this is exactly what I did. Turns out I would discover the cruel master was me whipping up stinking thinking and emotional instability, all of which worked in an attempt to destroy my self-esteem. Not to mention I was always prepared to berate and belittle myself for not knowing or doing or being more. How could I expect someone else to respect me when I showed more respect and concern for others than for myself?



You know people look for proof, for a big miracle like the Red Sea parting, but they ignore Truth. The biggest most remarkable miracle is when we start thinking and behaving in ways that glorify God instead of ourselves.

God did part the Red Sea and His people walked right through it to get to the other side away from the enemy. God has also made a way for His people to Passover Death, that huge abyss sin produced that separates us from God (Rom. 5:13 Message).

Now we may walk right into the very Holy of Holies, where God is, because of the blood of Jesus. This is a fresh, new, life-giving way that

Christ has opened up by tearing the curtain – His human body – to let us into the holy presence of God (Heb. 10:19-20 TLB).



Without knowledge of God and His Word, of what Jesus accomplished at the cross and of Holy Spirit, it is more than difficult to learn and listen for fresh insights while residing in the adversity this world produces.

Our heart doesn't have to be in possession of adversity. Our life doesn't have to suffer the eternal consequence of adversity. God's desire is for His people to prosper in all things and to be in health, just as our soul prospers (3 John 2 NKJV).

When we accept the Word, the Message from God of Life and Truth and this new and living Way - the Lord, Christ Jesus – Who has made it possible for us to not only testify about the Truth but to also walk in the Truth (e John 2:3 NKJV). Through His Word God redeems and restores and renews within us a healthy spirit that conquers adversity, for what can a person do when the spirit is crushed (Prov. 18:14-15 Message)?



It would definitely not be an easy feat to prevent ourselves from reacting in fear and anger. How could we look past our own critical and judgmental mindsets so God's Word could become heart-felt and His goodness remembered?

I don't share information about our human condition to overwhelm or discourage. Instead, I share this information because there are different choices available to us that will not only make a vast difference in our thinking, but will also allow the miraculous to be personally experienced.

We don't have to berate or belittle ourselves when perfection is not achieved. We can work to achieve excellence knowing, trusting, believing by the One offering Jesus made forever perfect in the sight of God all those whom He is making holy (Heb. 10:14 TLB), sanctified by Truth (John 17:19), God's Word. You see it really is all about Jesus!



Being made holy is a godly process of renewal and recovery. When God's Word is given the ruling authority in our thought life we will grow, and there'll be no limits to the wholeness the Lord brings (Isa. 9:7 Message).

Yes, before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces what stems from fear: anxiety, phobia, panic, agitation, discomposure, unrest, uncertainty, doubt, unease, stress, misgiving, distraction, distress...all these that result in worry being at the center of your life (Phil. 4:7 Message).

God isn't just on a recovery mission for souls. His is also about this process of regeneration. Holy Spirit will help us to strip ourselves of our former nature, which characterizes our previous manner of life. Yes, Holy Spirit will help us throughout this journey as we put on the new nature (the regenerate self) created in God's image (Eph. 4:22-25 AMP).

When we honor the Lord in what we do, not following our own desires and pleasures, not talking idly, then the Lord will be our delight! He will see to it we each receive our fair share of blessings as God's will is being done to Refresh, Replenish and Revive – a spiritual Rebirth – as His purpose is given definition: Rebirth. The English Language Learners helps us to better understand:

1. The process of becoming healthy after an illness or injury; the act or process of recovering **INNER HEALING**

2. The act or process of returning to a normal state after a period of difficulty **DELIVERANCE**

3. The return of something that has been lost, stolen, etc.

**SALVATION**

Though the ultimate goal of Christ's mission here on earth was to lay Himself down on that cross, during His ministry God anointed Jesus with Holy Spirit and with power, and He went around doing good, healing all who were under the power of the devil. Why? Because Jesus humbled Himself and exalted God's Word, and God was always with Him (Acts 10:38).



We've each experienced someone saying one thing to us and then doing something entirely different. Disappointment, betrayal, deception...this is exactly what we are doing to ourselves. We think of ourselves as being a good person, doing what seems right and good in our own eyes, but not what is right and good in the eyes of God.

This is why God works in us so the negative effects of complaining (grief, doubt, conflict) and boasting (bullying, cruelty, regret) can be thwarted.

We have experienced being pushed away by what someone has said, but we have also been the one who has done the pushing. God wants to lead us from the grounds of adversity into His state of Rest. All mankind is in – first sin, then death, and no one is exempt from either.

Sin disturbed relations with God in everything and everyone, but the extent of the disturbance was not clear until God spelled it out in detail to Moses (Rom. 5:12-13 Message). No one knows the extent of the disturbance sin has caused within us, only God. David testified about the Truth he knew about God:

O Lord, You have searched me  
And You know me.  
You know when I sit and when I rise;  
You perceive my thoughts from afar.  
You discern my going out and my lying down;  
You are familiar with all my ways.  
Before a word is on my tongue

You know it completely, O Lord.

You hem me in – behind and before;

You have laid Your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,

Too lofty for me to attain!

Where can I go from Your Spirit?

Where can I flee from Your presence?

If I go up to the heavens, You are there;

If I make my bed in the depths, You are there.

If I rise on the wings of the dawn,

If I settle on the far side of the sea,

Even there Your hand will guide me,

Your right hand will hold me fast.

Psalm 139:1-10



Job also testifies of God's might saying:

“Behold! God is mighty, and yet despises no one nor regards anything as trivial; He is mighty in both power and

understanding. He does not let the wicked live, but gives justice to the afflicted. He never takes His eyes off the innocent, but He sets them on thrones with kings and exalts them forever. If they are bound up in chains and caught up in a web of trouble, He shows them the reason. He shows them their sins of pride. He gets their attention and commands that they turn from evil.”

“If they listen and obey God they will be blessed, all their years will be pleasant. But, if they refuse to listen to Him, they will be destroyed and die from lack of understanding. For the godless are full of bitterness and resentment. Even when He punishes them, as any good Father would, they refuse to cry out to Him for help. They die when they are young, after wasting their lives in immoral living. By means of the suffering that evil causes, He rescues those who suffer, for it is through adversity that He gets their attention.”

“God is leading you away from danger, your name, to a place free from distress. Don’t worry, judgment and justice will be upheld, but watch carefully or you may be seduced by wealth. Don’t let yourself be bribed into sin. Could all

your wealth or all your might keep you from distress? Be on guard! Turn from evil, for God sends suffering to keep you from a life dominated by evil.”

“Look, God is all-powerful! Who is a teacher like Him? No one can tell Him what to do, or say to Him, ‘You have done wrong.’ Instead, glorify His mighty works, singing songs of praise. For God is holy; He dwells in the holy place where the praises of His people are offered.

(Job 36:5-24, Ps. 22:3 AMP)



In this world there will always be reasons to complain and lose our peace, but even in the storms calm can be experienced. We can choose to think and behave in ways that cause us to feel inadequate and defeated.

Or, we can do as David did. Choose five stones, for our purposes five Scripture verses, growing as David did in faith and trust and confident assurance that God is with us, for us, in us. Through experience David was able to proclaim for all the world to hear:

I love the Lord! He is my strength!  
The Lord is my Rock, my Fortress and my Deliverer;  
My God is my Rock, in whom I take refuge.  
He is my Shield and the Horn of my salvation, my Stronghold.  
I call to the Lord, Who is worthy of praise,  
And I am saved from my enemies.

The cords of death entangled me;  
The torrents of destruction overwhelmed me.  
The cords of the grave coiled around me;  
The snares of death confronted me.  
In my distress I called to the Lord;  
I cried to my God for help.  
From His temple He heard my voice;  
My cry came before Him, into His ears.

He reached down from on high and took hold of me;  
He drew me out of deep waters.  
He rescued me from my powerful enemy,  
From my foes, who were too strong for me.  
They confronted me in the day of my disaster,  
But the Lord was my support.



He brought me out into a spacious place;  
He rescued me because He delighted in me.

As for God, His way is perfect;  
The Word of the Lord is flawless.  
He is a Shield  
For all who take refuge in Him  
For Who is God besides the Lord?  
And Who is the Rock except our God?  
It is God Who arms me with strength  
And makes my way perfect!

My arms can bend a bow of bronze,  
Of fear and stubbornness, pride and confusion!  
The Lord gives me His shield of victory  
For He has placed His armor on me  
Truth and Righteousness  
Faith and Peace and Salvation

Armor formed fitted by God's Word  
So my hope and trust and confident assurance  
Is firmly placed in this knowledge the Lord bestows:

God's right hand sustains me;  
He stoops down to make me great.  
He broadens the path beneath me,  
So that my ankles do not turn!

The Lord lives! Praise be to my Rock!  
Exalted be God my Savior!  
He is God Who avenges me,  
Who subdues nations under me!  
Who saves me from my enemies!  
My heavenly Father exalted me above my foes;  
From violent men He rescued me.  
Therefore I will praise the Lord among the nations;  
I will sing praises to His name.

The Lord gives His king great victories;  
He shows unfailing kindness to His anointed,  
To David and his descendants forever  
I love you, O Lord, my strength.

Psalm 18, Eph. 6:14-17



David has testified to the world of God's amazing goodness, His loving-kindness and faithfulness. However, he couldn't be deterred from also expressing his love directly to the Lord. Through God's Word we grow in faith; however, our perceptions cannot be changed unless we come into agreement with what God's Word is saying.

Now we may shake our heads "yes" I believe Jesus is the Life, the Truth and the only Way to the Father, but our heart can only reveal its agreement through our choices.

Paul tells us the trouble is not with God's law, His Word or His promises, for they are spiritual and good. The trouble is within us, for we are all too human. Sin is living in us, which makes it difficult for us to really understand ourselves.

Paul continued to explain, "I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate. I know that nothing good lives in me, that is in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can't. I want to do what is good, but I don't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway."

“Oh what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord. So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. And because you belong to Him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed us from the power of sin, which leads to death,” Rom. 7:14-8:2 NLT.



Look at what people did to Jesus because they were filled with fear and anger and resentment. This is what the enemy continues to do to God’s people – trial and torture, mockery and murder. However, all the good Jesus did among them God’s Word continues to do in the lives, in the hearts of all who ask – because He lives.

God has designed a process for transformation:

ASK    SEEK    KNOCK

A process of Love and Hope and Promise: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened (Matt. 7:7-8).

We may be going through the worst of times, maybe even facing death as Jesus did; however, by serving the Lord His life will be made evident even though these bodies of ours are dying, - through Jesus we are getting in on God's eternal best!

How can we keep this quiet? Not on your life. Just like the psalmist who wrote: I believed it, so I said it! We profess what we believe. And what we believe is the One Who raised up the Lord Jesus will just as certainly raise us up with Him, alive. Every detail works to our advantage and to God's glory: more and more grace, more and more people, more and more praise!

So we're not giving up. How could we! Even though on the outside it often looks like things are falling apart on us, on the inside, where God is creating new life, not a day goes by without His unfolding grace (2 Cor. 4:11-15 Message). So we can rise not be subdued by fear! So we can freely soar not remain bridled to deception.



Moses continues to speak in the hearing of all the assemblies of God's people the words of this song. For He knew after his death corrupt choices would be made instead of faithfully adhering to God's Word.

Yes, he knew in the latter days evil would befall, for wickedness was being done in the sight of the Lord provoking Him to anger with the work our hands are doing. Doesn't God's Word say:

"Give ear, O heavens, and let Me speak! And let the earth hear the words of My mouth! Let My teaching drop as rain! Yes, let My speech distill as dew, as droplets and showers on the fresh grass and herb!"

"Proclaim the name of the Lord! Ascribe greatness to your God! The Rock! His work is perfect, for all His ways are just. A God of faithfulness and without injustice! Righteous and upright is He!"

"Those who act corruptly toward Him are not His children because of their defect - a prideful heart!"

"Remember the days of old! Consider the years of all generations! Ask, and you will learn how the Most High gave the nations their inheritance. When He separated the sons of man, He set the boundaries of the people according to the number of the sons of Jacob."

“For the Lord’s portion is His people, the allotment of His inheritance!”

“He found them in a desert land, and in the howling waste of a wilderness. The Lord spread His wings and caught them! He carried them on His pinions! Yet, they forsook God Who made them, and scorned the Rock of their salvation. They made Him jealous with strange gods with abominations they provoked Him.”

“They sacrificed to demons who were not God, to gods whom they had not known, and also did not dread. They neglected the Rock Who begot them, and forgot the God Who gave them birth.”

“Because of this provocation the Lord hid His face from them, to see what their end would be, for they were perverse. Sons in whom was no faithfulness. Israel made God jealous! Provoking Him to anger with their idols! God determined they too would be made jealous by those who were not His people.”

“A fire is kindled in God’s anger, and burns to the lowest part of Sheol. The Lord allowed misfortunes to fall upon them, so their adversaries would misjudge and say: Our hand is triumphant, and the Lord has not done all this.”

“A nation lacking in counsel, for no understanding is in them. If only they would choose godly wisdom so they understood and would discern their future! For how could one chase a thousand of My people, and two put ten thousand to flight unless their Rock had sold them; unless their God had given them away to their own perversions!”

“The rock of those foolish people is nothing compared to your Rock, even your enemies know that. They are people whose vine comes right out of Sodom. Who they are is rooted in Gomorrah. Their grapes are poison and their clusters bitter. Their win is the venom of rattle snakes, mixed with lethal cobra’s poison.”

“Don’t you realize that I have My shelves well stocked, locked behind iron doors? I’m in charge of vengeance and



payback. The day of My adversaries doom is just around the corner, sudden and swift and sure.”

“And God will judge His people, but oh how compassionately He’ll do it. For He sees their weakened plight! So where are their gods, the rock in which they seek refuge? Let them show their stuff and help, let them give a hand!”

“Do you see it now? Do you see that God is the One? Do you see that there’s no other god beside Him? He brings death and He gives Life, He allows His people to be wounded by their foolish choices, but He heals – there is no getting away from or around Him.”

“God has raised His hand in solemn oath: I am always around. I live forever! I sharpen My flashing sword, and My hand takes hold of justice. I will render vengeance on My adversaries. I will repay those who hate Me.”

“Those who have no foreign god in sight, who make God’s Word alone their guide, I will make them ride on the high

places of the earth. I will feed them honey from the Rock,  
and Oil from the granite crags.”

“Come and celebrate nations, join the praise of God’s people.  
He avenges the deaths of His servants, pays back His  
enemies and cleanses His land for His people!”

Deut. 32:1-43 NASU, Deut. 32:30-43 Message



Brooke Ligertwood wrote the following song in celebration of God’s  
Word of Truth: “There’s Honey in the Rock”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UiApoXKRYFc>

There's honey in the rock, water in the stone  
Manna on the ground, no matter where I go  
I don't need to worry now that I know  
Everything I need You've got  
There's honey in the rock  
Praying for a miracle  
Thirsty for the living well  
Only You can satisfy  
Sweetness at the mercy seat

Now I've tasted, it's not hard to see

Only You can satisfy

There's honey in the rock

There's honey in the rock

Freedom where the Spirit is

Bounty in the wilderness

You will always satisfy

Yeah

There's honey in the rock, water in the stone

Manna on the ground, no matter where I go

I don't need to worry now that I know

Everything I need You've got

There's honey in the rock, purpose in Your plan

Power in the blood, healing in Your hands

Started flowing when You said it is done

Everything You did's enough

I keep looking, I keep finding

You keep giving, keep providing

I have all that I need

You are all that I need

I keep praying, You keep moving

I keep praising, You keep proving

I have all that I need

You are all that I need

I keep looking, I keep finding

You keep giving, keep providing

I have all that I need

You are all that I need

I keep praying, You keep moving

I keep praising, You keep proving

I have all that I need

You are all that I need

I have all that I need

You are all that I need

There's honey in the rock, water in the stone

Manna on the ground, no matter where I go

I don't need to worry now that I know

Everything I need You've got

There's honey in the rock, purpose in Your plan

Power in the blood, healing in Your hands

Started flowing when You said it is done

Jesus, Who You are is enough

There's honey in the rock

There's honey in the rock

Oh, how sweet, how sweet it is

To trust in You Jesus

Oh, how sweet, how sweet it is

To trust in You Jesus

Oh, how sweet, how sweet it is

To trust in You Jesus



Yes, these hard times are small potatoes compared to the coming good times, the lavish celebration prepared for us. There's more here than meets the eye. The things we see now are here today, gone tomorrow. But the things we can't see now will last forever (2 Cor. 4:11-17 Message).

God's Word works to increase our faith, but we must co-labor with Holy Spirit so our heart will be deterred from living for selfish desire. When we choose to live for God's glory, our way of life will change as we seek to honor Him showing love not just with words or tongue, but with actions and in truth.

By doing this we know we belong to the Truth, and have set our mind at rest in His presence when our heart tries to condemn us (1 John 3:18-20a). We can confidently say, “The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me,” Heb. 13:6?



Dear friend, when we have confidence in this faith and hope we receive from God, we can stand before Him and receive from Him what we ask because we are obeying His Word believing in the name of His Son, Christ Jesus, and doing our best to show love (respect, honor, appreciation) to one another.

Knowing, trusting, believing those who obey His Word live in Him,

and He in them. So *when* our heart brings to mind memories to condemn us, we can boldly profess:

I WILL praise You, O Lord, with my whole heart. Yes, I will praise thee, O Lord, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows right well. I will show forth (recount and tell aloud) all Your marvelous

works and wonderful deeds! I will rejoice in You and be in high spirits; I will sing praises to Your name, O Most High!

For You Lord maintain my right and my cause; You sit on the throne judging righteously. You rebuke the nations, and destroy the wicked, blotting out their name forever and ever. But You, O Lord, shall remain and continue forever; You have prepared and established Your throne for judgment.

The Lord will judge the world in righteousness (rightness and equity); He will minister justice to the peoples in uprightness. The Lord also will be a refuge and a high tower for the oppressed, a refuge and a stronghold in times of trouble (high cost, destitution, and despair).

Those who know Your name [who have experience and acquaintance with Your mercy] will lean on and confidently put their trust in You, for You, Lord, have not forsaken those who seek (inquire of and for) You [on the authority of God's Word].

I will sing praises to the Lord, Who dwells in Zion, and declare among the peoples His doings! For He Who avenges the blood [of His people, blood shed unjustly] remembers them; He does not forget the cry of the afflicted (the poor and the humble).

Have mercy upon me and be gracious to me, O Lord; consider how I am afflicted by those who hate me, You Who lift me up from the gates of death, that I may show forth (recount and tell aloud) all Your praises! In the gates of Zion I will rejoice in Your salvation and Your saving help.

The nations have sunk down in the pit that they made; in the net which they hid is their own foot caught. The Lord has made Himself known; He executes judgment; the wicked are snared in the work of their own hands.

O Lord! Man will not prevail; the nations will be judged before You. Put them in fear [make them realize their frail nature], O Lord, that the nations may know themselves to be but men. Selah [pause, and calmly think of that]! Yes, I will praise God, for He is greater than our heart, and He knows everything!

Psalm 9 AMP, Psalm 139:14 NKJV, 1 John 3:20b





The Lord doesn't need us to praise Him, we need to praise Him. This is why we are told to praise God in every situation so we take our eyes off our circumstances and focus on the Lord. For God's Word will keep in perfect peace those whose mind are steadfast, because they trust in Him.

Yes, trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord is the Rock eternal (Isa. 26:2-4). Surely, those who choose Humility over pride will learn and grow to love the Lord more than anything their heart may desire.

Instead of taking ourselves so seriously and our efforts so personally, a choice can be made to take the Word of Life seriously because God's Word of Truth takes our personal welfare to heart.

Though we may give something to the Lord and take it back over and over again, we will be learning to look differently at ourselves and our beliefs, at God and His Word, at the power of God's grace and His Holy Spirit, Who shares God's Word so the eternal splendor of Love and Hope and Compassion would be seen.

As we journey throughout this process of renewal and recovery, we continue to ask, we continue to seek, we continue to knock on the doors of heaven because God has promised we will receive, we will find and we will gain entrance to insight and understanding that can only come from godly Wisdom. That we might become discreet and wise using words that are like deep waters, for the fountain of skillful and godly Wisdom is like a gushing stream sparkling, fresh, pure and life-giving (Prov. 18:4 AMP).



We can learn to be less anxious. To relax and be kind to ourselves especially when we're mistaken, for you can be sure that God Who began the good work within us will keep right on helping us grow in His grace until His task within us is finally finished on that day when Jesus returns (Phil. 1:6 TLB).

God fulfilled what He foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ, the Messiah, would undergo ill treatment and be afflicted and suffer (Acts 3:17-18 AMP). So we can be assured and know that God being a partner in our labor is working all things together and fitting them into a plan for the good of those who love Him (Rom. 8:28 AMP).



So I share God's Word with hope His call would not only be heard, but we would remember not many of us were wise by human standards, nor were we influential, nor were we of noble birth.

But God, He chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise. God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things – and the things that are not – to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before Him (1 Cor. 1:26-32).

We are personally called by God Himself (1 Cor. 1:24a Message). He seats us with Him in heavenly realms in Christ Jesus (Eph. 2:6), Who is God's ultimate miracle and wisdom all wrapped up in One. Human wisdom is so tiny, so impotent, next to the seeming absurdity of God. Human strength can't begin to compete with God's "weakness" (1 Cor. 1:24b-25 Message) Christ's death on that cross.

Through baptism we are joined with Jesus in His death, for we died and were buried with Christ in baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives (Rom. 6:3-4 NLT). God's Word says:

“Even to your old age and gray hairs I am He, I am He Who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you. So come now, let us reason together. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow. Though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land.”

Isa. 46:4, Isa 1:18-19



When the Lord cleanses us, we will be clean. When He washes us, we will be whiter than snow (Ps. 51:7). How awesome our God, He has swept away our offenses like a cloud, our sins like the morning mist (Isa. 44:22a). He lets joy and gladness be heard, and amazingly we find ourselves rejoicing for what has crushed us (Ps. 51:8); yes, the anguish of our soul for by such things we live.

By such things the miraculous is encountered for our spirit finds Life in the anguish (Isa. 38:15-16a), as our eyes are opened to God’s righteousness that reaches to the skies. Who, O God, is like You?

Though You have let us see troubles, many and bitter, You restore our life again (Ps. 71:19-20a).

Yes, You restore us and let us live and grow in faith, in hope, in trust, in Your love which surely keeps us from the pit of destruction (Isa. 38:17b). From the depths of the earth You will again bring us up (Ps. 71:20b). For You have put all our sins behind Your back so the Lord could save us (Isa. 38:17b,20a). So we can take a long, hard look, and see how great God is – infinite. Greater than anything we could ever imagine or figure out (Job 36:26 Message).

Believe me, before you know it Fear-of-God will be yours; you'll have come upon the Knowledge of God (Prov. 2:5 Message). For it is the Lord Who gives wisdom. From His mouth comes knowledge and understanding. Jesus holds victory in store for those He has made to be upright (Prov. 2:5-6).



The upright are those who come to understand whatever our hands have found to do, and whatever we may do with all our might in the grave, where we are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom (Eccl. 9:10).

It is not the dead who praise the Lord, those who go down to silence (Ps. 115:17), then go away to eternal punishment (Matt. 25:46a). It is those who extol the Lord, both now and forevermore (Ps. 115:18) for those who are in Christ Jesus, God deems righteous and gives to them eternal life (Matt. 25:46b).

Just think, eternal life can be received through one decision. A decision to acknowledge the Son of God is Jesus, for only He can make our spiritual being completely righteous; however, it may take a multitude of decision making before our soul truly finds rest in that upright stance.

Why? God's Word is so different from messages we've received that have neither Light nor Truth in them (Isa. 8:20 TLB). The peace God gives is so very different, for the world gives peace with great bitterness (Isa. 38:17) causing a heart to be troubled and afraid (John 14:27).

This temporal life comes to us with sighing instead of food; with groans that pour out like water. Our greatest fears may come upon us, and what we dread could quite possibly happen. No peace, no

quietness, no rest in this world of upset, turmoil and disease (Job 3:23-26).

But a soul can be renewed so what has been lost or stolen or ignored can be recovered when Truth is heard:

“I have seen their ways, but I will heal them. I will guide them and restore comfort to them, creating praise on the lips of those who mourn. Peace, peace to those far and near, I will heal them,”

Isa. 57:18-19

Hope will be felt, as heaven’s Light shines through the darkness of confusion, doubt and disbelief so the newness of Life can be seen. God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with Holy Spirit and power, and He went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with Him (Acts 10:38).

God delivers our soul from the pit of corruption, for those who go down into the pit cannot hope for His Truth (Isa. 38:17-18 KJV). God humbles us, causing us to hunger then feeds us with Manna, His Word

of Truth, to teach us man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord (Deut. 8:3).



How else would we know the time of darkness and despair shall not go on forever? That messages without Truth or Hope or Light led people away captive, stumbling, weary and hungry.

Though the flesh is gorged, spiritually they are starving. Consequently, they rave and shake their fists at heaven and curse their King and their God. No wonder wherever they look there will be trouble and anguish and dark despair.

What reason can be given for allowing one's self to be thrust out into eternal darkness (Isa. 8:21-22 NLT)? God has given us this gift of time to decide whose counsel, whose guidance will be sought. Teachings that are not in accordance with God's Word have no dawn, no morning in them, for people who contradict His Word are completely in the dark (Isa. 8:20 NLT).



Unwilling to consider God's Word is a lamp unto our feet and a light for our path (Ps. 119:105). Unable to perceive the concern God has for those who have never seen His face or known Him personally.

Unaware of the spiritual plight of a soul parched by the desert-like conditions of disbelief. Like broken cisterns that cannot hold water are those committed to selfish desire, to the sins of forsaking God's Word, the Spring of Living Water, for in rebellion they dug for themselves cisterns that are no better than sieves (Jer. 2:13 Message).



They are unwilling to acknowledge God has spoken to mankind in the person of His Son, Whom He appointed Heir and lawful Owner of all things, also by and through Whom He created the worlds and the reaches of space and the ages of time (Heb. 1:2 AMP). Trapped in mindsets, unlikely to admit no one comes to God except through His Son, Christ Jesus. Unashamedly rejecting God's Word has said:

*"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life"*

John 14:6

Unenlightened with eyes fixed on what is temporary on everything that can be seen, instead of the eternal that which is unseen (2 Cor. 4:18). When God's Word is ignored, how will His heart be heard?

"I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness. I will build you up again and you will be rebuilt. For I have plans for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and future. So call to Me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."

Jer. 31:3-4, Jer. 29:11, Jer. 33:3



Love cannot always be rainbows and sweet as candy. There are times when love must be tough for the promotion of our welfare, especially that of an addict, child or criminal, by enforcing certain constraints and requiring responsibility be taken for our actions, the definition given for tough love. And evil ensures we are viewed as a criminal!

Tough love is something we should be using on ourselves because it is quite natural to become addicted to something, to become extremely

passionate about something and develop an obsession or fixation. Here are a few tell-tale signs of addictive behaviors:

- An inability to stop
- Changes in mood, appetite and sleep
- Continuing despite negative consequences
- Denial
- Engaging in risky behaviors
- Feeling preoccupied with a substance or behavior
- Legal and financial problems
- Losing interest in other things that were once enjoyed

No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful (Heb. 12:11a).

Like any good parent God disciplines us but only with justice, He will not let us go entirely unpunished (Jer. 46:28).

We learn through our mistakes. However, God doesn't want our mistaken judgments to result in Death being faced a second time, the fiery lake of burning sulfur. The place where unbelief was not stopped, where the vile and murderers would not change, where the consequence for sexual immorality is encountered, where the cost for practicing the occult will be paid, where the risky behaviors of

idolaters and all liars will be realized (Rev. 21:8). Remember misery greatly desires company!

God wants us to know His Word of Truth so we don't make light or ignore the Lord's discipline, and we don't lose heart when He rebukes us (Heb. 12:5). This is how God educates us so don't give up or drop out. He's treating us as His dear children. The trouble we find ourselves in isn't punishment it's training, the normal experience of children (Heb. 12:7-8 Message).



God's Word tells us:

"I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

John 16:33

We come to God as a child, as newly born-again believers relying on the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah (1 John 5:1).

Jesus knew the Father had put all things under His power, and that He had come from God and was returning to God (John 13:3). To all who receive Him, to those who believe in His name, He gives the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision, but born of God (John 1:12-13).

The Lord disciplines those He loves (Heb. 12:6a). And though He was a Son, He learned obedience from what He suffered (Heb. 5:8).

Therefore, the children of God will also learn obedience from what they suffer while not conforming to the evil desires they had when they lived in ignorance (1 Pet. 1:14) so all glory can be given to the Lord.

The children of God grow and mature because we are aware of and grateful for God's concern: That our hearts would be braced (comforted, cheered and encouraged) as we are being knit together in Love, so we may come to have all the abounding wealth and blessings of assured conviction of understanding, and that we may become progressively more intimately acquainted with and may know more definitely and accurately and thoroughly the secret of God, which is Christ, the Anointed One.

~

Yes, in Jesus all the treasures of divine wisdom (comprehensive insight into the ways and purposes of God) and all the riches of spiritual knowledge and enlightenment are stored up and lie hidden. God desires no one to be misled or deluded by plausible and persuasive and attractive arguments and beguiling speech (Col. 2:2-4 AMP).

God wants us to no longer behave like children, forever changing our minds about what we believe because someone has told us something different or has cleverly lied to us and made the lie sound like the Truth. Instead, we will follow God's Word of Truth at all times and so become more and more in every way like Christ (Eph. 4:14-16 TLB).

That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our inner strength in the Lord is growing every day. These troubles and sufferings of ours won't last long.

Yet, those times of distress result in God's richest blessing upon us forever and ever. So we do not look at what we can see right now, the troubles all around us, but we look forward to the joys in heaven which we have not yet seen. The troubles will soon be over, but the joys to come will last forever (2 Cor. 4:16-18 TLB).



How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God. And that is what we are! Now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known.

But, we know that when the Lord appears, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is (1 John 3:1-2). So don't forget the word of encouragement that addresses you as sons because the Lord disciplines those He loves, and He punishes everyone He accepts as a son (Heb. 12:6).

Discipline produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who are being trained by it (Heb. 12:11b). God wants us to consider the great bitterness of this world differently, realizing what the enemy intends for our harm, God will and does use it for our benefit so Good would be known and experienced (Isa. 38:17a)! So we would turn and repent and hear the Lord:

“Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. Here I am! I stand at the door of your heart and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with

them, and they with Me. The One Who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters.”

“Who says forget the former things, do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up, do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland to give drink to My people, My chosen, the people I formed for Myself that they may proclaim My praise.”

“I, even I, am He Who blots out your transgressions, for My own sake, and remembers your sins no more. Review the past for Me, let us argue the matter together; state the case you have against Me and prove your innocence.”

Rev. 3:1-9-20, Isa. 43:16-26



Yes, the Lord allows us to partake of the bread of adversity and drink the water of affliction, yet He has also given us this gift of time for our eyes to constantly behold our Teacher. So our ears will hear a word behind us saying:



“This is the way; walk in it,”

That when we turn to the right hand and when we turn to the left (Isa 30:20-21 AMP) God’s Word will be our Guide. Truth cannot be denied. The enemy is always causing evil thoughts to come against us, but God! He means (plans, purposes, accomplishes) good in adversity, to bring about the saving of many lives (Gen. 50:20).

Disappointments, sorrows and anguish cause a hunger for more, for more good in times of adversity. How difficult it can prove to be not to keep our eyes on what can be seen and heard and felt.

But, if we discipline ourselves and set our minds on things above, not on earthly things (Col.3:2) we will gain the understanding God intends for us to have in our possession when Truth is known. In ALL things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose (Rom.8:28).

At my church we profess this proclamation every service, “I was born with value and purpose. My life has promise and potential as it unfolds in accordance to God’s eternal plan.”

When our heart truly possesses knowledge such as this God's Word of Life will be felt warming our heart even in the coldest, bleakest nights of the soul, as we come to know and believe and trust God's Son, Christ Jesus, is the Living Bread God offers, for the life of the world is His flesh (John 6:51 AMP).

When we respond to God's call:

"Return to Me, for I have redeemed you,"

Isa 44:22b



### THE COMMISSION

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=APATH3ea-D0>

See My hands and look at My feet  
It's okay if it's hard to believe  
I have faith you will do greater things  
It's My time to go but before I leave  
Go tell the world about Me

I was dead but now I live  
I've gotta go now for a little while  
But goodbye is not the end  
Don't forget the things that I taught you  
I've conquered death and I hold the keys  
Where I go you will go too, someday  
But there's much to do here before you leave

Go tell the world about Me  
I was dead but now I live  
I've gotta go now for a little while  
But goodbye is not the  
End of the journey, the end of the road  
My Spirit is with you wherever you go  
You have a purpose and I have a plan  
I'll make you this promise  
I'll come back again but until then

Go tell the world about Me  
I was dead but now I live  
I've gotta go now for a little while  
But goodbye is not the end

Song by Cain

When we realize how blessed are those whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered; when we truly comprehend just how blessed the person whose sins the Lord does not count against them, and in whose spirit is no deceit (Ps. 32:1-2). For then we will know the fear of the Lord. We will know the privilege God has extended to mankind that we can turn to Him and receive eternal life (Acts 11:18 TLB).



Yes, right now we have been made right in God's sight by faith in His Word, in His promises. We can know real peace with Him because of what Christ Jesus our Lord has done for us. Because of our faith, Jesus has brought us into this place of highest privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to actually becoming all that God has had in mind for us to be (Rom. 5:1-2 TLB).

For though we were wayward in spirit we have gained understanding; though we have complained we accept instruction. We are becoming familiar with the work of His hands, and we will keep His name holy. We acknowledge His holiness, and stand in awe of the God of Israel (Isa. 29:23-24). Willing to humble ourselves like a little child - trusting,

loving, forgiving (Matt. 18:4 AMP), and praising the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for in His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of His Son from the dead.

God has given us entrance into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade – kept in heaven for those, who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. Though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, you believe in Him and are filled with an awe and reverence, an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your soul (1 Peter 1:2-8).



What would cause someone to love darkness instead of Light, which has come into the world? Is it fear? Fear of their deeds being exposed. Only God knows what prevents a soul from coming into the Light (John 3:19-20). Could it be they have no fear of God? Uninterested in listening to the Good News, is it just meaningless chatter to them? Are they unable to look past what inhibits so Truth would be heard:

“Who can endure the day of the Lord’s coming? Who can stand when He appears? He will come near to those who do not fear Him for judgment. He will be quick to testify against sorcerers, adulterers and perjurers, against those who defraud and deceive who oppress and deprive justice.”

“Evil leads to deep darkness, and those who follow the way of wrongdoing don’t know what makes them stumble. When faith is placed in human principles, standards and traditions, getting right with God will never be successful. No one can do enough or be good enough to receive salvation that faith depending on and trusting in God bestows.”

“God has placed a Rock in the path of those keeping to the way of human effort. Those who challenge God’s existence, His authority and power will stumble over that Rock, Christ Jesus. Those who believe, who step out in faith to receive from God will never be disappointed.”

Mal. 3:2-5, Prov. 4:19, Rom. 9:30-33 TLB



Those who have turned to God in faith are being saved as a result of God's kindness. They've been chosen by grace, and if by grace, then it is no longer by works of human effort, intellect or tradition; if it were, grace would no longer be grace. The free gift of God would no longer be free – it isn't free when it is earned (Rom. 11:5-6 TLB).

Those who are thinking of their own self-interest following their own self-centered ways have become thick-skinned toward God, because they themselves have assumed the role of god (Rom. 11:7-11 Message). And those who do: unfortunately, will realize the consequence for assuming.

But God, He will destroy all human plans of being saved no matter how wise they seem to be; He will ignore the best ideas of men, even the most brilliant of them (1 Cor. 1:19 TLB). They don't know how God works, but sadly, like all mankind they will experience how powerfully it turns out. The Message which points to Christ on the Cross seems like sheer silliness to those hell-bent on destruction, but for those on the way to salvation it makes perfect sense.

There is no way to reach God unless we allow Him to exalt us above self-interest!

God will turn conventional wisdom on its head, He'll expose so-called experts as shams. So where can you find someone truly wise, truly educated, truly intelligent in this day and age? Hasn't God exposed it all as pretentious nonsense? Since the world in all its fancy wisdom never had a clue when it came to knowing God, God in His wisdom took delight in using what the world considered stupid – preaching of all things – to bring those who trust Him before the Life, the Truth and the Way Who brings salvation (1 Cor. 1:19 Message) Christ Jesus.



God's Word edifies and uplifts, encourages and supports, teaching us how to be as cunning as snakes and as harmless and inoffensive as doves; warning us to stay alert! Not to be naïve, for serving the Lord can be hazardous work (Matt. 10:16 Message).

However, not serving the Lord will prove to be much more hazardous for our eternal well-being. So don't allow your thoughts and feelings to sway your opinion of God. Don't allow fear or disbelief or self-interest to prevent you from accepting God's challenge: Change.



Eleanor Bruce posted on the website MindTools: Resisting change normally comes down to one thing: Fear. Specifically, fear of the unknown. Even with the fullest amount of information possible, there are things we can't predict and it's scary. It's not only the "negative" changes we fear, such as being laid off or facing a health issue. Even the most exciting changes, the ones we seek out and initiate ourselves are sometimes hard to lean into. It's a rollercoaster of emotion – happiness and elation to fear and anxiety.

<https://www.mindtools.com/blog/resisting-change/#:~:text=Resisting%20change%20normally%20comes%20down,or%20facing%20a%20health%20crisis>

Yes, it is normal for us to experience the effects of fear: alarm, anxiety, dread, horror, dismay, discontent, depression, cowardice, mistrust, disbelief, paranoia, unwillingness....because in this world unlike death and taxes change is going to occur.

However, the miraculous effects of fear: awe, wonder, astonishment, respect, reverence, comfort, solace, encouragement, confidence, contentment, honor, gratitude, worship, praise, delight, perfect love...can become steadfast as we experience God anchoring us to His never-changing Word so Holy Spirit can work change within us.



Yes, the Word of Truth works in the children of God so we will have again, or so we will have what we may never have had, peace and security, and no one will make us afraid, for the Lord declares:

“I am with you and will save you”

Jer. 30:10-11

One day we will each go the way of all the earth, but right now with all our heart and soul we can come to know that not one of all the good promises the Lord our God gave us will fail. Every promise God will fulfill; not one will fail (Josh. 23:14).

The following information was taken from the website God Questions: The Bible is the story of human history and God’s work in it. The most significant event in human history is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The story of this event permeates the text of Scripture.

The creation account shows us God’s sovereignty over His creation. The fall shows us why we need a Savior. The history of Israel shows two significant things: 1) The historical context of the coming of the

Son of God incarnate, and 2) Humanity's inability to save itself through works, it reveals our need for a Savior.

The Gospels tell the story of Jesus the Savior on earth, and much of the rest of the New Testament teaches how to live in this age in light of Jesus' work on our behalf. The prophecies of the Bible, particularly Daniel and Revelation but also elsewhere, show what Jesus as Savior is saving us to (eternal paradise) and from (eternal damnation in hell).

The story of Jesus saturates the metanarrative of the Bible, and prophecies of His advent are found throughout the Old Testament. Allusions to Him also come up in micro ways, as many people and events hint at the work He would accomplish.

One scholar, J. Barton Payne, has found as many as 574 verses in the Old Testament that somehow point to or describe or reference the coming Messiah. Alfred Edersheim found 456 Old Testament verses referring to the Messiah or His times. Conservatively, Jesus fulfilled at least 300 prophecies in His earthly ministry.

FYI: If you want to check it out, in this article "How Many Prophecies Did Jesus Fulfill" an attempt was made to list the types and prophecies

given in the Old and New Testaments that Jesus has fulfilled. Undoubtedly, it's not complete. But, that's one of the great things about the Bible – the more you read it, the more you see.

<https://www.gotquestions.org/prophecies-of-Jesus.html>



Jonathan Bernis posted on the website FIRM (Fellowship of Israel Related Ministries) in his article “How Many Prophecies Did Jesus Fulfill: Jesus (Yeshua in Hebrew) fulfilled not just the 48 specifically Messianic prophecies.

The chance of a single man fulfilling “just” 48 of the prophecies found in the Tanakh (Old Testament) would be 1 in 10X157! In other words, that is 1 followed by 157 zeros! In fact, Jesus fulfilled more than 324 individual prophecies that related to the Messiah! The first calculation was amazing enough for me. So, the probability of one man fulfilling 324 prophecies must be a number beyond comprehension for anyone!

<https://firmisrael.org/learn/how-many-prophecies-did-jesus-fulfill/>

With this in mind we can be more than confident the miraculous Word of Life will work in our behalf so God's perfect love can drive out all our fear (1 John 4:18) if we allow Him to do so. Everything we need to live a self-controlled, upright and godly life (Titus 2:12) we receive

through faith in God's goodness, His unfailing love. Without faith in God's Word, Christ Jesus, it is impossible to please God (Heb. 11:5a).



Allow the Lord to take your hand, step out in faith with the One, Who promises to instruct you and teach you in the way you should go, to counsel you and watch over (Ps. 32:8) and discover the privilege God has extended to you.

Though we have been downcast and foolish and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken of Christ, Who had to suffer before He could enter His glory, God has given us His Word.

As He did on the road to Emmaus, God's Word accompanies us and explains beginning with Moses and all the Prophets what was said in all the Scriptures concerning God's Anointed One, His Messiah, Christ Jesus (Luke 24:25-17).

It makes no difference who you believe Jesus to be, if you chose to walk with Him on the way of Truth He will begin to fill you with all the fullness of Life (His Word) and Power (His Spirit) that comes from God. Jesus will give thanks to God for this time of fellowship. He will

give you Bread knowing a very special Day is waiting for your arrival. The day when you realize Jesus has won your heart.

So take that step of faith and the next one and the one after that, because somewhere along the Way of Truth the Life God sent from heaven will also cause a burning in your heart as His Word accompanies you on this journey, as Holy Spirit not only opens the Scriptures to Love that surpasses knowledge (Eph. 3:19), but opens your eyes so Jesus can be recognized (Luke 24:30-31).



Through God's Word we receive the faith, the trust, the hope and the confidence to believe God is able to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or imagine, according to His Power (Holy Spirit) and Life (His Word) that is at work within us. Through faith we are given this testimony: God has given us eternal life and this life is in His Son (1 John 5:12) Who said:

“Anyone who comes to the Father must believe He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him. Father, the uttered words that You gave Me I have given them; and they have received and accepted them, and have come to

know positively and to believe with absolute assurance that I came forth from Your presence, and they have believed and are convinced that You did send Me.”

Heb. 11:5b, John 17:8 AMP



God takes a very personal interest in our lives, and He has given us His Word so we can also take a personal interest in Him. Some knowledge may be gained from others, but one-on-one time spent with God’s Word gives the heart permission to truly know and understand that in every detail of our life God will be working good for those who ask and seek and knock on heaven’s door.

God’s Word challenges our personal convictions so we can be liberated from whatever hinders and harms like fear and guilt and shame; Truth will always provide a way for condemnation and complacency and disbelief to be challenged and opposed.

Faith makes it possible for us to receive Truth: God knows everything we need, and from day-to-day He gives all we need as we aim for this goal: To seek first all of His kingdom and His righteousness (Matt. 6:32-33 AMP). For God is able to make all grace abound to us, so that

in all things at all times we have all that we need, so we too can abound in every good work (2 Cor. 9:8).



God's Word of Truth fills us with Hope: For God chose to make known to all mankind the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in us, the hope of sharing His glory (Col. 1:27). For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when He comes? Is it not you? Indeed, you are our glory and joy (1Thess. 2:19-20).

A better Hope has been introduced to us, by which we draw near to God because Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant (Heb. 7-19-22). Those who wait in hope for the Lord discover God's Word is our help and our shield. We trust in the holy name of Jesus, and our heart rejoices in Him, Who has delivered us from death.

Yes, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear Him, on those whose hope is in His unfailing love (Ps. 33:18-21). Our hope is in the Lord, and we take refuge in Him. Integrity and uprightness protects us (Ps. 25:20-21), because the Lord's unfailing love rests upon us (Ps. 33:22).





God's unfailing love is as high as the heavens, His faithfulness reaches to the clouds (Ps. 57:10 NLT). His gifts and His call are irrevocable (Rom. 11:29). His loving-kindness is great beyond measure. His glory far more vast than the heavens, towering above the earth, He has given us His sacred promises (Ps. 108.4 -5,7a TLB).

No matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through the Lord the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God. Now it is God Who makes us stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set His seal of ownership on us, and put His Spirit in our heart as a deposit guaranteeing what is to come (2 Cor. 1:20-22).

God may so "No" to a request, but what He gives nothing can compare - Faith, Hope, Love, Grace and Assurance -

"I am with you; that is all you need.  
My power shows up best in weak people."

Like Paul, we too can be glad to boast about how weak we are. We don't need to feel shame or concern about what others may think. We

can be glad to be a living demonstration of Christ's power, instead of showing off our own power and abilities. Since you know it is for Christ's glory we can express gratitude when we are weak, when we face hardships and insults and difficulty. For when we are weak, then we are strong - realizing the less we have, the more we depend on the Lord (2 Cor. 12:9-10 TLB).



No wonder I exult the Lord (Ps. 108:7b). God's Word has filled me with awe and respect and wonder. Though He has bound all mankind over to disobedience, He does so that His mercy may be revealed to all.

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!  
How unsearchable His judgments, and His paths beyond tracing out!  
Who has known the mind of the Lord? Who has been His counselor?  
Who has ever given to God that He should repay them? From Him and through Him and to Him are all things (Rom. 11:28-36).

So dear friends, I warn you we are all "temporary residents and foreigners" during this time on earth. So keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very soul (1 Peter 2:11 NLT).

Life, lovely while it lasts, is soon over. Life as we know it, precious and beautiful, ends. The body is put back in the same ground it came from. The spirit returns to God, Who first breathed it. Yes, you'll be well on your way to the place of eternal rest (Eccl. 12:5-7 Message) or eternal torment.

Many stumble because they do not believe in or adhere to or rely on God's Word, and so they meet the fate that was planned for them. But those who trust the Lord recognize the honor God has given them. They are not like those who reject (1 Peter 2:7-8 NLT) the One God led us to: The Rock that is higher than ourselves (Ps. 61:3).



God calls us out of the darkness into His wonderful Light so we can show others His goodness. For once we had no identity as a people, now we are God's people. Once we received no mercy, now we have received God's mercy (1 Peter 2:9b-10 NLT). Our salvation and our honor depend on God; He is our mighty Rock, our refuge (Ps. 62:7).

Those with faith and hope and the greatest of all, which is Love (1 Cor. 13:13), are filled with fear of the Lord, with humility and honor and life (Prov. 22:4), with awe and reverence and wonder! What is man, O

Lord, that You are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? You made us a little lower than the heavenly beings, and crown us with glory and honor (Ps. 8:4-5).

God has a chosen people. People who profess God alone is our Rock and our Salvation; He is our Fortress, we will not be shaken (Ps. 62:6). People who understand we are God's very own possession, royal priests, a holy nation (1 Peter 2:9a NLT).

Our soul prospers because we cherish the Truth, for it is the Lord Who offers us such precious nuggets. Revelatory nuggets more valuable than gold for they are God given! People who love their own soul seek godly Wisdom (Prov. 19:8). Knowing in repentance and rest is our salvation, in quietness and trust is our strength (Isa. 30:15).



Since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our "God is a consuming fire." Heb. 12:28-29. He sits as a refiner and purifier of silver; He will purify His people and refine them like gold and silver. The Lord will have people who will bring offerings in righteousness, offerings acceptable to God (Mal. 3:2-4), Who says:

“See, I will refine and test them, for what else can I do because of the sins of My people? I will refine you, though not as silver; I will test you in the furnace of affliction, for My own sake, I do this. How can I let Myself be defamed? I will not yield my glory to another.”

Jer. 9:7, Isa. 48:10-11

The Lord will wash away the filth of the women (His bride) of Zion, He will cleanse the bloodstains from Jerusalem (His nation Israel) by a spirit of judgment and a spirit of fire (Isa. 4:4-5 AMP). Holy Spirit will convict the world of its sin, and of God’s righteousness, and of the coming of judgment.

The world’s sin is that it refuses to believe in Jesus, the Son of God. That righteousness is available to anyone and everyone because the Lord has gone to the Father, and you see Him no more. And judgment will surely come because the prince of this world now stands condemned (John 16:7-11 NLT).

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God once again has had compassion on us. He has tread our sins underfoot, and hurled all our iniquities into the depths of the sea (Mic. 7:19). He has opened a fountain to cleanse us from sin's impurity. On that day, He will banish the names of the idols from the land, and they will be remembered no more (Zech. 13:1-2).

In His faithfulness God will reward every believer, for He has made an everlasting covenant with them (Isa. 61:8). The Lord loves justice, He will comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion – to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.

God's people will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of His splendor. They will be called priests of the Lord, ministers of our God. Instead of shame a double portion will be received. Instead of disgrace they will rejoice in their inheritance, and everlasting joy will be theirs (Isa. 61:2-8).

So don't nullify the Word of God for the sake of tradition or self-interest. Don't honor the Lord with your lips, while your heart is far from Him. Don't worship Him in vain, for your teachings are but rules taught by men (Matt. 15:6-9).

If anyone desires to come after God's Word of Truth, let them deny themselves, and take up their cross daily, and follow Him. For those who desire to save their life will lose it; but, whosoever loses their life for His sake will save it (Luke 9:23-24).



I have heard people describe a physical ailment as the cross they carry, and from personal experience I know the difficulty coping with physical, emotional, financial or social challenges. However, for the purpose of which I've been writing, our human condition, consider how God designed our body.

When standing upright our head and heart and soul and strength extend from earth to heaven, while outstretched arms complete the form of a cross. Look in the mirror and know God created us to stand upright to love Him with all our heart and mind and soul and strength, and with outstretched arms to offer love to others as we love ourselves. The Lord said:

“These two commands are the most important. They sum up the whole of the Law and the Prophets.”

Mark 12:31, Matt. 22:40

Sadly, our heart has made love appear fickle. Surely a heart must have strength for it's essential to the life of the body; however, the heart has proven its imperfections and weakness, unable to sustain the essentials of love.

For perfect Love is patient and kind, Love does not envy nor does it boast, Love is not proud or rude, Love is not self-seeking nor easily angered, Love keeps no record of wrongs nor delights in evil. Love rejoices with the Truth. Love always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails (1 Cor. 13:4-8).



Your heavenly Father is perfect (Matt. 5:48). He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous (Matt. 5:45). God is Love. We love because He first loved us (1 John 4:16&19). Unfortunately for mankind, Adam shrieked his commitment to God causing the human heart to become self-serving instead of remaining a loyal minister to God (Hos. 6:7). His Word attests:



“Nothing can hide its evil as well as the human heart. It is dark and deceitful, no one really understands it. But I am the Lord, and I can look into a person’s heart, and examine its secret motives. I can test a person’s mind, and get to the root of things”

Jer. 17:9-10 ERV/Message

The testing of our faith develops perseverance. And perseverance must finish its work so we may be mature and complete, not lacking anything (James 1:3-4). Until finally the body of Christ, the Church, reaches unity in the faith about our salvation, and in the knowledge of the Son of God, our Savior – yes, to the point of being filled with God’s Word to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Then we will no longer be like children (Eph. 4:12-14 TLB) that are not acquainted with the teachings of righteousness. Instead, from experience we are learning to see the difference between Good and Evil (Heb. 5:14 ERV).

A Message of wisdom is being spoken among the mature (1 Cor. 2:6): Test everything. Hold on to the good. Avoid every kind of evil (1 Thess. 5:21). To do so, we must stop thinking like children, but in our

minds be mature (1 Cor. 14:20). Trusting in the Lord with all our heart, not depending on our own understanding (Prov. 3:5 NLT).

If there is uncertainty ask God, Who gives wisdom generously to all without finding fault (James 1:5). Surely when you seek His will in all you do, He will show you which path to take. So don't be impressed with your own wisdom. Instead, fear the Lord and turn away from evil (Prov. 6-7 NLT).



Let your faith be greater than your fear, for who has known or understood the mind of the Lord so as to guide and instruct Him and give Him knowledge? God has given us His Word so we could have the mind of Christ and possess the very thoughts of His heart (1 Cor. 2:16 AMP).

Therefore remember, when we ask we must believe and not doubt, because those who doubt are like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. They are double-minded, unstable in all they do (James 6:7). How long will they continue wavering between two opinions? If the Lord is God, then follow Him (1 Kings 18:21); but if you seem wise

in your own eyes, then take the path your heart desires, the one of least resistance.

But, when all is said and done, the end of the matter is: Fear God (revere and worship Him, knowing that He is), and keep His commandments, for this is the whole of man (the full, original purpose of his creation, the object of God's providence, the root of character, the foundation of all happiness, the adjustment to all inharmonious circumstances and conditions under the sun) and the whole (duty) for everyone. God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it is good or evil (Eccl. 12:13-14 AMP).



I'm sure we all can agree, when love stems from a heart-felt desire, a soul can be easily overwhelmed by emotion. Love doesn't mean constantly doing for others, and it certainly doesn't mean being focused on the needs of just one person, ourselves.

Love is covenant and commitment. Love is faithfulness and contentment. Love is doing what is right and being kind. Love is forgiving and so very gracious. Love is personally interacting and

caring. Love is just and walks humbly. Love is peaceful and giving. Everything about Love, God's Word shares with us.

Psalm 36 addresses what evil shares. Sin! It whispers to the wicked, deep within their heart. They have no fear of God at all. In their blind conceit, they cannot see how wicked they really are. Everything they say is crooked and deceitful. They refuse to act wisely or do good. They lie awake at night, hatching sinful plots. Their actions are never good. They make no attempt to turn from evil (ps. 36:1-4 NLT).



Can anything be more extreme than Good and Evil, or so completely opposite as Love and Abomination. Yet, we must manage our lives with a heart that sin and pride and fear have corrupted.

How can balance be found when self-serving standards and agendas have been set in place? Seeing ourselves from God's perspective may seem an unwelcomed experience; however, this is how the Lord sets us free, so we will indeed be free (John 8:36).

Yes, weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning (Ps. 30:5). How many times I wished this could be true for me. I didn't know how to let go of the past or stop worrying about my tomorrows.

Sadly, I had to come to the end of doing everything I could think of doing. What's even worse to admit, there were times when my behavior would have caused someone, anyone to question my salvation.

I had faith in my relationship with God, what I lacked was trust. Isn't trust something that is earned? I would tell God I trusted Him, but I surely wasn't behaving like I did.

How difficult seemingly so hypocritical. Unnecessarily abusing, berating myself for being human. What seems impossible in times of turmoil seeing, thinking even doing what is good, but God, nothing is impossible with Him (Luke 18:27) because His perfect Love is unfailing.

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You don't have to be a nurse to know the most unpleasant secretions come out of us. Thankfully, in the age we live there are many medical remedies we can seek to maintain and care for the health of our body.

Unfortunately, many of the emotional and psychological problems with which we struggle have a direct impact on our physical well-being. Again thankfully, there are many options available to help restore our equilibrium.

Believe me, I sought medical and emotional assistance and couldn't seem to move beyond heartache and frustration. I mention all this so you know even though my trust was focused at eye-level no matter what came out of me because of my faith I was able to discover just how faithful God really is.

By coming to the end of my self-effort, though my thoughts and feelings tried to keep me down, my focus was lifted because faith in God's Word helped me to discover He is so very deserving of my trust.

Faith that acknowledges Jesus is the Son of God helped me find Hope in the appearance of a hopeless situation. Faith that acknowledges

Jesus is Savior made it possible for me to experience Love from everlasting-to-everlasting instead of what is made temperamental by expectations. Faith that acknowledges Jesus is Lord: He says what He means and means what He says:

“Surely My arm is not too short to save, nor is My ear too dull to hear. Sin separated you from God, but as far as the east is from the west He has removed your transgressions from you. As a father has compassion on his children, so your heavenly Father has compassion on those who fear – honor, respect, and heed – His Word.”

Isa. 59:1-2, Ps. 103:12-13



For years I followed the promptings of my heart, so keying into the promptings of Holy Spirit I’m still fine-tuning. By gaining knowledge of God’s Word, I was able to gain the confidence through faith that what God says is meant for my welfare, and His Word is meant to bring me reconciliation, renewal and recovery. God’s intervention is the same for everyone: Inner healing, deliverance, salvation; however, His Word addresses us personally:

“As the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and does not return there but waters the earth to give seed to the sower and bread to the eater. So shall My Word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out with joy, and be led out with peace.”

Isa. 55:1-12 NKJV



Following the promptings of my heart definitely brought me to the end of efforts to be self-reliant. It all comes down to what the choices have been since expulsion from the Garden of Eden, for God has set before us Life and Death, Blessings and Curses.

Because of His loving-kindness God sends His Word telling us to choose life so we can live. Through God’s Word we can listen to His voice so we may grow to trust and love the Lord our God. By God’s Word we are given the strength to hold fast to Him for the Lord is our life (Deut. 30:19-20).



Even though Death was chosen because of our willfulness and sin, God, Who is so very rich in mercy and because of His great love for us, chose to make us alive with Christ even though we were dead in our transgressions and sins. God has freely given mankind a gift that is as totally unbelievable as it is underserving - His grace - His pardon from the penalty and punishment of sin so we can be saved (Eph. 2:4-5).



God has extended this gift to all mankind. No one is excluded. Sadly, we exclude ourselves when God's Word of Life is rejected. Because we are so very unique there are a multitude of diverse reasons that make it difficult for us to receive. Here are a few possibilities that make receiving more difficult than giving:

- Defense against intimacy
- Letting go of control
- Fear of strings being attached
- Believing it is selfish to receive

Mark Leruste posted this article, "Why receiving is harder than giving: What Brene Brown taught me about vulnerability." Receiving love, receiving help is much more vulnerable than giving. Because, you can

stay armored up and give, but you cannot stay armored up and receive.

So I think it's about vulnerability and self-protection. It takes a lot of work and practice. I think it's a self-worth issue. Because, when you receive, not only do you affirm your own worthiness and open the way for more, but you make possible even greater joys for the giver.

<https://markleruste.medium.com/why-receiving-is-harder-than-giving-what-bren%C3%A9-brown-taught-me-about-vulnerability-97228e34087d>

I found this on the blog Boundaries.me: Receiving challenges your self-image. It is easier to give than to receive, but not necessarily better. Allowing others to help you is a sign of strength, not weakness. It reminds you that you're not in charge.

<https://www.boundaries.me/blog/why-it-s-difficult-for-someone-to-receive-a-gift>



The following was taken from the article, "It's easier to give than receive, but not necessarily better," which was written by Jesse Lyn Stoner, and posted on the website for Sea Point Center.

How many times have you heard, "It's better to give than to receive?" It's so ingrained in our culture, we don't even question it. Chances are

you may believe this wholeheartedly, which means you also probably believe you should

- Always be competent
- Never make mistakes
- And always be strong

Likely you may believe you should only receive when you have something to give in exchange. One problem with this attitude is that when you are in a situation where you don't have a choice and must receive, you are likely to feel

- Humiliated
- Incompetent
- Stupid

Why? Because receiving challenges your self-image! It is easier to give than to receive, but not necessarily better. Allowing others to help you is a sign of strength, not weakness. Here are a few reasons why receiving is good:

- It reminds you that you're not in charge

- It keeps you humble
- You allow others the opportunity to feel the pleasure of giving
- You get to experience gratitude
- You develop a realistic self-image
- You create a space for others to shine
- You begin to understand what strength really is
- You become a more well-rounded person
- Your relationships become richer

It is also good to give, especially when you are not looking for something in exchange. That is the true spirit of generosity. However, helping others when they CAN help themselves is NOT an act of generosity. It takes away their power, opportunity for growth and keeps them dependent.

What's important? Knowing when to give and when to receive! There's a time to give and a time to receive. When it's your time to receive, just say, "Thank you." Allow yourself to feel the precious gift of gratitude that naturally arises.

<https://seapointcenter.com/not-always-better-to-give/>



Yes, there are many reasons not to receive. Asaph wrote Psalm 73 to tell of his reason:

“As for me, my feet had almost slipped, I had nearly lost my foothold for I envied the arrogant, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. Their people turn to them and drink up waters in abundance. They say, ‘How can God know? Does the Most High have knowledge?’”

“When I tried to understand all this, it was oppressive to me till I entered the sanctuary of God; then I understood their final destiny. Surely, Lord, you place them on slippery ground; You cast them down to ruin. How suddenly are they destroyed, completely swept away by terrors! As a dream when one awakes, so when you arise, O Lord, You will despise them as fantasies.”

“When my heart was grieved and my spirit embittered, I was senseless and ignorant; I was as a brute beast before You. Yet, I am always with You, You hold me by my right hand. You guide me with Your counsel, and afterward You will take me into glory.”

“Whom have I in heaven but You? And earth has nothing I desire besides You. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. Lord, those who are far from You will perish; all who are unfaithful to You will be destroyed. But as for me, I have determined it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign Lord my refuge; I will tell of all His deeds.”



What is so amazing, God continues to give throughout our immaturity and bad judgments. He waits and supports and encourages, uplifts and strengthens us as we grow in trust and love for Him and His Word.

This is why I always remember in my prayers to thank God for His kindness and patience and for loving me so unconditionally. Yes, I pray to my great and glorious heavenly Father, the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, thanking Him for His Word and His Spirit, Who lets us know truths about Himself and helps us to understand them, so that we would know Him better.

I pray that God would open your mind to see His truth. Then you will know the hope that He has chosen us to have. You will know the blessings God has promised - His holy people are rich and glorious. I want you to realize that God has been made rich because we who are Christ's have been given to Him (TLB).



I pray that you will know that God's power is very great for us who believe. It is the same as the mighty power He used to raise Christ from death, and put Him at His right side in the heavenly places. He put Christ over all rulers, authorities, powers and kings. He gave Jesus authority over everything that has power in this world or in the next world.

God put everything under Christ's power and made Him Head over everything for the Church. The Church is Christ's body. It is filled with Him. He makes everything complete in every way (Eph. 1:15-23 ERV).

How remarkable that people spoke truth but couldn't recognize Jesus is the source of truth for they said, "Teacher, we know that You speak and teach what is right, and that You show no partiality to anyone but teach the way of God honestly and in truth," Luke 20:21 AMP.

What were their reasons for holding so tightly to what their heart desired, to self-interest, what they thought and felt and believed to be right and true, only God could reveal to them the complete picture. Sadly, they were not interested in His opinion.



I have heard this argument - the Bible was written by those like us people made of flesh and blood. This is true as it is of every other doctrine to be found. The difference with Christianity God points mankind to the empty grave of Jesus. Yes, God points us to the Lord, for Jesus is alive and well! He will not give His glory to another or His praise to idols (Isa. 42:8).

God sent an angel to those who sought Jesus, and the angel said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, Who was crucified. He has risen; He is not here. See the place where they laid Him," Mark 16:6 ESV.



They made His grave with the wicked and with a rich man in His death, although He had done no violence, and no deceit was in His



mouth (Isa. 53:9 ESV). Yes, Jesus was buried, He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures (1 Cor. 15:4 ESV).

The tomb was as empty as it remains today. So, if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. And, if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is our faith.

More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified God raised Christ from the dead. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than any other for our faith would be futile (1 Cor. 15:13-19).

So I ask you to consider how Good and Evil are revealed on the earth, is it not through people? Don't good things come forth from the good someone has stored up in their heart? Don't evil things come forth from the evil a person stores up in their heart (Luke 6:45)? Jesus asks:

“Does this offend you? Why not believe the Son of Man ascended to where He was before! The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and they are Life. Yet I know some won't believe.”

John 6:61-64



The life of Jesus left such an indelible mark on the world even the timeline changed from BC before Christ to AD in the year of the Lord. Again in this instance Holy Spirit worked through human hearts to bring this glory to the Lord, Who said:

“I am not seeking glory for Myself, but there is One Who seeks it, and He is the Judge. If I glorify Myself, My glory means nothing. My Father is the One Who glorifies Me. He who speaks on his own does so to gain honor for himself, but He who works for the honor of the One Who sent Him is a person of Truth, there is nothing false about Him. And I tell you the truth, if anyone keeps My word, they will never see death.”

“I am the Resurrection and the Life. Those who believe in Me will live, even though they experience death. Whoever lives and believes in Me will never face death. Do you believe this?”

John 8:50-51, John 8:54, John 7:18-19, John 11:25-26



God chose to give us birth through the Word of Truth (James 1:18), which works in the lives of those who believe because the Word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit to judge the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight (Heb. 4:12-13).

In this world there will always be injustice, violence and death because wickedness and deception and sin are not merely topics to be discussed. When evil was received, accepted and digested deception and pride, sin and fear became issues of the heart that all mankind would be forced to experience.

Is it any wonder? Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It should not be surprising then, if his servants masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve (2 Cor. 11:14-15).

Jesus came to dwell on earth so God could be received, accepted and digested and His love and kindness, goodness and

faithfulness could be experienced because the Spirit of Truth, Who goes out from the Father testifies about the Son of God (John 15:26).

Holy Spirit will guide you into all Truth (John 16:13), He won't draw attention to Himself, but will make sense out of all the Son of Man has done and said, and what is to happen. He will honor the Lord by taking from Him and delivering it you (John 16:13-14 Message).



Jesus was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. So know, these words "it was credited to him" were not written for Abraham alone, but also for everyone to whom God will credit righteousness. Everyone who believes God raised Jesus our Lord from the dead (Rom. 4:23-25) and is faithful to God's Word.

Listen carefully to what Jesus is about to tell you:

"The Son of Man was betrayed into the hands of men."

Do you understand what this means? It does not need to be hidden if you choose to grasp it (Luke 9:44-45). The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, to be crucified and on the third day be raised again (Luke 24:7). Of course, none of the rulers of that age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory (1 Cor. 2:8).

Like every other human being who has knowledge of the Lord, we have to recognize how pride and fear and sin work to deceive us. Our own heart leads us astray. Like Peter our words rebuke the authority and power of the Lord, and our actions reveal our betrayal. In our humanity we do things that dishonor and disrespect and shame ourselves more than they could possibly do to another. Why? Our sins stare us down (Ps. 51:3 Message).

God knows what causes us to turn away, but don't allow the heart's discomfort or displeasure to cause you to turn away from God, or from the Lord when He disciplines or rebukes you. Evil affects the way we think and feel and behave because like a virus it has infected our mind and heart. God has given us the antidote the blood of Christ Jesus so we can purify ourselves by obeying His Word of Truth. For we are born again, not of

perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring Word of God (1 Peter 1:23).

Jesus will always confront our wrong doing so we too can say 'Get behind me, Satan!' We must also confront our shame and guilt and sin so God's mercy and lovingkindness can be recognized as we realize Satan has been and will continue to be for us a stumbling block, when we have in mind the things of men and not the things of God (Matt. 16:22-23).



Yes, Jesus explained to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law (Matt. 16:21). They would condemn Him and hand Him over to the Gentiles, who would mock Him and spit on Him, flog Him and kill Him. Three days later He would rise (Mark 10:32-34).

People demanded Him to show them a miraculous sign to prove His authority for all the things He did. Jesus answered them:

“Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.”

The temple of which He had spoken of was His body. After He was raised from the dead, His disciples recalled what He had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

While He was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many people saw the miraculous signs He was doing and began to believe in His name. But Jesus would not entrust Himself to them, for He knew all men. He did not need man's testimony about man, for He knew what was in human nature (AMP). No one needed to tell Him what mankind was really like (John 2:18-25 NLT).



The Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of world (John 1:29) was offered as our Passover Lamb to be sacrificed (1 Cor. 5:7), for God does not want anyone to perish (2 Peter 3:9b). God is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness.

He is being patient with mankind waiting for so many others to come to repentance, for the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare (2 Peter 3:8-10).

Know it is God Who justifies. Who is it that condemns? Christ Jesus, Who died – more than that, Who was raised to life – is at the right hand of God and is interceding for us (Rom. 8:33-34).

For Satan desires to shift us as wheat, Jesus is praying for us to cling to God's Word. Praying our faith will not fail, that we turn back with testimonies that will strengthen others (Luke 22:31-32). Made more confident than ever by this realization - that in all things we are more than conquerors through Him Who loves us.

So who will separate us from the love of Christ, I ask? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? No! Nothing shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Rom. 8:35).

I know (perceive, have knowledge of, and am acquainted with) Him Whom I have believed (adhered to and trusted in and relied on), and I am (positively) persuaded that He is able to guard and keep that which has been entrusted to me and which I have committed (to Him) until that day.

So hold fast and follow the pattern of wholesome and sound teaching which you have heard, in (all) the faith and love which are (for us) in



Christ Jesus. Guard and keep (with the greatest care) the precious and excellently adapted (Truth) which has been entrusted (to you), by the (help of) Holy Spirit Who makes His home in us (2 Tim. 1:12-14 AMP).

Yes, God puts His Spirit in us and moves us to follow His decrees and to keep His Word (Ezek. 36:27). Because of the precious blood of Christ, a Lamb without blemish or defect (1 Peter 1:19) God can give us a new heart and put a new spirit in us. He removes from us our heart of stone and gives us a heart of flesh (Ezek. 36:26).



How can we keep our way pure? By living according to God's Word, so seek Him with all your heart (Ps. 119:9-10a). Those who do not have His Word (His thoughts) living in their heart do not believe and adhere to and trust in and rely on the Lord Whom God has sent.

This is why they do not keep His message living in them, they do not believe in the Messenger Whom God has sent (John 5:38 AMP). They are not fully satisfied and assured that God is able and mighty to keep His Word and to do what He had promised (Rom 4:21 AMP).

God kept His plan for the salvation of all mankind hidden through the ages. However, He never intended to keep Jesus concealed for Truth is desperately needed - by His Word God created all things (Eph. 3:9). God is good and kind and has done good for us by revealing Jesus. And like myself, many others have a very similar story, "Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now Your Word do I keep," Ps.119:67-68.



I realize and acknowledge Jesus is my Lord and Teacher. For my Savior will not just wash the dirt of the world from my feet, He has washed my sins away with His blood.

Jesus suffered and died outside the city, so let us go out to Him beyond the city walls (that is, outside the interests of this world, being willing to be despised) to suffer with Him there, where He bore our sin and shame and guilt {so God could give us an undivided heart (Ezek. 11:19)}. This world is not our home, we are looking forward to our everlasting home in heaven (Heb. 13:13-14 TLB).

God raises-up those who choose to make a symbolic profession of being buried with Jesus through baptism into death. For just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life united with the Lord in His death. For Jesus has become

for us Wisdom from God – that is our righteousness, holiness and redemption (1 Cor. 1:26-30).

So repent (change your mind and purpose), turn around and return to God, so your sins may be erased (blotted out, wiped clean), and times of refreshing, recovering and reviving may come from the presence of the Lord (Acts 3:19 AMP). As it is written, “Let those who boast, boast in the Lord,” 1 Cor. 1:31.



In the sight of God anyone He in-grafts in Christ is a new creation (a new creature altogether). God has given us His Word to lean on, rely on and adhere to so we can see ourselves as He sees us through the glory of Jesus, for the old has passed away (2 Cor. 5:17 AMP).

We may not think or feel or believe the old has passed away, but by faith we can profess we are a brand new creation. We may not be able to see or perceive the new thing God is doing until it suddenly seems to spring up in us (Isa. 43:19).

When our heart comes to know that according to God’s mercy and unfailing love, and according to His great compassion our

transgressions He has blotted out. God is filling our mind with His Word of Truth so our heart can know and trust and believe all our iniquity is washed away, all our sin the Lord has cleansed from us.

No longer can our heart condemn us when we are in agreement with God's Word. Though we know our transgressions and our sins will always come before us.

God has given us faith and hope and love and grace and forgiveness so we can willingly acknowledge O God, against You, You only, have I sinned. God's Word helps us to put the past behind us acknowledging we have done what is evil in God's sight. Truth helps us to understand our words, our choices prove God is right when He speaks, and justified when He judges.

Surely, we were sinful at birth. Sinful from the time our mother conceived us. Surely, God desires His Word of Truth in the inner parts so Holy Spirit can teach us Wisdom in the inmost place (Ps. 51:1-6). That we would know it is You, O God, Who forgives all our sins and heals all our diseases, Who redeems our life from the pit, and crowns us with love and compassion, Who satisfies our desires with good things (Ps. 103:3-5).



When we were dead in our sins and in the uncircumcision of our sinful nature You, O God, made us alive with Christ. You forgave us all our sins. You cancelled the written code, with all its regulations, that were against us, that stood opposed to us. You took it all away, nailing it to the cross of Jesus (Col. 2:13-14).

In love You, O God, predestined the who-so-evers to be adopted as Your sons through Christ Jesus. Yes, in accordance with Your pleasure and will – to the praise of Your glorious grace, which You have freely given to those who receive the One You love. Those who believe in Jesus have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of Your grace, which You, Father, have lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding (Eph. 1:4-8).

Yes, God made known to mankind the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Christ (Eph. 1:9). God's Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. So we could know and understand and experience the glory of the One and Only, Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth, and recognize how glorious our God is (John 1:14). So we would do as He says:

“Take off your filthy clothes, see I have taken away your sin, and will put rich garments on you.”

Zech. 3:4

As a bridegroom and bride adorn themselves, the Lord clothes His people with garments of salvation and arrays us in a robe of righteousness (Isa. 61:10b). Those who have chosen to humble themselves under the authority of the Lord, Who bestows life. Those who are committed to do no evil, they will surely live; they will not die. For none of their sins will be remembered or charged against them. So they do what is just and right in God’s sight; yes, they will surely live (Ezek. 33:15-16), and will be heard saying, “I delight greatly in the Lord. My soul rejoices in my God,” Isa. 61:10a.



We are living in an important time. Yes, it is now time for people to wake up from their sleep. Our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is almost finished. The Day is almost here. So we should stop doing whatever belongs to darkness, and prepare ourselves to fight evil with the weapons that belong to light, living in a

right way, like people who belong to the Day should (Rom. 13:11-13 ERV).

Therefore, put on the full armor God has given to you, so that when the day of evil comes you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of Truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, with your feet personally fitted with the readiness that comes from the Gospel of Peace.

In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying in the Spirit on all occasions (Eph. 6:13-18).



There are so many things we are unable to think of or imagine without God's Word of Truth. We can learn how to look past disbelief so understanding can be gained. God fills our heart with a goodly theme of Peace and Truth and Salvation. When we address our thoughts and feelings and beliefs to the King of Heaven, He makes our tongue like

the pen of a ready writer. God blesses us forever with His graciousness (Ps. 45:1-2 AMP).

So seek a deeper relationship with God! You'll be able to do so if you're serious, looking for Him with your whole heart and soul. When trouble comes and awful things happen turn to God, and listen obediently to what He says. Above all God is compassionate. He will not abandon you.

Go ahead ask questions! Find out what has been going on all the many years before you were born. From the day God created man and woman on this Earth, as far back as you can imagine and as far away as you can imagine has as great a thing as this ever happened? Has anyone ever heard of such a thing? Has a people ever heard a god speaking out of the middle of the fire and lived to tell the story?

Or has a god ever tried to select for themselves a nation from within a nation using trials, miracles and war, putting their strong hand in, reaching their long arm out, a spectacle awesome and staggering, the way God did for His people in Egypt while they stood right there and watched?



They were shown all this so that they would know that God is, well, God. He's the only God there is! He's it! He made it possible for His people to hear His voice out of Heaven to discipline them (Deut. 4:29-35 Message). Take a long, hard look! See how great He is - infinite, greater than anything you could ever imagine or figure out (Job 36:26 Message).



God is far higher than you can imagine, far deeper than you can comprehend. Stretching farther than earth's horizons, far wider than the endless ocean (Job 11:8-9 Message)! And, His Word makes our faith in Him stronger than our fear so we can stop trying to win the approval of people, and begin to faithfully ministering to the Lord (Gal. 1:10).

When the knowledge of God's approval is personally gained we can profess in faith God formed me in the womb. He knew and approved of me as His chosen instrument. Before I was born He separated and set me apart (Jer. 1:5 AMP). I was washed clean (purified by a complete atonement for sin, and made free from the guilt of sin. I was justified (pronounced righteous, by trusting) in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God (1 Cor. 6:11-12 AMP).

Faith helps us put doubt behind us so we can see that Christ is the mighty power of God to save us. Christ Himself is the center of God's wise plan for our salvation (1 Cor. 1:24 TLB). Gratitude will humble our pride so we can profess, "Blessed God! His love is the wonder of the world," Ps. 31:21 Message.

We may not yet be at a point in our relationship with God to leap and twirl with the same awe and adoration and enthusiasm as David once did, but Holy Spirit will most definitely help our talk and our walk to align so we can do extraordinary things when we keep in mind all things are done for God's glory. When we take delight in Him, the Mighty One, and look to Him joyfully, boldly. Knowing when we pray to Him, He'll listen. He'll help us do what we've promised (Job 22:25-27 Message).



When we remember Jesus lived an ordinary life, that is, until the power of Holy Spirit enabled Him to do the work God had Him bring to pass. His act, His unusual (incredible, exceedingly great, phenomenal) work God set before Him, His awesome (amazing, astonishing, eye-opening) work, (Isa. 28:21 NKJV), so all mankind could come to know faith and hope and love for God's Word will

transform an ordinary person from glory-to-glory into the likeness of the Lord (2 Cor. 3:18 NKJV).

An average person, even those who possess great intelligence, may reflect on the matters God's Word sets before us and may conclude as it is with a godly person so with the sinner. For the living know they will die, but the dead know nothing, they have no further reward, even the memory of them is forgotten.

Yes, this is the evil in everything that happens under the sun: the same destiny overtakes every human being (Eccl. 9:1a,3a&5). Death along with every other enemy of God dwells on the earth far from the gates of heaven. By pride and fear and sin the hearts of people are filled with evil.

There is madness (resentment, irritability, anger..) in our hearts while we live, and afterward we join the dead. Our love, our hate and our jealousies have long since vanished; never again will they have a part in anything that happens under the sun.

Even those who apply their mind to know Wisdom and to observe the things people do in this life. How busy they are working day and

night. Though the many things God does are seen, no one can comprehend everything He is doing under the sun.

Despite all their efforts to search it out it cannot be understood. Even if someone wise says they understand, it is not true, they really cannot comprehend it (Eccl. 8:3b,6,16-17).



Yes, there are secret things that belong to the Lord our God, but the things He reveals belong to us and our children forever, that we may follow His Word (Deut. 29:19).

However of this we can be certain, God takes no pleasure from wickedness and cannot tolerate the slightest sin. Therefore, proud sinners will not survive His searching gaze, for how He hates their evil deeds. They will be destroyed for their lies, for God abhors all murder and deception (Ps. 5:1-6 TLB).

The following was taken from the article "Slander Equals Murder," by Ben Furman of Johnson Church. Whoever says to his brother, 'You good-for-nothing,' shall be guilty before the supreme-court (Matt. 5:22b Message).

The word (RACA), translated by the New American Standard Bible as “good-for-nothing,” has been variously rendered elsewhere as “brainless idiot,” “worthless fellow,” “blockhead,” and the like. It was a term of malicious abuse and slander that really has no precise modern translation.

David graphically described people who use slander as those who “Sharpen their tongues as a serpent; poison of a viper is under their lips,” Ps. 140:3. The Roman soldiers who tortured and crucified Jesus could well have used the term to mock and disrespect the Lord (Matt. 27:29-31).

According to Jewish legend, a young rabbi had just come from a session with his famous teacher. He felt especially proud of how he had handled himself before the teacher. As he basked in those feelings of superiority, he passed an especially un-attractive man who greeted him.

The young rabbi responded, “You Raca! How ugly you are! Are all men of your town as ugly as you?” “That I do not know,” the man

replied, “but go and tell the Maker Who created me how ugly is the creature He has made.”

To slander someone made in God’s image is to slander God Himself, and is the same as murdering that person. Jesus called such harsh contempt murder of the heart. The contemptuous person was as much as “guilty before the supreme court” (the Jewish Sanhedrin, which tried the most serious cases and pronounced the ultimate penalty – death). We dare not trifle with any kind of contemptuous language toward others.

<https://johnsonchurch.org/slander-equals-murder/>



This same message would be true when we disparage and discount ourselves. Elizabeth Scott, PhD. posted this article “The Toxic Effects of Negative Self-Talk,” We all have an inner critic. At times this little voice can actually be helpful and keep us motivated toward goals- like when it reminds us that what we’re about to eat isn’t healthy or what we’re about to do may not be wise.

However, this voice can often be more harmful than helpful, particularly when it gets into the realm of excessive negativity. This is known as negative self-talk, and it can really bring us down.

Negative self-talk is something that most of us experience from time to time, and it comes in many forms. It also creates significant stress, not only to us but to those around us if we're not careful. Here's what you need to know about negative self-talk and its effects on your body, your mind, your life and your loved ones.

What is negative self-talk? It can sound grounded (I'm not good at this, so I should avoid attempting it for my own personal safety, for example) or it's downright mean (I can never do anything right). It may seem like a realistic appraisal of a situation (I got a C on this test. I guess I'm not good at math), only to devolve into a fear-based fantasy (I'll never be able to go to a good college).

The musings of your inner critic may sound a lot like a critical parent or friend from your past. It can follow the path of typical cognitive distortions: catastrophizing, blaming, overgeneralizing, and the like.

Basically, negative self-talk is any inner dialogue you have with yourself that may be limiting your ability to believe in yourself and your own abilities, and to reach your potential. It is any thought that diminishes your ability to make positive changes in your life or your

confidence in yourself to do so. Negative self-talk can not only be stressful, but it can really stunt your success.

**Consequences of Negative Self Talk:** It can affect us in some pretty damaging ways. One large-scale study found that rumination and self-blame over negative events were linked to an increased risk of mental health problems.

Focusing on negative thoughts may lead to decreased motivation as well as greater feelings of helplessness. This type of critical inner dialogue has even been linked to depression, so it's definitely something to fix.

Those who find themselves frequently engaging in negative self-talk tend to be more stressed. This is in large part due to the fact that their reality is altered to create an experience where they don't have the ability to reach the goals they've set for themselves.

Negative self-talk can lead to a lowered ability to see opportunities, as well as a decreased tendency to capitalize on these opportunities. This means that the heightened sense of stress comes from both the perception and the changes in behavior that come from it. Other consequences of negative self-talk can include:



- **Limited thinking:** The more you tell yourself you can't do something, the more you believe it.
- **Perfectionism:** You begin to really believe that "great" isn't as good as "perfect," and that perfection is actually attainable. In contrast, mere high achievers tend to do better than their perfectionistic counterparts because they are generally less stressed and are happy with a job well done. They don't pick it apart and try to zero in on what could have been better.
- **Feelings of depression:** Some research has shown that negative self-talk can lead to an exacerbation of feelings of depression. If left unchecked, this could be quite damaging.
- **Relationship challenges:** Whether the constant self-criticism makes you seem needy and insecure or you turn your negative self-talk into more general negative habits that bother others, a lack of communication and even a "playful" amount of criticism can take a toll.

One of the most obvious drawbacks of negative self-talk is that it's not positive. This sounds simplistic, but research has shown that positive self-talk is a great predictor of success.

For example, one study on athletes compared four different types of self-talk (instructional, motivational, positive, and negative) and found that positive self-talk was the greatest predictor of success. People didn't need to remind themselves how to do something as much as they needed to tell themselves that they are doing something great and that others notice it as well.

<https://www.verywellmind.com/negative-self-talk-and-how-it-affects-us-4161304>



Faith means being sure of the things we hope for and knowing that something is real even if we do not see it (Heb. 11:1 NCV). For many this could be the definition of self-fulfilling prophecy.

The following information was posted on the website “Study.Com”

Have you ever woken up and just knew it was going to be a bad day?

Sure enough, you stub your toe, people at work seem to be in a bad mood, and negative things just seem to happen.

If so, you were likely experiencing a self-fulfilling prophecy. A self-fulfilling prophecy is when a person unknowingly causes a prediction to come true, due to the simple fact that he or she expects it to come true.

In other words, an expectation about a subject, such as a person or event, can affect our behavior towards that subject, which causes the expectation to be realized. For example, a high school volleyball coach expects freshmen to be less skilled, so she does not put them in to play very often. When she does put them in, they are rusty and don't do well, thereby fulfilling her expectations.

In one study regarding self-fulfilling prophecies, psychologists led some male college students to believe that a female student was attracted to them, and another group to believe that she was not attracted to them. The social psychologists later observed interactions between the men and the female in question. The woman was much more likely to act as if she was attracted to the first set of men.

Why? Because the men who thought she was attracted to them acted in a way that seemed to lead her to actually be attracted to them.

You can think of the self-fulfilling prophecy as a circular pattern. Our actions toward others impact their beliefs about us, which dictates their actions towards us, which then reinforces our beliefs about ourselves.

This, in turn, influences our actions towards others, which brings us back to the beginning of the cycle. This pattern can be negative, like the freshmen volleyball players example, but it can also be positive.

<https://study.com/academy/lesson/self-fulfilling-prophecies-in-psychology-definition-examples.html>



Derek Schaedig wrote:

- There are two types of self-fulfilling prophecies: Self-imposed prophecies occur when our own expectations influence our actions. Other-imposed prophecies occur when others' expectations influence our behavior. All opinions we value can cause this prophecy.
- The Pygmalion effect is a type of other-imposed self-fulfilling prophecy that states the way you treat someone has a direct impact on how that person acts. If another person thinks something will happen, they may consciously or unconsciously make it happen through their actions or inaction.

<https://www.simplypsychology.org/self-fulfilling-prophecy.html>

The website for Science Direct provides this additional information:

Manipulated Self-Motivation: The Pygmalion Effect is logical, once understood, and concludes that expectations alone can raise performance above – or plunge it below – established performance levels. This effect has been supported by many studies. However, the process seems calculating and manipulative and also prone to create circumstances that produce ambiguous results.

Consider the individual who is designated as being exceptionally promising but who fails, despite his or her best efforts. Such a person is bound to feel rejected and bewildered by the process. Similarly, others are informed that not much is expected of them and become determined to show otherwise, and do.

Man's viewpoint based on Science: When a patient enters treatment in an overwhelmed state or in crisis it presents an opportunity for cognitive behavioral changes that are beneficial to their overall ability to cope effectively. During a period of crisis their defenses are down and emotional distress is high. The patient feels an urgency to decrease the level of emotional distress. And because they are motivated toward alleviating emotional distress they are open to new ways of thinking and behaving.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/social-sciences/self-fulfilling-prophecy>

With this in mind, God provides a viewpoint based on Truth: They have become like one of Us, knowing good and evil (Gen. 3:22). Evil caused mankind to walk through the valley of the shadow of death. However, God, the only One Who is good (Matt. 19:17) sent a Shepherd to guide His people in paths of righteousness for His names' sake (Ps. 23:3b-4).



The Word of Truth will guide you always; as will the Word of Life satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land, and will strengthen your frame. You will BE as a well-watered garden, a gurgling spring that never runs dry. You'll use the old rubble of the past to build a new, and rebuild a foundation from out of your past (Isa. 58:11-12a Message).

“God does not waste an ounce of our pain or a drop of our tears; suffering doesn't come our way for no reason, and He seems efficient at using what we endure to mold character. If we are malleable, He takes our bumps and bruises and shapes them into something beautiful,” this excerpt was taken from the book “The Wounded Spirit,” written by Frank Peretti.

The Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost (Luke 19:10). The Son of God – is known as the Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings (Isa. 58:12b). So I pray that our love may abound more and more revealing itself in a greater depth of acquaintance with knowledge and insight (Phil. 1:9-10a AMP).

That we remain diligent to present our thoughts, our choices, our behavior approved of God, by learning to rightly divide the Word of Truth, and apply the Lord's teachings in the right way (2 Tim. 2:15 ERV) so we may be able to discern what is best and pure and blameless until the day of Christ (Phil. 1:10b).

- Discernment is not a matter of simply telling the difference between right and wrong; rather it is telling the difference between right and almost right (Charles Spurgeon)
- Discernment is God's call to intercession, never to faultfinding (Corrie Ten Boom)
- Discernment is the ability to see things for what they really are and not for what you want them to be

- The heart of spiritual discernment is being able to distinguish the voice of the world from the voice of God
- God does not exist to answer our prayers, but by our prayers we come to discern the mind of God (Oswald Chambers)
- To discern spirits we must dwell with Him who is holy, and He will give the revelation and unveil the mask of Satanic power on all lines (Smith Wigglesworth)
- This is a time when all of God's people need to keep their eyes and their Bibles wide open. We must ask God for discernment as never before (David Jeremiah)
- We need discernment in what we see and what we hear and what we believe (Charles R. Swindoll)



God Who always accomplishes the miraculous said:

“Let Light shine out of darkness.”



God makes His Light shine in our heart to give us the light of the knowledge of His glory in the face of Christ Jesus (2 Cor. 4:5-6). If you will receive God's Word, and incline your ear unto Wisdom; if you lay up His instructions, and apply your heart to understanding; if you desire insight and discernment, and are searching for them as you would for lost money or hidden treasure, then wisdom will be given you and knowledge of God. You will soon learn the importance of reverence for the Lord and trusting Him (Prov. 2:1-5 TLB).

Hearing, believing, trusting what God says of His Messiah, Christ Jesus, for it is the Lord Who shows us Good, Who lets the light of His face shine upon us. He fills our heart with joy for the Lord alone makes us dwell in safety. So we can lie down and sleep in peace (Ps. 4:6-8).

God's Word stimulates and promotes our faith, and leads us on to accurate discernment and recognition of and acquaintance with the Truth which belongs to godliness, which rests in the Hope God has given us for eternal life. Life which the ever truthful God, Who cannot deceive promised before the world or the ages of time began (Titus 1:1-2 AMP).

What is impossible with the everyday, average, common man, is absolutely possible with the eternal, unchanging, everlasting God (Luke 18:27), Who works the miraculous for us. God sent His Word in the form of an average Man, Christ Jesus, to be for all mankind the Light of the World (John 8:12a) to open eyes and turn people from darkness to Light, and from the power of Satan to our heavenly Father (Acts 26:18a). Jesus has become for us Wisdom from God (1 Cor. 1:30).

The Word, Who became human, is the true Light that enlightens everyone with knowledge of God (John 1:9, 14), Who wishes all mankind to be saved, and to increasingly perceive and recognize and discern, to know precisely and understand correctly His divine Truth (1 Tim. 2:4 AMP).

God has promised peace and a future to everyone who has seen His salvation, which He prepared in the sight of all people, and dismisses worldly things. God calls us out of the darkness of fear and deception, confusion and regret into His wonderful Light (1 Peter 2:9b) through His Word, a Light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to His people Israel (Luke 2:29-32).

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By means of the choice to follow Truth, God will give Light to our eyes so we won't sleep for eternity in the realms of Death (Ps. 13:3). The last enemy to be destroyed by the Lord is Death (1 Cor. 15:26).

Sadly, there are people whose actions clearly state they love the darkness more than heaven's Light. The "Whether" makes no difference - denial, stubbornness, or rejection - whoever follows the way of evil to participate in the corruption, unfairness and injustice of sin are keeping themselves far from (John 3:19 NLT) truly knowing, truly understanding the Light that leads to Life (John 8:12 NLT).

The Word of Truth, Christ Jesus, came to that which was His own, but His own did not receive Him (John 1:11). Did they stumble so as to fall beyond renewal and recovery? Not at all! Rather, because of their transgression, the Door of heaven opened to the Gentiles.

By the miraculous workings of God their transgression means riches for the world (Rom. 11:11-12a), for God has chosen to make known to the world the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you the hope of glory (Col. 1:27).

So if their loss, (knowledge of the grace God gives mankind to receive the unsearchable riches of Christ, Eph. 3:8), how much greater riches will their fullness bring (Rom. 11:12b)! Hear the Word of God, all you who fear Him:

“Rejoice with Jerusalem! Be glad with Her, all you who love her, you who mourned for her. Delight in Jerusalem, drink deep of her glory even as an infant at a mother’s breasts. Prosperity shall overflow Jerusalem like a river, for I will send it. The riches of the Gentiles will flow to her. All the world will see the good hand of God upon His people, and His wrath upon His enemies.”

“The Lord will come with fire and swift chariots of doom to pour out the fury of His anger and His hot rebuke with flames of fire. The Lord will punish the world by fire and by His sword, and the slain of the Lord shall be many! Those who worship idols, I see full well what they are doing. I know what they are thinking. I will gather together all nations and people against Jerusalem, where they shall see My glory. I will perform a mighty miracle against them.”

“Shout and be glad, O Daughter of Zion, for I am coming, and I will live among you. Many nations will be joined with the Lord in that day and will become My people. I will live among you and you will know that God Almighty has sent Me to you. The Lord will inherit Judah as His portion in the holy land and will again choose Jerusalem. Be still before the Lord, all mankind, for He has roused Himself from His holy dwelling.”

“Know, you are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before all people, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.”

“Yes, you shall be Mine in that day when I publicly recognize and openly declare you to be My jewels, My special possession, My peculiar treasure. I will spare you. Then shall they discern between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not serve Him.”

“In My Father’s house are many rooms, if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for those who trust in God’s unfailing love, whose heart rejoices in His salvation. If I go and prepare a place for them, I will come back and take them to be with Me that they also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.”

Isa. 66:1-19, Zech. 2:10-13, Matt. 5:14-16, Mal. 3:17 AMP, John 4:2-4, Ps. 13:5



Flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable (1 Cor. 15:50). However, let the beloved of the Lord rest secure in Him, for He shields them all day long. Those who the Lord loves rest between His shoulders (Deut. 33:12). They have heard and believe this mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet (1 Cor. 15:50-52).

I pray as we continue learning and growing during this journey of renewal and recovery that we find ourselves doing as John was seen doing at that Last Supper – inclining on Jesus. That our relationship

with Christ is becoming so richly developed by knowing Love, by knowing Who Good really is, that we are doing as the Amplified Bible states: Leaning our entire human personality on the Lord in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom and goodness (Col. 1:14).

That we are truly becoming more God-dependent rather than remaining codependent!



The Lord Himself will come down on the clouds from heaven, with power and great glory to gather His elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other. He will send His angels (Matt. 24:30-31) with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

After that, those who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage each other with these words (1 Thess. 4:16-18). For the Lord is preparing us for that trumpet blast:

“Go, My people, enter your rooms, and shut the doors behind you. Hide yourselves for a little while until the Lord’s wrath has passed by. See, the Lord is coming out of His dwelling to punish the people of the earth for their sins. The earth will disclose the blood shed upon her. She will conceal her slain no longer.”

Isa. 26:20-21



Where ever you are on this spiritual journey of renewal and recovery, know God has something amazing planned just for you. So this is my prayer: That your love will deepen and flourish. That you will not only love much but love well! That we learn to love appropriately!

We need to use our head and test our feelings so that our love is sincere and intelligent, not sentimental gush. That we live a lover’s life, circumspect and exemplary! Living a life Jesus will be proud of: Bountiful in fruits from the soul, making Jesus Christ attractive to all (Phil. 1:9-11 Message).

We need to challenge ourselves to share God’s extraordinary love because Holy Spirit loves to bring all glory to the Lord. Instead, of



taking ourselves so seriously and our ways so personally; we can learn to find rest in God alone. His Word, Christ Jesus, is always with us helping us to call to mind our faith, our hope, our salvation come from God. He alone is our Rock and our salvation; He is our fortress, we will not be shaken (Ps. 62:1-2)

With God's Word in our heart and on our lips we can rest safely between the shoulders of the Lord. For God's love is better than life, glorify Him with your lips. Praise Him as long as you live, and lift up your hands in His name (Ps. 63:3-4). Surrender to Christ (2 Cor. 10:6 TLB), don't be afraid for He is our shield and our very great reward (Gen. 15:1).



Even though we live in this world walking in the flesh; understand, we do not contend according to the ways of the world; for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal (animal, physical, unspiritual) but mighty in God (2 Cor. 10:3-6 NKJV).

Those who desire to live in the Light will find ourselves co-laboring with God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. As we seek knowledge and understanding, insight and wisdom and discernment from God's

Spirit of Grace. For it is Holy Spirit Who takes what we receive from God's Word and sows it within the soil of our soul.

Here's an interesting fact, the Thesaurus not only gives these synonyms for the word soil: filth, sewage and terra firma; but also, pollute, confuse, disorder and mess. How many years, with the countless opportunities evil has had to contaminate these clay vessels the Potter Himself specifically crafted for individual use. The prince of this world along with his cohorts, sling the foulness of negativity, for this is how we of thin skin are tainted and defiled.



The world isn't going to stop slinging the swill of negativity when we come to the Lord. We are among the masses that gobble this garbage up. This is why the Word says:

“When you have tasted that the Lord is good, like a newborn baby, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation. Continue to savor God's Word of Truth for the world's negativity and deception has turned things upside down, as if the Potter were thought to be like the clay! Shall what is formed say to Him Who formed it: He did

not make me? Can the pot say of the Potter: He knows nothing?"

"Those who taste the goodness of the Lord, will understand their sins caused them to waste away time and opportunity to recognize and proclaim: O Lord, You are our Father. We are the clay, You are the Potter, we are all the work of Your hands. How sweet are Your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!"

"If you have tasted the graciousness of the Lord, your soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods, with singing your mouth will praise Him saying: On my bed, O Lord, I remember You because You are my help. I sing in the shadow of Your wings. My soul clings to God's Word, and His right hand upholds me."

"The Lord has made His kindness known for He has revealed Himself to those who did not ask for Him. He was found by those who did not seek Him. To a nation that did not call on His name, He said, 'Here am I, here am I.'"

“All day long He has held out His hands to an obstinate people, who walk in ways not good, pursuing their own imaginations – who continually provoke Him to His very face by the things they do. Because of their stubbornness and their unrepentant heart, they are storing up wrath against themselves for the day of the Lord, when His righteous judgment will be revealed.”

“Only if the wicked would forsake their ways and seek the Lord, for He will have mercy on them. Only if people would forsake their evil thoughts and turn to God, for He will freely pardon. Then Holy Spirit, Who brings glory to the Lord, will make known what He has taken from God’s Word, for His grace and truth will sustain them. Yes, He will make known to you the Lover of your soul, the One whose desire is for you, if only the door of your heart would open to God’s Word.”

“The Lord will hear and have mercy and His faithfulness will be known. The Lord will be gracious to you for God’s Word is your ever present helper. For you, He will turn mourning into dancing, and gird you with gladness. With

joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And God will wipe away every tear from your eyes.”

“A heart will not be silenced it will sing praises to the Lord, Who protects you with salvation-armor. God’s Word of Truth clears the ground beneath you so your footing will be firm. He holds you up, and caresses your soul with His gentle ways.”

“Who is like you, someone saved by the Lord? Who protects you and keeps you safe by that name given Him by His Father. Jesus, the Son of God, makes it clear God is Love. Jesus has made a way so anyone and everyone could experience an intimate relationship with the Father, Who gives Life from His life, from His very own Spirit.”

“As for you, when you come to the place of safety where there is hope. Realizing the Lord has delivered you from Death in that waterless pit because of the covenant He has made, sealing it by His Blood. The Word of Life bestowed by God so His unconditional love can be known and embraced with your whole heart and soul.”

“Loving God, your God, with your whole heart, for He has given you the Lord as your shield. Loving God with all that’s in you, for He sends His Word of Truth to be your Helper, your glorious sword. Loving God with all you’ve got, for His Message of peace and grace and forgiveness makes your enemies cower before you.”

“Embrace this love that comes from God that you may have the full measure of His joy within you, for the joy of the Lord is your strength. The Lover of your soul is like an apple tree among the trees of the forest. You will delight to sit in His shade, and taste the sweetness of His fruit. He will bring you to the banquet hall, for His banner over you is Love.”

“He will strengthen you with raisins of Truth, and refresh you with the fruit of His righteousness so quietness and confidence will be gained from the peace He gives to you. His right arm and the light of His face brought you victory, for He loves you. The everlasting arms of God are under you. Being familiar with the embrace of the Lover of your soul will make you faint with love.”

“God’s Word will capture your heart when you open your mouth and taste, when you open your eyes and see how good God is. Hopelessly in love you will be when fear and awe and wonder and worship of the Lord opens doors to all God’s goodness. How blessed are those who run to Him.”

Ps. 34:8, 1 Peter 2:2-3, Isa. 29:16, Isa. 64:7-8, Ps. 119:103-104, Ps. 63:5-9, Isa. 65:1-3, Rom. 2:5-6. Isa. 55:6-7, Ps. 30:11-12, Rev. 7:17, Ps. 18:35-36 Message, Deut. 33:29, 1 John 4:13-16 Message, Zech. 9:11-12, Deut. 6:4 Message, John 17: 12-13, Neh. 8:10, Isa. 12:1, John 16:14, Isa. 32:17, SS 7:10, 5:6, 2:3-6, John 14:27, Deut. 33:27, SS 4:9-10 Message, Ps. 34:8-9 Message



Through God’s Word of Truth, Holy Spirit works to transform our thinking by teaching and training and equipping us to be patient and kind and self-controlled. God’s Word of Life works to bring the best out of us, transforming us into a new person (Rom. 12:2 Message) when we are committed to repent and live. For the Lord takes no pleasure in the death of anyone (Ezek. 18:31b-32).

Whoever finds the Lord, finds Life, to say nothing of God’s good pleasure (Prov. 8:35 Message) to protect our heart with the armor of His faith and love (1 Thess. 5:8a NLT). When we are committed to

seeking the favor of the Lord our God by turning from our wrong doing and giving attention to the Truth (Dan 9:13), God's Word will protect our mind as with the wearing of a helmet.

Yes, God's Word fills us with hope and the confident assurance of our salvation. Through Christ Jesus we receive Faith and Truth and Understanding, God did not appoint us to suffer His wrath, but to receive His free gift of Life through His precious Son (1 Thess. 5:8-9 NLT).



Those who fail to find the Son of God they harm themselves (NIV). When God's Word of Truth is rejected people are damaging their very soul. They are flirting with Death (Prov. 8:35-36 Message) when they don't believe in, rely on, adhere to and trust in God's Word of Life.

They are simply unable to cast down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God. They are unable to bring every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, the Word of Truth and Life (2 Cor. 10:5 NKJV) so they can be clearheaded and live in the Light (1 Thess. 5:8a NLT).



Sin will be the downfall (Ezek. 18:30) of those who do not fear You, O Lord, and bring glory to Your name; for You alone are holy. Your righteous acts have been revealed so all nations will come and worship before You (Rev. 15:4). I pray the Spirit and the bride of Christ are heard:

“Come! And let those who hear say, ‘Come!’ Whoever is thirsty, let them come; and whosoever wishes, let them take the free gift of the Water of Life.”

Rev. 22:17



Good works cannot acquire God’s acceptance, nor can they earn us a right to heaven. The righteousness God gives comes to us through faith (Rom. 4:4 TLB). Faith that asserts God has shown us a different way to heaven. Faith that brings us to Jesus, Who takes away our sins; for all have sinned, all have fallen short of God’s glory. Yet, He will accept us and declare us “Not Guilty” (Rom. 3:21-23 TLB), if we have faith to believe and trust Christ to save us from God’s wrath (Rom. 4:5 TLB).



A person's zeal can be misdirected, when they are blocked from understanding Christ died to make us right with God (Rom. 10:2). When they are unable to perceive Jesus wore His love of God for all mankind to see - a crown of thorns; when they refuse to clothe themselves with humility (1 Peter 5:5), to praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, Who always does what is just, what is right (Dan. 4:36).

God's way of salvation is not accepted (Rom. 10:2-3a TLB) when the pride of the heart deceives (Obad. 2:3). However, those fighting the good fight (2 Tim. 4:7), believe if we are insulted because of the name of Christ, we are blessed, because the Spirit of Glory and God rests on us (1 Peter 4:13-14).

Those who contend for the faith of the Gospel until the race is finished without being frightened in any way by those who oppose will be a sign and a wonder that by God those who oppose will be destroyed, and those who stand firm in the Lord will be saved (Phil. 1:27-29). For the Lord delights in His people (Ps. 149:4), He redeems our lives from

the pit and crowns us with love and compassion and salvation (Ps. 103:4).



I share God's Word so it may be known how great and powerful God, whose name is the Lord Almighty, truly is. Great are His purposes and mighty are His deeds. His eyes are open to all the ways of mankind. He rewards everyone according to their conduct and as their deeds deserve (Jer. 32:18-19). Our requests of God are not made because we are good or righteous, but because God is so very good and merciful (Dan. 9:18).

So let me ask you this: Can a demon open the eyes of the blind (John 10:21)? Can those who have entered into a covenant to cheat death, and an agreement to dodge the grave possibly think the coming destruction can never touch them? Though they have built a strong refuge of lies and deception, this Message sent from heaven will bring terror when the undefiled Truth of God's warnings finally dawns on them.

God has placed a foundation Stone in Jerusalem, a firm and tested Stone. A precious Cornerstone that is safe to build upon. Whoever

believes need never be shaken. For God tests mankind with the measuring line of justice and the plumb line of righteousness. Those whose refuge is made of lies will find it knocked down. Yes, those refuges made of deception will be swept away.

God will cancel the bargain they made to cheat death, and He will overturn their deal to dodge the grave. Surely they will discover the bed they have made is too short to lie on, the blankets too narrow to cover them. For the Lord is coming; He will come to do a strange thing. He will come to do an unusual deed. The Lord, the Lord of Heaven's Armies, has plainly said that He is determined to crush the whole land. That they would scoff no more, for their punishment will be even greater (Isa. 28:12-22 NLT).



The absolute Truth is God's Word telling us our sins have been forgiven – past, present and future. We can learn to forgive ourselves, others and God. We can learn to love and long for the joy and crown God gives to those who stand firm in His Word of Life (Phil. 4:1).

Jesus wore that crown of thorns so we could receive the crown of righteousness, which the Lord has in store for those who keep the faith

(2 Tim. 4:8). So continue taking steps of faith as your going through this process of renewal and recovery learning, growing as you wholeheartedly profess:

- God exists and I matter to Him
- We admit we are powerless
- We admit in certain areas our lives have become unmanageable
- We believe God will restore us with Love, a Sound Mind and Power
- We believe He will help us stay committed to this decision to put all of who we are into His possession and safekeeping
- We believe the Word of God will encourage, support and strengthen us as we make a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves
- Because of God's loving-kindness we are willing to admit to God, to ourselves and another person the exact nature of our wrongs
- With Truth as our solid foundation we are entirely ready to have God remove all our defects of character
- Having received faith and hope and love for the Surety God has given we humbly ask Him to remove our shortcomings

- Having gained knowledge and insight and understanding we make a list of anyone we have harmed, and become willing to make an amends to them all
- Having gained confidence and trust in God's refuge we step out with the mindset we are doing this with God and for His glory to make those amends whenever possible unless to do so would cause injury to others
- We embrace our covenant relationship with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit by continuing to take a personal moral inventory, and when we are wrong being prompt to admit it
- We invest in our relationship with God by communicating through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with Him seeking knowledge of His will and the power of grace to carry that out
- We seek Revival, Restoration and Reconciliation a spiritual awakening as a result of taking steps to carry God's message to others and to practice these principles in all our affairs



Continue stepping out in faith on this journey of renewal and recovery, and discover:

- Stepping out in faith with God's Word of Truth helps us begin to enjoy a spiritual awakening, which for some means connecting with friends, and beginning to feel and express feelings
  - For others it means being empowered to begin taking care of themselves, in spite of what someone else is or isn't doing
  - For others it means being empowered to stay in a relationship and work on it and enjoy the love they are finding
  - To most it means an awakening to God, and to self, to who we are, to our spirits
  
- The New Testament Word for transformation is the same root word that is used for metamorphosis
- Interestingly, one of nature's masterpieces of transformation is the caterpillar as it is going through the miracle of metamorphosis
- The caterpillar is one of the least attractive, most pathetic insects in all creation
- It is so lowly, it can't even walk
- It crawls on its stomach, but after it goes into its chrysalis, it emerges as a butterfly -- beautiful and majestic
- The caterpillar starts crawling, but ends up with a spectacular set of wings

- We too have an emotional metamorphosis
- Our transformation has three primary characteristics
  1. We close the door to our traumatic past
  2. We taunt our trauma (face our pain with boldness)
  3. We develop the courage to thrive
- Old habits can be a bear to break
- When we leave trauma, there is a tremendous rush
- You feel that the gorilla you have been carrying on your back has finally gotten off
- The relief is exhilarating -- you feel brand new
- You become more confident
- You feel better about yourself
- But you quickly discover that even though you have begun to transform the way you think about your challenges, the world around you has not gone through the same metamorphosis that you have
- In practical terms, people who were uncaring may still be that way
- It is not our job to control or change or fix how others choose to manage their lives



- But we do get to manage our own lives
- More specifically, our healing is in our boundaries
- Remember, boundaries keep relationships safe and sane
- Boundaries help us to be clear about what we accept, want and need
- We never again have to take on someone else's negativity
- We can have setbacks in our healing journey when we encounter people or circumstances that appear unfair and we react with that sick feeling, deep inside of us, that nothing is going to change
- The voice of trauma begins to chant, "Here we go again! Nothing you do is ever going to make a difference. Why did you bother to try to change yourself anyway?"
- The key is to remember not to fall for the trick of making our role in the scheme of things too grandiose
- The only person we can change is ourselves
- We can only be pulled back into the mayhem trauma creates if we handle familiar problems by overreacting with fear, panic, rage or despair
- If our trauma is all about being overwhelmed, then our Renewal and Recovery is all about looking at each of our challenges and discovering where the hidden blessings are
- Tucked inside every trial is an opportunity to grow

- The words from Joseph's traumatic story, after his brothers who sold him into slavery, ring especially true here:

“You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of Many people,” Genesis 50:20.

- Rather than retaliating and harming his brothers for what they did, Joseph behaved like a man on a healing journey
- He blessed his brothers and restored the family relationships that had been fragmented by deceit and jealousy
- Like Joseph, we can say about our heartaches, “As far as I am concerned, God turned into good what you meant for my harm”
- By remembering the old strategies never worked, you take a crucial first step toward staying out of trauma's emotional minefields
- Practicing your new coping skills of moderating our feelings, living in the present, moving forward one step at a time, learning from your past mistakes and facing your fears keep you out of harm's way
- You can look at your past hurts, shut the door to your personal traumatic experiences, and throw away the key by remembering

that regardless of the harm that befalls you, God will work it for good.

- Remember, keep God's Word in your heart and your mind so it won't be forgotten:

"You are covered with the Lord's feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge; His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart"

Ps. 91:4

"God delights in the Way you have chosen to trust His Word, Christ Jesus, for He will make your steps firm. Though you may stumble, you will not fall, for the Lord upholds you with His hand"

Ps. 37:23-24

"You will find rest for your soul for God shows favor to you in this land where sin and death and negativity are found; He refreshes, revives and restores your soul giving you victory and righteousness and life through His Anointed One, Christ Jesus."

“God has forgiven your iniquity and covered all your sins. He has set aside all His wrath to show His unfailing love to you; turning you from His fierce anger, and granting you His salvation.”

“Love and Truth and Faithfulness have met together; Righteousness and Peace have kissed. The Lord will indeed give what is good, pouring down His blessings and our land will yield its bountiful harvest. Truth springs forth from the earth and righteousness smiles down from heaven.”

Psalm 85 NLT, 1 Cor. 15:7