

THE TRUMPET

Voice of the LORD Ministries

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WWW.THETRUMPETONLINE.COM

The Scarlet Cord

John Kuperus

And the men said unto her, We will be blameless of this thine oath which thou hast made us swear. Behold, when we come into the land, thou shalt bind this line of scarlet thread in the window which thou didst let us down by: and thou shalt bring thy father, and thy mother, and thy brethren, and all thy father's household, home unto thee. Joshua 2:17-18

After wandering through the wilderness for many years, the children of Israel are about to enter into the land that God has promised them. Moses has died, and Joshua, their new leader, receives instructions from the Lord on how to proceed. He is also given reassurance that the Lord will be with them (see Joshua 1:9). So Joshua sends two spies to look over the land, beginning with the city of Jericho. They enter the house of Rahab, who has faith in God and helps them. In return, she is promised safety—if she hangs a scarlet cord in the window of her home. As God's judgment comes on the city of Jericho, with Joshua and his army marching around the city for seven days, the walls of the city fall. But Rahab's house—with the scarlet cord in the window—remains standing (see Joshua 6:20-23). Rahab aligned herself with Israel and their covenant God although she was physically and geographically in Jericho. Her alignment with God's unshakable kingdom resulted in the safety of her family. The scarlet cord became a sign and symbol of her safety. For us, the finished work of Jesus on the cross is like the scarlet cord. All that is broken and sinful will be destroyed, but by faith in Christ we are under his protection and receive his grace. *Prayer: Lord Jesus, while much is crumbling around us, thank you for your unshakable kingdom. We trust in you and your finished work on the cross. Amen.*

Your Loving Embrace

The scientists predict and science says wait So in the hands of science we place our fate But I know what I would rather do Trust in Thee God and follow You I'll greet others with a smile and not with a touch Avoiding the crowds and not go out too much And as the world social distances itself and covers its face You will hold me close in Your loving embrace I have food in the fridge and upon each shelf For I'm being advised to isolate myself I'm unsure whether I'll see these twelve weeks through Or will walk through the Vale of Death with You But, dear Lord, whatever the outcome will be I know that You will stay close to me *author unknown*



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Cousin Leroy

On a family vacation in Texas, Ole Leroy was showing the excitement of a tourist. At a diner, him and Bubba ordered cheeseburgers. When his meal arrived, the first thing Leroy noticed was its size. "WOW," he shouted, "everything IS bigger in Texas!!!" As he lifted the burger off the plate, his eyes met the cold stare of the 300-pound waitress.

CONFUSION SAYS

"Man who run in front of car get tired" "Man who run behind car get exhausted" "Two wrongs not make a right - Three lefts do" "Man who eat many prunes get good run for money." "War doesn't determine who's right. War determines who's left." "Man who tell one too many light bulb jokes soon burn out!" "Man who sit on tack get point!" "Man who lives in glass house should change in basement"

The New Boyfriend

One night, a daughter brought her boyfriend home to meet her parents. Upon first sight, the parents were astounded and appalled by his appearance - leather jacket, motorcycle boots, tattoos, and a pierced nose (and tongue they found out later at dinner). At a discreet time, the parents pulled their daughter aside and diplomatically told Candi, "We are not sure about him, he doesn't seem very nice." "Oh please, Mom," replied the daughter, "if he wasn't nice, why would he be doing 500 hours of community service?"

THAT Is The Question

Who was the first person to look at a cow and say, "I think I'll squeeze these dangly things here, and drink whatever comes out"?

If the professor on Gilligan's Island can make a radio out of coconut, why can't he fix a hole in a boat?

Just why ARE Trix only for kids?

- If Wile E. Coyote had enough money to buy all that Acme stuff, why didn't he just buy dinner?
- If a man is talking in the forest, and no woman is there to hear him, is he still wrong?
- Why does the Alphabet song and Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star have the same tune?

Hello In There

A group of Congressmen were playing a trivia board game one night. When it one representative's turn, he rolled the dice and landed on "Science & Nature." His question was, "If you are in a vacuum and someone calls your name, can you hear it?" He thought for a moment and then asked, "Is it on or off?"

Buyer Beware

If the car ad claims . . . what it really means

- ~ rough condition . . . too bad to lie about
 - ~ immaculate . . . recently washed
- ~ engine quiet . . . if you use 90-weight oil
 - ~ burns no oil . . . it all leaked out
- ~ rebuilt engine . . . cleaned the spark plugs

~ drive it away . . . I live on a hill

- ~ desirable classic . . . no one wants it
- ~ rare classic . . . no one wanted it even when it was new
 - ~ ran when stored . . . won't start

From the Pastor's Desk

The God Of Hope

Pastor Billy R Douglas

One night I had a dream...

I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord, and Across the sky flashed scenes from my life. For each scene I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; One belonged to me, and the other to the Lord. When the last scene of my life flashed before us, I looked back at the footprints in the sand. I noticed that many times along the path of my life, There was only one set of footprints. I also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in my life This really bothered me, and I questioned the Lord about it. "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, You would walk with me all the way; But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, There is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why in times when I needed you the most, you should leave me. The Lord replied, "My precious, precious child. I love you, and I would never, never leave you during your times of trial and suffering. When you saw only one set of footprints, It was then that I carried you.

I felt lead of the LORD to share that familiar and beloved story with you this month in light of everything that is going on right now. Even though what we are facing may be something that none of us have ever seen before I believe that this story serves as a reminder. A reminder that we have been through trials, valleys, hard times in our lives. And during those times we may have wondered "How will I ever survive this? I see no way out!" Yet here we are and as we look back at those times we can see that we made it through. We can testify to the fact that HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR THE LORD I would have never made it. And as we continue to trust in HIM and hold to HIS hand we will one day look back on this situation, this trial, this time that we are going through and we will once again testify I made it through because of the LORD! While writing this article I could not help but think of the scripture in Romans 15:13 "Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost." HE IS our HOPE today... He is our ONLY HOPE. As much as I appreciate the doctors, the scientists, those in our Government who are doing all that they can to help. Our real help comes from the LORD! We must ever keep our faith set toward Him and trust in His Word. Knowing that no matter what tomorrow holds WE KNOW that He holds tomorrow. Knowing that as we look back over the mountains and the valleys that He has brought us through that HE IS FAITHFUL! And that He will no doubt bring us through this as well. I often tell people when counseling them concerning something that they are facing "The LORD has never failed anyone and He aint gonna start with you!" Let me leave you with these beautiful words from King David in Psalms 37:25-26 "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. He is ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed is blessed." Keep your faith in Jesus and hold to His unchanging hand! Stay safe, stay in the Word and stay in prayer. We are praying for each and every one of you.

Until next time may the LORD Bless and keep you is our prayer.

Pastor Billy R Douglas

Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit. Jeremiah17:7-8

Now know I that the LORD saveth his anointed; he will hear him from his holy heaven with the saving strength of his right hand. Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God. Psalms 20:6-7

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REPENT (conclusion)

By Evangelist Mike Heltsley

The attitude that many CHRISTIANS seem to have these days is "PREACHER, I don't mind if you preach about SIN......just as long as you don't preach about MY SIN!" "I don't mind if you tell the other guy he needs to straighten up, but don't talk to me about MY SINS, MY HABITS and MY LIFESTYLE! Well my FRIEND if that is the attitude you have then I am talking to you today, TAKE A SOUL-SEARCHING LOOK AT YOURSELF RIGHT NOW. Have you lost your spiritual JOY and ENTHUSIASM? - There's a reason for it! Have you lost your hunger for God's word? - If so, there's a reason for it! Have you lost all desire to spend time alone with GOD in PRAYER? - If so, there's a reason for it! DO you feel as though you are just going through the motions in your spiritual life? - If so, there's a reason for it. And I will tell you what that reason is, the reason you are experiencing all those things is because your relationship is NOT right with GOD and the reason your relationship is NOT right with GOD is because of SIN! What is standing between you and God right now? What is that one sin that is holding you back? Is it the SIN of pride? Is it the SIN of bitterness? Is it the SIN of drukeness? Is it the SIN of bitterness? Is it the SIN of lust? Is it the SIN of self-righteousness? Is it the SIN of jealousy? Is it the SIN of resentment? Is it the SIN of unforgiveness? Is it the SIN of an un-controlled tongue? Do you know there is Only ONE THING that can restore your JOY and PEACE. Only ONE THING that can pull you out of the PIT of DESPAIR and DEPRESSION. Only ONE THING that can put an end to your life of DEFEAT and help you live a VICTORIOUS LIFE in CHRIST. Only ONE THING that can heal your fractured relationship with GOD. Only ONE THING that can bring healing to your fractured human relationships. AND THAT IS TO REPENT AND GO BACK TO GOD! So if you would, turn with me to that scripture and let's look at it together. We read in 2nd Corinthians 7:10-11 - For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death. 11 For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter. In verse 11 we find one of the clearest descriptions of TRUE REPENTANCE you will find anywhere in the Bible. You notice in these two verses, Paul mentions two kinds of sorrow: First, he mentions GODLY sorrow, and second, he mentions WORLDLY sorrow. Godly sorrow brings about TRUE REPENTANCE. While worldly sorrow brings death. What many people, including lots of Christians, mistake for RE-PENTANCE is nothing more than the wounded pride of getting caught in sin. That kind of sorrow only leads to guilt and shame and depression and self-pity and a sense of hopelessness. People go to their graves with that kind of sorrow. JUDAS ISCARIOT is a case in point. Judas was not sorry for the results which his sin brought upon Christ, JUDAS was filled with remorse because of all the guilt and shame his sin brought upon him. That remorse that sorrow didn't lead to a changed man it lead him to go out and hang himself. TRUE REPENTANCE on the other hand leads to LIFE! Paul lists SEVEN MARKS of TRUE REPENTANCE in VERSE 11. 11 For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter. MARK #1: TRUE REPEN-TANCE produces an EARNEST DESIRE to do right. If one says he or she has repented but goes right back to their old sinful ways they have NOT truly repented. MARK #2: TRUE REPENTANCE produces an EAGERNESS to clear one's name of any association with sin. MARK #3: TRUE REPENTANCE produces an INDIGNATION or ANGER that one would ever allow himself to allow himself to dishonor the precious name of Jesus by sinning. MARK #4: TRUE REPENTANCE produces a new FEAR or REVERENCE for GOD and GOD'S commands. MARK #5: TRUE REPENTANCE produces a LONGING to restore one's relationship with GOD as well as with those he or she sinned against. MARK #6: TRUE REPENTANCE produces a new CONCERN to carefully guard against ever going back to the sin that damaged one's relationship with God and others. MARK #7: TRUE REPENTANCE produces an AGGRESSIVE READINESS to pursue a life of holiness. Simply put, when one TRULY REPENTS it ATTITUDE, a changed HEART, a change in BEHAVIOR and a change in DIRECTION. Godly sorrow produces true repentance! If you have Internet Service you are very familiar with the term VIRUS. Every time you go on-line you run the risk of some "hacker" planting a VIRUS into your computer via the internet. And once this VIRUS gets inside your computer you will start to notice a tremendous decline in your computer's performance. Your computer will SLOW DOWN and not operate as smoothly as it once did. Sometimes it will totally FREEZE UP and fail to respond to COM-MAND KEYS. AND UNLESS THE VIRUS IS STOPPED IT WILL EVENTUALLY CAUSE THE HARD DRIVE ON YOUR COMPUTER TO COMPLETELY CRASH. This is why you have to have some sort of ANTIVIRUS PROTECTION on your computer such as NORTON or MCAFFEE. And even with this protection there is no 100% guarantee a virus still can't find its way into your computer. Satan is the most devious "hacker" of them all. He is always trying to find a way to plant a spiritual virus in our heart. And the way he does this is when we expose ourselves to SIN. And once that "spiritual virus" gets inside our heart we begin to see a noticeable decline in our "spiritual performance." We don't function as smoothly as we once did. We don't respond to commands as we once did. Sometimes we totally "freeze up" spiritually and stop functioning. Unless something is done about this "sin virus" it will eventually lead to a complete crash! Thank God we have the best SIN VIRUS PROTECTION of all and that is THE BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST. My friend if there is sin in your life today YOU NEED TO REPENT and bring it under the cleansing blood of JESUS! DO IT TODAY!

Until next time, let your light shine for Jesus! Evangelist Mike Heltsley

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Our Current Crisis

Pastor Steven Huston

"It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

With the current COVID-19 crisis we're experiencing lockdowns, mandates, sicknesses, and deaths. The news is giving constant updates; social media is all a buzz with "facts" and figures (both true and false); reminders to take precautions; and Christian leaders are either trusting or twisting Scripture in an effort to "help" their digital flocks. The direct fact is, we are facing a bigger and more dangerous crisis than the Coronavirus; but the media has a news blackout on it, civil and federal governments are ignoring it, and much of society is completely unaware of it. SIN is our greatest crisis, both nationally and individually. SIN is more deadly, both nationally and individually. SIN cannot be curbed by social distancing; contained by lockdowns and mandates, or cured by medicines or vaccinations. I'm not making little of the COVID-19 plight and those affected by it; but the fact is, in the face of sin, it is a little thing. There's no denying that each one of us will one day die from something; and in the light of eternity, COVID-19 pales in comparison to sin. No one escapes standing before the eternal God; in light of His holiness, sin should scare us more than any other earthly being, thing, or sickness. As Hebrews 10:13 reminds us: "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." All crisis come and go, except the SIN crisis; that will continue to wreak havoc upon the nations of this world until the Son of Man returns, making all things right. America has allowed sports, entertainment, luxury and ease, and a host of other things to distract us from our true crisis. Now, this virus crisis distracts some while it draws others to their true condition. As C.S. Lewis put it, "God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains: it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world." May God continue to rouse the deaf, and to make the sin-sick sick of sin. Certainly our nation needs to be brought to a point of repentance and tears. We must begin seeking the face of God, entreating Him with prayer and fasting. We must be moved to obedient living, humbling ourselves to the Word of God. All of this must start with God's people as we seek a fresh outpouring of His Holy Spirit upon ourselves and our nation. None of this will be done in our own power; it is in the mighty power of God, using His armor, and submitting ourselves to the atoning work of Jesus and being used for His service. The above is a description of the faithful life of victory. Let me give you one example of a man who believed in men living victorious over sin, Uncle Bud Robinson. There are times that I think Uncle Bud could get away with saying ANYTHING. I loved his frankness and desire to see people get the victory. Here's one of those instances. "Can't you get the victory, little sister?" asked Uncle Bud of a lady who had been praying for along time at an altar of prayer. "No, I just can't seem to pray through to where I know everything is all right." "What seems to be the matter? Have you surrendered everything to the Lord?" "Yes, everything except my tongue, that is my worse fault. I like to talk too much," "Now, look here, little lady. This altar is 32 feet long, and if it's necessary, we can make a splice on one end. You just get your tongue out and put it on the altar and leave everything in the hands of the Lord and He will take you through all right." Needless to say, she got the victory Spirit-filled victorious living is so needed in our day. Faith is the victory that overcomes the world and faith is the victory that overcomes sin. Do we believe that God's Word is truth for all situations and all times? Then walk in that victorious truth. Do we believe that He provides a way of escape from EVERY temptation which is common to man? Then take His escape route and sin not. Do we believe that Jesus is the answer for all our ailments and that SIN is our greatest ailment? Then believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved; tell others about His saving and sanctifying grace. At every turn we are being warned to take hand cleaning and social distancing seriously. As important as that is, it is even more important that we take soul cleansing and distancing from sin seriously. We must personally take all precautions that we can so as to not be an infected carrier; but most importantly, we must be a carrier of Jesus Christ-full of mercy and compassion and truth-to the unbeliever and believer alike. If our bodies are the temple of the living God-and they are-then let us be a house of worship wherever we are and whomever we are with. As A.W. Tozer said, "Keep a Christian from entering the church sanctuary and you have not in the least bit hindered his worship. We carry our sanctuary with us. We never leave it." Let us worship in spirit and in truth.

Pastor Steven Huston - 103 N. Division Ave. Fremont, Michigan 49412



Stuffed Cinnamon Crescent Rolls

1/2 cup granulated sugar
1 Tablespoon ground cinnamon
1 can refrigerated crescent dinner rolls (8 count)
4 ounces cream cheese, softened
1/4 cup powdered sugar
Melted butter

Easy Glaze Topping

1/2 cup powdered sugar

1/2 teaspoon vanilla

2-3 teaspoons of milk

Preheat oven to 350 Degrees. Using a medium size muffin tin, spray 8 muffin cups with nonstick cooking spray. Be sure to spray the top too. In a mixing bowl cream softened cream cheese and powdered

sugar. In another small bowl mix sugar and cinnamon. Lightly dust work surface with flour. Separate crescent rolls into 8 individual triangles. Place desired amount of cream cheese mixture on each roll and roll up, completely covering the mixture. Firmly pinch to seal all edges. Place stuffed rolls on wax paper on a cookie sheet and chill for 30 minutes. Next, dip roll in butter, then roll in the cinnamon sugar and place in muffin tin. Repeat with remaining rolls. Place on middle rack of oven and bake for 15 minutes or until lightly browned. Be sure to place a cookie sheet or foil on the rack below to catch any possible spill from rolls. When ready, remove from oven. Allow to cool for a minute or two. Using a butter knife or offset spatula, remove rolls and place on cooling rack covered with wax paper. Drizzle with glaze and serve warm.

Double Barrel Meatloaf

2 pounds lean ground beef

1 small finely diced onion

1/2 cup finely diced bell pepper

1 1/2 sleeves of crushed Ritz crackers

4 oz. shredded cheddar or Colby cheese

3 eggs

1/2 cup milk

1 tsp. salt

1/4 tsp. black pepper

Topping

1/2 to 3/4 cup ketchup

2 tbsp. brown sugar

1 tsp. mustard

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a small bowl, combine the ketchup, brown sugar, and mustard. Place to the side. This will be used later as the topping. In a large bowl, combine the eggs, crushed Ritz crackers, cheese, milk, onion, bell pepper, salt and black pepper. Mix well. Add in the ground beef. Mix well just to combine. Do not over mix. Form into a loaf and place inside a baking pan or baking sheet lined with foil or parchment paper. Bake at 350 degrees Fahrenheit for 30 minutes. Remove from the oven and spread the topping over the meatloaf. Bake for an additional 30 to 40 minutes or until the center is 160 degrees. Let it cool for 15 minutes before serving.

Side Kick Mashed Potatoes

3 cups water

4 tablespoons butter

1 teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon pepper

3/4 cup whole milk

1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened

1 cup sour cream

2-2/3 cups instant potato flakes

Shredded cheddar or American Cheese

In a saucepan, bring water, butter, salt and pepper to a boil. Add milk, cream cheese, sour cream. Stir in potato flakes. Spoon into a greased 2-qt. baking dish. Sprinkle with cheese if desired. Bake, uncovered, at 350.

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Earnest Prayer

Pastor Mike Vaughn

Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit. James 5:17-18

What sort of person does it take to pray effectively? James offers Elijah as a model. Most people would say; well of course Elijah could pray, he was the great prophet that was used mightily by God. He took on evil Ahab and Jezebel. He brought the judgement of drought upon the land, called fire down from heaven and was translated to heaven in a fiery chariot. But notice that James said that Elijah was a man with a nature like ours. We would say today; he was a common person like you and me. Apparently Elijah did not pray because he was a great man; perhaps he became a great man because he prayed. James gives us some practical reasons why Elijah's prayer life was so effective: #1. He prayed; You can not be effective in prayer unless you actually do it. Many folks hear it preached and talk about it but never get around to it. #2. He prayed fervently. #3. He prayed effectively. In other words, he expected results when he prayed. #4.He was a righteous man[5:16] He was confident in his relationship with God and refused to allow sin to hinder that. #5 He prayed specifically. There is no reason that any believer today cannot pray using the same principles as Elijah did. Imagine what God might do in our world if all Christians began praying like Elijah. So, take your place Christian. The Bible say's that God's ears are open to your prayers. Is there something that you need to happen in your life that requires God's intervention? He is just waiting for you to ask him something. Don't be amazed when you see awesome results; because it doesn't take a prophet of God to have an amazing prayer life, it just takes a child of God that is willing to pray.

Remember, you are loved with an everlasting Love., Mike

Good News Fellowship Tickfaw, LA 70466 - www.mvmgoodnews.com

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. James 5:16

And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; Luke 18:1

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; Ephesians 6:18

P-U-S-H

Pray - Until - Something - Happens



THE DOWELL BROTHERS

Chris & Dave Dowell

@ VOTL

Saturday May 16th @ 6 PM

Fellowship & Food following service!

NOTE - Due to circumstances beyond our control our schedule is subject to change. Please contact us to confirm dates before making plans to attend

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Keep Digging!

George Whitten

Isaiah 58:11 And the LORD shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

During the Great Depression, poverty swept across America like a whirling tornado, ripping up dreams and scattering hopes to the wind. One such poverty twister hit a small part of Texas where a man named Yates ran a sheep ranch. Struggling even to keep food on the table, Yates and his wife did all they could to survive. Finally, they had to accept a government subsidy or lose their home and land to the creditors. One day, in the midst of this bleakness, a geologic crew from a large oil company came knocking. With Yates' permission, they wanted to drill a wildcat well on his property, promising him a large portion of the profits if they struck oil. "What could I lose?" thought Yates, and he signed the papers. The oil crew immediately set up the machinery and began drilling. Five hundred feet down, they came up dry. Eight hundred feet, dry. One thousand feet they sunk the shaft, and still no oil. Finally, at a little over eleven hundred feet, they tapped into one of the richest oil reserves in Texas. The hole sprayed its black wealth high into the air, and soon the well was pumping eighty thousand barrels of oil a day.Overnight, Yates and his family became millionaires. His property, once called Yate's Field, became known as Yate's Pool. And soon hundreds of oil wells dotted the land where once only sheep grazed.

Hmm. What if they had stopped at a thousand feet?? I believe that there is a well of blessing within us that is just waiting to be found. And the victory will only come when we dig for it. We need to to press in when the circumstances look their bleakest! We need to believe that the blessing is there for the taking and not stop when we get discouraged and don't see the fruit of our labor! We need to expect great things and rich oil in the Spirit! Because this is what the Lord has for each one of us! Our breakthrough is just under our feet! Be encouraged! Keep digging! God has more in store than you can imagine! www.worthydevotions.com

But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life. John 4:14

There's a river of life flowing out from me, Makes the lame to walk and the blind to see. Opens prison doors sets the captive free, There's a river of life flowing out of me. Spring up oh well...Within my soul! Spring up oh well...And make me whole. Spring up oh well and give to me that life abundantly!



Upcoming Events @ VOTL

The Dowell Brothers - Saturday May 16th @ 6 PM Evangelist Ronnie Brooks - Saturday June 20th @ 6 PM Jayson & Leslie Cardwell - July 11th @ 6 PM

NOTE - Due to circumstances beyond our control our schedule is subject to change. Please contact us to confirm dates before making plans to attend



A Word for TODAY

By Sister Michelle Deuling

Verse for Today: Proverbs 1:5 A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:

Additional passages for Today: Pr. 10:23 & 31; Pr. 11:2 & 12; Pr. 12:8

Thought for Today: A "know-it-all" doesn't know it all. A wise man recognizes he doesn't know it all and is willing to learn what he can from others.

Story for Today: Patty reached for the latch to the gate as she hollered over her shoulder, "I know"! If Tyrese had a nickel for every time she heard that, she would be a rich woman. "If you knew, why didn't you do it?" she called to the back of the girl that was sauntering away rolling her eyes. One of the reasons Tyrese had hesitated to hire the 16-year-old Patty was because of this very thing. Young people now-a-days had all the answers and were just very hard to work with. They were always trying to cut corners or make excuses and it seemed their favorite words were, "I know". Well, making up her mind that this was going to stop, Tyrese decided to stop giving instruction when she heard the words. She would start docking the pay for not fulfilling their obligation and she would figure out which of the teens were teachable and get rid of the rest! Glen parked his pick-up truck at the corner of the barn. He had decided that today would be a great day to start shearing the sheep. As he gathered his gear, up raced Blue, the sheep-dog that helped on this farm. He was so grateful that Tyrese had trained Blue well. It made his job so much easier. Whistling his favorite hymn, the man and dog set off to find Tyrese. Mean while, as Patty finished filling the water troughs, she thought about the job she had been hired to do. The pay was good, but she got tired of everyone telling her what to do. She wasn't dumb. She knew what needed to be done and she knew how to do almost everything on the farm that needed doing. Just because her way was different, didn't mean it was wrong. So she hadn't filled the water troughs before, what difference did it really make. Tyrese was just OCD and that was her problem. She heard the man coming before she saw him. It was then that she remembered that she hadn't shut the gate; Another of Tyrese's pet peeves, again her problem! It hadn't been that long. The sheep and goats were probably still eating... her thoughts trailed off as she saw the hay field next door dotted with the white and black of the creatures that she had hoped would still be in their pens. The man must have seen them at the same time as she did. And wouldn't you know it, Tyrese appeared out of nowhere. Tyrese began calling out instructions, Patty gave her flippant answer again even though she hadn't even listened to the words her boss had uttered. Glen began to shout at her too, but it was too late. Realizing that another gate had been left open, she saw the red bull that everyone avoided coming right at her. If it wasn't for the quick thinking and the streak of fur that flashed past her, Patty knew she would have been injured. Instead, Blue worked the animal following the commands of his master and soon the danger was over. It was several hours before all the animals were secured in their rightful pens. No shearing was done that day and there was a lot of damage that would have to be paid for. Patty sat on the edge of her chair as she listened to what would be expected of her. She knew she had really messed things up and now she was willing to listen. Even Blue had listened better than she had. She was glad that Tyrese had one worker she could count on that day. She decided right then that she would not only listen, but that she would do things the way Tyrese wanted them done. She prayed that Tyrese would be willing to let her stay. She wanted to make things right. She wanted to learn.

Questions for Today: Who do you listen to? Do you have wise counsellors to learn from? God says to learn of Him. How much time and effort do you put into learning of God?

Block the "I Knows" from your vocabulary and pay attention as God puts people in your path to help you learn. Remember to pray for understanding and always apply what you learn!

C



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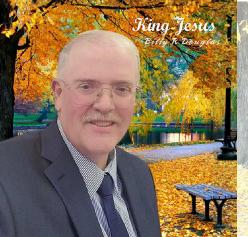
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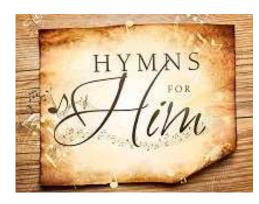




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O Could I Speak The Matchless Worth

Samuel Medley (1789)

O could I speak the matchless worth, O could I sound the glories forth Which in my Savior shine, I'd soar, and touch the heav'nly strings, and vie with Gabriel while he sings in notes almost divine, in notes almost divine

I'd sing the precious blood he spilt,
my ransom from the dreadful guilt of sin, and wrath divine:
I'd sing his glorious righteousness,
in which all perfect, heav'nly dress my soul shall ever shine,
my soul shall ever shine.

I'd sing the characters he bears, and all the forms of love he wears, exalted on his throne: in loftiest songs of sweetest praise, I would to everlasting days make all his glories known, make all his glories known. Page 11

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