



~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



Vol. 21 Issue 401

April 10, 2012

Worship Music

[Oh Lord Your Beautiful-Keith Green](#)

[The Lord Is My Shepherd-Keith Green](#)

[Grace By Which I Stand-Keith Green](#)

[Your Love Broke Through-Keith Green](#)

[So You Wanna Go Back To Egypt-Keith Green](#)

Prayer

Lord, I am so thankful for the many times You have stepped into my life to clean up the messes I've created by myself. Had I been more patient and waited on You, I could have avoided the problems that stole my time, my thoughts, my energies, and my money. Forgive me for being impetuous, and help me learn to wait on You. When I see others make the same mistakes I've made, help me remember the times You have helped me so I can respond with a heart filled with compassion and not with judgment, reaching out to help them recover from the mistakes they have made. For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, there is not one perfect person my Lord, and I forgive as You have forgiven me, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Scripture

Leviticus 24: 1-23 (AMP)

1 AND THE Lord said to Moses, 2 Command the Israelites that they bring to you pure oil from beaten olives for the light [of the golden lampstand] to cause a lamp to burn continually. 3 Outside the veil of the Testimony [between the Holy and the Most Holy Places] in the Tent of Meeting, Aaron shall keep it in order from evening to morning before the Lord continually; it shall be a statute forever throughout your generations. 4 He shall keep the lamps in order upon the lampstand of pure gold before the Lord continually. 5 And you shall take fine flour and bake twelve cakes with it; two-tenths of an ephah shall be in each cake [of the showbread or bread of the Presence]. 6 And you shall set them in two rows, six in a row, upon the table of pure gold before the Lord. 7 You shall put pure frankincense [in a bowl or spoon] beside each row, that it may be with the bread as a memorial portion, an offering to be made by fire to the Lord. 8 Every Sabbath day Aaron shall set the showbread in order before the Lord continually; it is on behalf of the Israelites, an everlasting covenant. 9 And the bread shall be for Aaron and his sons, and they shall eat it in a sacred place, for it is for [Aaron] a most holy portion of the offerings to the Lord made by fire, a perpetual due [to the high priest]. 10 Now the son of an Israelite woman, whose father was an Egyptian, went out among the Israelites, and he and a man of Israel quarreled and strove together in the camp. 11 The Israelite woman's son blasphemed the Name [of the Lord] and cursed. They brought him to Moses—his mother was Shelomith, the daughter of Dibri, of the tribe of Dan. 12 And they put him in custody until the will of the Lord might be declared to them. 13 And the Lord said to Moses, 14 Bring him who has cursed out of the camp, and let all who heard him lay their hands upon his head; then let all the congregation stone him. 15 And you shall say to the Israelites, Whoever curses his God shall bear his sin. 16 And he who blasphemes the Name of the Lord, he shall surely be put to death, and all the congregation shall certainly stone him; the stranger as well as he who was born in the land shall be put to death when he blasphemes the Name [of the Lord]. 17 And he who kills any man shall surely be put to death. 18 And he who kills a beast shall make it good, beast for beast. 19 And if a man causes a blemish or disfigurement on his neighbor, it shall be done to him as he has done: 20 Fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth; as he has caused a blemish or disfigurement on a man, so shall it be done to him. 21 He who kills a beast shall replace it; he who kills a man shall be put to death. 22 You shall have the same law for the sojourner among you as for one of your own nationality, for I am the Lord your God. 23 Moses spoke to the Israelites, and they brought him who had cursed out of the camp and stoned him with stones. Thus the Israelites did as the Lord commanded Moses.

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Leviticus 23–24. Feasts, Laws Concerning the Tabernacle, Blasphemy

For a description of the feasts of Israel, see comments on Deuteronomy 16. Feasts .

The lamp in the tabernacle was to burn perpetually. The bread placed before the Lord (kjv , showbread) was to be changed each Sabbath. Blasphemy was to be punished with death.

An eye for an eye (24:19–21). This legislation was not intended to give permission for revenge, but rather the opposite: it severely limited revenge or retaliation to what was just, instead of allowing a cycle of retaliation and counter-retaliation to spin out of control (see on Matthew 5:38 and Luke 6:27).

Ownership of Land

The land of Canaan was divided among the 12 tribes when the Israelites entered Canaan under Joshua (Joshua 13–21), and the land of each tribe was divided among the families. With certain exceptions, the land could not be sold in perpetuity out of the families.

Any sale of land amounted to a lease that expired in the Year of Jubilee, when it would be returned to the original family. This arrangement, if implemented, provided for social stability and prevented to a large extent the formation of a wealthy, landed upper class and a dispossessed underclass.

The Number Seven in the Law of Moses

The number 7 played a significant symbolic role in the Mosaic Law.

- Every 7th day was a Sabbath.
- Every 7th year was a Sabbath year.
- Every 7th Sabbath year (7 x 7) was followed by a Year of Jubilee.
- Every 7th month was especially holy, with three feasts.
- There were 7 weeks between Passover and Pentecost.
- The Passover Feast lasted 7 days.
- The Feast of Tabernacles lasted 7 days.
- At the Passover, 14 lambs (twice 7) were offered daily.
- At the Feast of Tabernacles, 14 lambs (twice 7), and 70 bullocks were offered daily.
- At Pentecost, 7 lambs were offered.

(Halley's Bible Study; Henry Halley; 2000; Zondervan; Bible History and Commentaries; page 162-163)

Leviticus ; Chapter 24

Now the beginning of chapter twenty-four, God commands them to bring olive oil so that they might keep the lamps burning continually in the tabernacle.

Then God explains the shew bread. He gives the formula by which it should be made, and how it should be laid out in two rows of six upon the golden table there in the tabernacle. How it was to be changed once a week. The bread that was then being removed was to be eaten only by the priest. It was a holy bread because it had stood there before the Lord. Each loaf representing one of the tribes of Israel. Then after the week of sitting there on the table it was to be eaten by the priest.

Now a situation arose in verse ten where there was an Israelitish woman, who had an Egyptian husband, and her son was in a fight. While he was in this fight, he blasphemed the holy name of Jehovah, in cursing this fellow. Several people heard him, and they reported it to Moses. And so he was arrested and he was put in jail until they could get the mind of the Lord on what should be done concerning him.

Now this to me is interesting. Here is a situation that has arisen, "What shall we do?" So they put him in the jail until they could determine what God wanted to be done. So they waited upon God, that God would direct what should be done concerning this man who had blasphemed the name of Jehovah. They put him in the ward, which is the jail that the mind of the Lord might be shown unto them. I like that, waiting upon God.

You know, I think one of the facets of the early church that made it so successful is that they were actually so yielded to the direction of the Holy Spirit. They looked to the Holy Spirit for guidance in all things. I think that one of the great weaknesses of the church today is that we think that we know everything. After all, we've been to seminary, and we've been educated, and we've taken our best minds to develop all of these church programs, and surely we can work it out now in committees. After all you've got efficient committees, why do you need the Holy Spirit? We really don't look to the Holy Spirit anymore for guidance and direction. So often we move impulsively. But the early church was governed and guided by the Holy Spirit. So Paul said, "It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us". We read that the Holy Spirit said, "Separate unto me Paul and Barnabas for the ministry wherein I've called them"(Acts 13:2). We see how the Holy Spirit was directing the activities for the early church. I believe that that is one of the keys to the success of the early church. I think when we come to the place where we can confess, "God, I don't know how. I don't have the answers. Lord, we need Your help." We start seeking again the guidance of the Holy Spirit to direct its functions and the activities of the church; we're going to see again the power of God working in His church. I love it that they would wait to get the mind of the Lord. Oh what is the mind of the Lord in this situation? I'm convinced that God is desiring to reach each community with His love with a message of salvation. Not only is He desiring to reach each community, I'm convinced that God has a plan to reach each community. I think in going into a community, the most important thing is to get the mind of the Lord, "What is God's plan to reach this community?" I think that we make a mistake when we try to develop a plan that would be a national plan because each community has its own individual little characteristics, but yet I believe that God has a plan to reach each community. And what we need is to be open to the plan of God, to get into harmony with what God is wanting to do. Because that's all that God is looking for, people who are in harmony with what He is desiring to do. "For the eyes of the Lord go to and fro throughout the entire earth to shew Himself strong on behalf of those whose hearts are perfect towards Him." Looking for people whose hearts are in tune with what He is wanting, in order that He might invest in them His power to reach out into that community. So I am really not behind the national programs of evangelism as such or worldwide programs thinking that we have one program that's gonna be adaptable for the whole world. I think that we need to seek the mind of the Lord in each community in each area. We notice that Paul didn't follow a pattern in going into new communities. He went in to sort of feel the thing out. He got the feel of it before he began his ministry. Some of them he went into the synagogue, some of them he just started talking to people on the street. Getting the mind of Christ, so vital. So they got the mind of the Lord. The Lord said, "Those that heard the guy swear, take him out of the camp, let them put their hands upon his head, and then let people stone him to death." Blaspheming the name of Jehovah. Then God went on to say, If any man kills any man [verse seventeen] he shall surely be put to death. If you kill another man's beast, you're to make it good; beast for beast. If you cause a blemish in your neighbour; as he has done, so shall it be done to him; Breach for breach, eye for eye, tooth for tooth: as he has caused a blemish in a man, so shall it be done to him. He that kills a beast, he shall restore it: and he that kills a man, he shall be put to death. Ye shall have one law that is operating, whether a person be a stranger, or one of your own country men (Lev 24:17-22): In other words, there was not to be any kind of favoritism shown in the justice system, one law for all. I think that that's the greatest weakness of our judicial system today is that there isn't one law for all. It all depends on which judge you're standing before, and it all depends on what kind of a mood he's in. Whether you get a six-month suspended sentence or five years of hard labor. The judge has just had a big fight with his wife and is angry and upset; man, he's liable to really lay it on you. If it's getting close to Christmas time, he might be in a jovial mood and say, "Oh well", you know. The sentence; that isn't real justice. That's the problem with our judicial system. If you're very wealthy and can afford the great attorneys and all then you can get off. It's not fair; it's not right. I do not believe in our system of justice today. I think that there's much lacking in our whole judicial processes. They need much improvement. It would be well if we had a governor who was wise enough to make decent appointments. Well, I mean when his appointees are calling up and making obscene telephone calls to people, and when they are growing marijuana in their own yard, and when they're avowed homosexuals, what can you hope for? How can you expect there to be a true system of justice? I'm gonna move on cause I could get in trouble real quick. Now it's interesting when the law says "breach for breach, eye for eye, tooth for tooth", et cetera. That Jesus said, "Now you heard that it hath been said, eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth"(Matthew 5:38), so forth. But I say unto you the law of Christ is love, forgiveness, the better part is that of love and forgiving. God help us. But because we are not all able to come up to the standard of Jesus Christ, there are limitations that have been placed and it should never be more than a breach for a breach, never more than an eye for an eye, never more than a tooth for a tooth. "You knocked out my tooth? Let me give you a tooth sandwich brother." You know you don't want to just hit one, you want to get his, you know, the mouthful if you can. We want to take revenge over and beyond, and so the limitations were put. But even better than that is the forgiving love. "Oh well what difference does it make?" God help us to come to the standard of Jesus Christ. (Through The Bible; C-2000 Series; Chuck Smith; 1979-1986; Commentaries OT and NT)

IS SATAN GIVING YOU A HARD TIME in your life of faith—in the Christian race you are running? Expect it if you are a believing child of God!...Satan hates your God. He hates Jesus Christ. He hates your faith. You should be aware of the devil's evil intentions. He wants you to lose the victor's crown in the race you have entered by faith through grace. The writer of the Letter to the Hebrews gives us good New Testament counsel: Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Heb 12:1-2) The Holy Spirit, in giving us in the Bible a wide variety of encouragement, uses many figures to portray the believing people of God. He lets us think of ourselves as farmers, plowing and planting and reaping. He lets us think of ourselves as carpenters, planning and constructing. Again, He lets us think of ourselves as soldiers, bearing the strong armor of God and going forth to stand against the enemy. But here, the Holy Spirit describes Christian believers as runners on the track, participants in the race of life. He provides both strong warning and loving encouragement: there is always the danger of losing the race, but there is the victor's reward awaiting those who run with patience and endurance. There are important things each of us should know and understand about our struggles as the faithful people of God. First, it is a fact that the Christian race is a contest. But the race is in no sense a competition between believers or between churches! As we live the life of faith, we Christians are never to be in competition with other Christians. The Bible makes this very plain. Christian churches are never told to carry on their proclamation of the Savior in a spirit of competition with other churches.

Our contest is with Satan: All of us Christians have a common enemy, that old devil, Satan. As we stand together, pray together, worship together, we repudiate him and his deceptions. He is our common foe, and he uses a variety of manipulations to hinder us in our spiritual lives. When by faith we have entered this lifelong spiritual course, the Holy Spirit whispers, "Do you truly want to be among the victors in this discipline?" When we breathe our "Yes! Yes!" He whispers of ways that will aid us and carry us to certain victory. The Spirit tells us to throw off everything that would hinder us in the race. He tells us to be aware of the little sins and errors that could divert us from the will of God as we run. But here is the important thing: He tells us to keep our eyes on Jesus, because He alone is our pace setter and victorious example. In a very real sense, faith is fixing our eyes on Jesus, keeping Jesus in full view regardless of what others may be doing all around us. This is excellent counsel, because as human beings we know we are not sufficient in ourselves. It is in our nature to look out—to look beyond ourselves for help. This world is big and deadly, and we are too weak and not wise enough to deal with it! It is also a human trait to look beyond ourselves for assurance. We hope to find someone worthy of trust. We want someone who has made good, someone who has done what we would like to do. The Hebrews writer points us to the perfect One, our eternal High Priest, seated now at the right hand of God. He is Jesus, the Pioneer and Perfecter of our faith. He has endured the cross and is now the eternal Victor and our Advocate in heaven.

Differences of opinion: One of my not-too-secret enjoyments is having a little fun with the human translators of the Scriptures. These have been good men, I know. But as scholars and language experts, they sometimes seem confused. In the King James Version of this text, for example, Jesus is called the Author and the Finisher of our faith. Other translators have called Him the Pioneer. One translator simply says "the Starter and the Finisher of our faith." Scholars in another version call Jesus "t he Leader and perfect Model of our faith." Still another translator suggests, "Jesus, the princely Leader and another describes Jesus as "the Forerunner and Finisher of our faith." Fortunately, we can put all of these suggestions together and come up with a clear, simple, forceful portrayal of Jesus. He is Jesus Christ, our Lord, the Author and the Pioneer of our faith. He is the One upon whom the Christian faith rests. He is the One who blazed the trail. He is the One who is leading us through life to a successful consummation. In these studies from Hebrews, we have referred often to faith. The faith we are considering is not that which you might regard as your own personal faith. Jesus is more than the Author of just your faith. He is the Author, the Pioneer, the Leader, the Perfecter of the faith subscribed to by our fathers through out the long centuries. The faith of our fathers rests on the biblical teachings and truths concerning God and the person of Jesus Christ. It is truth that God made the heavens and the earth, that God subsists in three persons, that God spoke to men through the prophets. It is truth that God sent His one and only Son into the world in order that whoever believes in Him should not perish. It is truth that to effect our salvation, Christ had to die and to rise again. It is truth that He is now at the right hand of the Father, that He is interceding for His believing people, that He is coming back to take His people to be with Him forever. It is truth that God has promised a new heaven and a new earth, that death will finally be put down, that the enemy of our souls will be destroyed.

This, in brief outline, is the faith of our fathers. Christ Jesus is the Author and Finisher of that faith, regardless of our personal attitudes or whether or not we demonstrate perfect confidence. But Jesus helps us with that, too! It has been my experience that if we are fully acquainted with and deeply moved by the truths on which our faith rests, our personal faith will spring up joyously in confidence and delight. We have the perfect Model; Twenty centuries ago the Hebrew Christians were told to fix their eyes on Jesus, who for the joy set before Him had endured the cross and scorned the shame. The physical pain and suffering Jesus endured are well known. He was beaten and scourged until His back was raw. Thorns from the mock crown pressed into His brow. Nails were driven into His hands and feet. But we should remember also the mental pain—the cruel psychological pain of shame and rejection. Jesus endured it all; He suffered it out. He scorned the shame by looking down on it as something not worthy to be mentioned when set over against the glory that was to be revealed. Jesus' death in our stead and His resurrection from the grave are fundamental Christian doctrines on which all evangelicals agree. I can preach these truths in any Bible conference anywhere and be assured that I will be invited back. But what could happen at a Bible conference would be for some fellow to whisper to another, "Tozer seems to be getting over on the legalistic side!" This could easily happen when I insist that our Lord Jesus Christ not only endured the cross and despised the shame, but He invites us to do the same thing! After Jesus had rebuked Peter for saying that suffering and death could never come to the Son of Man, Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it." (Mat 16:24-25) When Jesus told His disciples that the hour had come for the Son of Man to be glorified, He added: I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me. (Joh 12:24-26 a)

A.W. Tozer

Much of our modern society seems to have lost respect for the name of the Lord. Do you honor His name in your speech? Do not use the names God, Lord, or Jesus in a frivolous or disrespectful way. Always remember that His name represents all that He is, and His name is to be honored not only in our hearts but also in our speech.

(AMP Bible; The Everyday Life Bible; Joyce Meyers; Scripture; Commentaries; Past Pastor Sermons; Dictionary; 2006; pg 195-196)
(Word 9 Bible Software; 2010; Concordance, Dictionary, Scripture, Sermons of Saints past, Devos; Sparkling Gems From The Greek)