



~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



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Prayer

God Father; in Jesus' name I ask it, help us remember, Lord, that faith without obedient actions to back it up is destitute of power, inoperative, and dead. Lord keep each person and their families and bless them, protect them and keep them safe, in Jesus' name.
Amen

Worship Music

[Ain't Gonna Fight-Daniel Amos](#)

[Little Country Church-
Love Song](#)

[Picking Up The Pieces-
Erick Nelson](#)

[God Your So Good To Me-
Terry Clark](#)

Scripture

James 2 (2005)

James 2:1-26 (AMP)

¹MY BRETHREN, pay no servile regard to people [show no prejudice, no partiality]. Do not [attempt to] hold *and* practice the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ [the Lord] of glory [together with snobbery]!

²For if a person comes into your congregation whose hands are adorned with gold rings and who is wearing splendid apparel, and also a poor [man] in shabby clothes comes in,

³And you pay special attention to the one who wears the splendid clothes and say to him, Sit here in this preferable seat! while you tell the poor [man], Stand there! or, Sit there on the floor at my feet!

⁴Are you not discriminating among your own and becoming critics *and* judges with wrong motives?

⁵Listen, my beloved brethren: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith *and* in their position as believers and to inherit the kingdom which He has promised to those who love Him?

⁶But you [in contrast] have insulted (humiliated, dishonored, and shown your contempt for) the poor. Is it not the rich who domineer over you? Is it not they who drag you into the law courts?

⁷Is it not they who slander *and* blaspheme that precious name by which you are distinguished *and* called [the name of Christ invoked in baptism]?

⁸If indeed you [really] fulfill the royal Law in accordance with the Scripture, You shall love your neighbor as [you love] yourself, you do well.

⁹But if you show servile regard (prejudice, favoritism) for people, you commit sin and are rebuked *and* convicted by the Law as violators *and* offenders.

¹⁰For whosoever keeps the Law [as a] whole but stumbles *and* offends in one [single instance] has become guilty of [breaking] all of it.

¹¹For He Who said, You shall not commit adultery, also said, You shall not kill. If you do not commit adultery but do kill, you have become guilty of transgressing the [whole] Law.

¹²So speak and so act as [people should] who are to be judged under the law of liberty [the moral instruction given by Christ, especially about love].

¹³For to him who has shown no mercy the judgment [will be] merciless, but mercy [full of glad confidence] exults victoriously over judgment.

¹⁴What is the use (profit), my brethren, for anyone to profess to have faith if he has no [good] works [to show for it]? Can [such] faith save [his soul]?

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- ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is poorly clad and lacks food for each day,
¹⁶ And one of you says to him, Good-bye! Keep [yourself] warm and well fed, without giving him the necessities for the body, what good does that do?
¹⁷ So also faith, if it does not have works (deeds and actions of obedience to back it up), by itself is destitute of power (inoperative, dead).
¹⁸ But someone will say [to you then], You [say you] have faith, and I have [good] works. Now you show me your [alleged] faith apart from any [good] works [if you can], and I by [good] works [of obedience] will show you my faith.
¹⁹ You believe that God is one; you do well. So do the demons believe and shudder [in terror and horror such as make a man's hair stand on end and contract the surface of his skin]!
²⁰ Are you willing to be shown [proof], you foolish (unproductive, spiritually deficient) fellow, that faith apart from [good] works is inactive *and* ineffective *and* worthless?
²¹ Was not our forefather Abraham [shown to be] justified (made acceptable to God) by [his] works when he brought to the altar as an offering his [own] son Isaac?
²² You see that [his] faith was cooperating with his works, and [his] faith was completed *and* reached its supreme expression [when he implemented it] by [good] works.
²³ And [so] the Scripture was fulfilled that says, Abraham believed in (adhered to, trusted in, and relied on) God, and this was accounted to him as righteousness (as conformity to God's will in thought and deed), and he was called God's friend.
²⁴ You see that a man is justified (pronounced righteous before God) through what he does and not alone through faith [through works of obedience as well as by what he believes].
²⁵ So also with Rahab the harlot—was she not shown to be justified (pronounced righteous before God) by [good] deeds when she took in the scouts (spies) and sent them away by a different route?
²⁶ For as the human body apart from the spirit is lifeless, so faith apart from [its] works of obedience is also dead.



James 2:1–13. Favoritism

must have been a decidedly worldly element in the Judean church to call forth such words as these. This is so different from the way the church had started (Acts 2:45 ; 4:34). taught that the glory of His church would be its kindness to the poor. But evidently some of the congregations were developing into social cliques in which the poor were given to understand that they were not wanted or at best tolerated. But God loves the poor—and the rich ought to love them, too

James 2:14–26. Faith and Works

Paul's doctrine of justification by faith and James' doctrine of justification by works are supplementary, not contradictory. Neither was opposing the teaching of the other. Paul and James were devoted friends and co-workers. James fully endorsed Paul's work (Acts 15:13–29 ; 21:17–26). preached faith as the basis of justification before God but insisted that it must issue in the right kind of life. Faith that saves produces deeds. James was writing to those who had accepted the doctrine of justification by faith but were not living right, telling them that such faith was no faith at all. Again, righteous action is evidence of genuine faith.

(Halley's Bible Handbook; Henry Halley; Zondervan; 2000; history and commentaries; page 869)

"Convinced" means convicted. We'll be judged according to the mercy we show others. Works don't save us, but they're the evidence of the faith we have. Faith manifests itself in action. The body without the spirit is the scriptural definition of death. The spirit doesn't die the body does. Faith without works is like a dead body.

(New Testament Study Guide; The Word For Today; Chuck Smith; 2005; commentaries; page 168)

It Is the Ultimate Standard for Regulating Conduct

How can man be just with God? or how can he be clean that is born of a woman? What must I do to be saved? Where is true and lasting peace and rest to be found? Such are some of the inquiries made by every honest and anxious soul. The reply is—Search the Scriptures: Look and see. How shall I best employ my time and talents? How shall I discover what is well-pleasing to my Maker? How am I to know what is the path of duty? And again the answer is—What teaches the Word of God?

No one who possesses a copy of the Bible can legitimately plead ignorance of God's will. The Scriptures leave us without excuse. A lamp has been provided for our feet and the pathway of righteousness is clearly marked out. A chart has been given to the sailors on time's sea, and it is their own fault if they fail to arrive at the heavenly port. In the day of judgment the Books will be opened and out of these Books men will be judge, and one of these Books will be the Bible. In His written Word God has revealed His mind, expressed His will, communicated His requirements; and woe to the man or woman who takes not the necessary time to discover what these are.

If the Bible is the Word of God then—

It Is a Sure Foundation for Our Faith

Man craves for certainty. Speculations and hypotheses are insufficient where eternal issues are at stake. When I come to lay my head upon my dying pillow, I want something surer than a "perhaps" to rest it upon. And thank God I have it. Where? In the Holy Scriptures. I know that my Redeemer liveth. I know that I have passed from death unto life. I know that I shall be made like Christ and dwell with Him in glory throughout the endless ages of eternity. How do I know? Because *God's Word* says so, and I want nothing more.

The Bible gives forth no uncertain sound. It speaks with absolute assurance, dogmatism, and finality. Its promises are certain for they are promises of Him who cannot lie. Its testimony is reliable for it is the inerrant Word of the Living God. Its teachings are trustworthy for they are a communication the the Omniscient. The believer then has a sure foundation on which to rest, an impregnable rock on which to build his hopes. For his present peace and for his future prospects he has a, "Thus saith *the Lord*," and that is sufficient.

If the Bible is the Word of God then—

It Has Unique Claims Upon Us

A unique book deserves and demands unique attention. Like Job, we ought to be able to say, "I have esteemed the words of His mouth more than my necessary food." If history teaches us anything at all, it teaches that those nations which have most honored God's Word have been most honored by God. And what is true of the nation is equally true of the family and of the individual. The greatest intellects of the ages have drawn their inspiration from the Scripture of Truth. The most eminent statesmen have testified to the value and importance of Bible study. Benjamin Franklin said: "Young man, my advice to you is that you cultivate an acquaintance with and firm belief in the Holy Scriptures, for this is your certain interest." Thomas Jefferson gave it as his opinion, "I have said and always will say, that the studious perusal of the Sacred Volume will make better citizens, better fathers, and better husbands."

When the late Queen Victoria was asked the secret of England's greatness, she took down a copy of the Scriptures, and pointing to the Bible she said, "That Book explains the power of Great Britain." Daniel Webster once affirmed, "If we abide by the principles taught in the Bible, our country will go on prospering and to prosper; but, if we and our posterity neglect its instructions and authority, no man can tell how sudden a catastrophe may overwhelm us and bury all our glory in profound obscurity. The Bible is the Book of all others for lawyers as well as divines, and I pity the man who cannot find in it a rich supply of thought and rule of conduct."

When Sir Walter Scott lay dying he summoned to his side his man in waiting and said, "Read to me out of the Book." Which book? answered his servant. "There is only one Book," was the dying man's response—"The Bible!" The Bible is the Book to live by and the Book to die by. Therefore read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, practice it to be holy. As another has said: "Know it in the head, store it in the heart, show it in the life, sow it in the world."

"*All Scripture* is given by inspiration of *God*, and is *profitable* for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of *God* may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

The Divine Inspiration of the Bible. A.W. Pink

(Amplified Bible; The Everyday Life Bible; 2005; Joyce Meyers; Scripture, notes, commentaries; pages 2063 -2064)
(Word 9; Bible Software; KJV; Amp; Sermons of Historical pastors; Scripture; concordance; reference materials; 2010)

Psa 119:105
Thy word [is] a lamp unto
my feet, and a light unto my path.



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