



# ~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



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## Prayer

Lord, I thank You for entrusting me with all the weapons I need to keep the devil defeated in my life. Forgive me for not always taking advantage of the full weaponry You have provided. Prayer is powerful—yet I admit that I have neglected this piece of weaponry in my life. Forgive me for allowing myself to get too busy to make time for prayer. Instead of ignoring this vital piece of weaponry, I want to learn how to use every form of prayer that is available to me so I can stop the devil from making up-close attacks in my life. Thank You for this vital weapon of warfare. Please teach me to use it powerfully, forcefully, and effectively against the works of the devil, in Jesus’ name. Amen.  
Sparkling Gems from the Greek.

## Scripture

Genesis 26:1-35 (AMP)

1 AND THERE was a famine in the land, other than the former famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went to Gerar, to Abimelech king of the Philistines. 2 And the Lord appeared to him and said, Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land of which I will tell you. 3 Dwell temporarily in this land, and I will be with you and will favor you with blessings; for to you and to your descendants I will give all these lands, and I will perform the oath which I swore to Abraham your father. 4 And I will make your descendants to multiply as the stars of the heavens, and will give to your posterity all these lands (kingdoms); and by your Offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, or by Him bless themselves, 5 For Abraham listened to and obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commands, My statutes, and My laws. 6 So Isaac stayed in Gerar. 7 And the men of the place asked him about his wife, and he said, She is my sister; for he was afraid to say, She is my wife—[thinking], Lest the men of the place should kill me for Rebekah, because she is attractive and is beautiful to look upon. 8 When he had been there a long time, Abimelech king of the Philistines looked out of a window and saw Isaac caressing Rebekah his wife. 9 And Abimelech called Isaac and said, See here, she is certainly your wife! How did you [dare] say to me, She is my sister? And Isaac said to him, Because I thought, Lest I die on account of her. 10 And Abimelech said, What is this you have done to us? One of the men might easily have lain with your wife, and you would have brought guilt and sin upon us. 11 Then Abimelech charged all his people, He who touches this man or his wife shall surely be put to death. 12 Then Isaac sowed seed in that land and received in the same year a hundred times as much as he had planted, and the Lord favored him with blessings. 13 And the man became great and gained more and more until he became very wealthy and distinguished; 14 He owned flocks, herds, and a great supply of servants, and the Philistines envied him. 15 Now all the wells which his father’s servants had dug in the days of Abraham his father, the Philistines had closed and filled with earth. 16 And Abimelech said to Isaac, Go away from us, for you are much mightier than we are. 17 So Isaac went away from there and pitched his tent in the Valley of Gerar, and dwelt there. 18 And Isaac dug again the wells of water which had been dug in the days of Abraham his father, for the Philistines had stopped them after the death of Abraham; and he gave them the names by which his father had called them. 19 Now Isaac’s servants dug in the valley and found there a well of living [spring] water. 20 And the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with Isaac’s herdsmen, saying, The water is ours. And he named the well Esek [contention] because they quarreled with him. 21 Then [his servants] dug another well, and they quarreled over that also; so he named it Sitnah [enmity]. 22 And he moved away from there and dug another well, and for that one they did not quarrel. He named it Rehoboth [room], saying, For now the Lord has made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land. 23 Now he went up from there to Beersheba. 24 And the Lord appeared to him the same night and said, I am the God of Abraham your father. Fear not, for I am with you and will favor you with blessings and multiply your descendants for the sake of My servant Abraham. 25 And [Isaac] built an altar there and called on the name of the Lord and pitched his tent there; and there Isaac’s servants were digging a well. 26 Then Abimelech went to him from Gerar with Ahuzzah, one of his friends, and Phicol, his army’s commander. 27 And Isaac said to them, Why have you come to me, seeing that you hate me and have sent me away from you? 28 They said, We saw that the Lord was certainly with you; so we said, Let there be now an oath between us [carrying a curse with it to befall the one who breaks it], even between you and us, and let us make a covenant with you 29 That you will do us no harm, inasmuch as we have not touched you and have done to you nothing but good and have sent you away in peace. You are now the blessed or favored of the Lord! 30 And he made them a [formal] dinner, and

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[The Prayer-RyanDan](#)

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[Virtue for Women- Cathe Laurie](#)

they ate and drank. 31 And they rose up early in the morning and took oaths [with a curse] with one another; and Isaac sent them on their way and they departed from him in peace. 32 That same day Isaac's servants came and told him about the well they had dug, saying, We have found water! 33 And he named [the well] Shibah; therefore the name of the city is Beersheba [well of the oath] to this day. 34 Now Esau was 40 years old when he took as wife Judith the daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and Basemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite. 35 And they made life bitter and a grief of mind and spirit for Isaac and Rebekah [their parents-in-law].

#### Genesis 26. Isaac Among the Philistines

Not much is told of Isaac's life beyond this incident of Abimelech and Rebekah and the argument over wells. Isaac had inherited the bulk of his father's extensive flocks and herds; he was prosperous and peaceable, and his life was uneventful. Note that the Patriarchs not only had sheep, goats, camels, and donkeys, but also lived a somewhat sedentary lifestyle, for "Isaac planted crops in that land and the same year reaped a hundredfold, because the Lord blessed him" ( v. 12 ).

Isaac was born when Abraham was 100 and Sarah 90. He was 37 when his mother died, 40 when he married, 60 when Jacob was born, 75 when Abraham died, 137(?) when Jacob fled, 157(?) when Jacob returned, and 167 when Joseph was sold. He died at 180, in the year Joseph became ruler of Egypt. Abraham lived 175 years; Isaac, 180; Jacob, 147; Joseph, 110. The statement about God's "requirements, commands, decrees, and laws" ( v. 5 ) would seem to indicate that the beginnings of God's written Word were already in existence in Abraham's day.

(Halley's Bible Handbook; Henry Halley; 2000; Zondervan; Bible History & Commentaries; Page 119-120)

Isaac's Lapse Of Faith: VV 1-11 Isaac said his wife was his sister to protect himself, just as his father had done with his wife. V 20 "Esek" means strife. V 23 "Sitnah" means contention. V 22 "Rebboth" means room for us all. V 23 "Shebah" means seventh. (Old Testament Study Guide; The Word For Today; Chuck Smith; 2005; Commentaries; page 15)

One of the things Isaac did when he grew up was to open the wells of his father, Abraham, wells that had been stopped up by their enemies (see Genesis 26:18). The very name Isaac, the one who caused the wells to flow again, means "laughter." I think we may draw from this story the idea that laughter and joy in the Holy Spirit will open the deep wells of life inside us—wells that may have been stopped up by the enemy through depression, discouragement, or disappointment. Go ahead and laugh; and let God's joy bubble up in you right now!

#### The Lance of Prayer and Supplication

##### Ephesians 6:18

One of my favorite sections in museums is the one that displays armor used in the ancient world. I especially enjoy the section that displays the spears and lances that were used by the ancients. It is simply amazing to study the weaponry of the ancient soldier and discover how many different kinds of spears and lances were available to him. It becomes very evident that the spear and lance was one of the most important pieces of weaponry he possessed.

When Paul wrote his epistle to the Ephesians, he spoke extensively about the armor of God, urging believers to use their spiritual weaponry. However, as you study this full list of weaponry, it seems that the lance or spear, a key weapon, is missing. But although Paul didn't explicitly mention the lance, he did tell believers to take up the whole armor of God (Ephesians 6:11), implying a complete set of weaponry. We can therefore assume that Paul must have intended to include the lance or spear in this set of spiritual equipment.

The lance of our spiritual armor is found in Ephesians 6:18, where Paul says, "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit...." I call this "the lance of prayer and supplication."

Let's look more closely at this piece of weaponry so you can better understand why I say this.

The lances used by the large and diverse Roman army varied greatly in size, shape, and length. These weapons were devised to be used to attack an enemy from a distance. They were thrown with great force and hurled tremendous distances to strike the enemy from afar. Because different lances were thrown at different distances, they came in all sizes and shapes. The particular lance chosen by a soldier depended on how it was to be used.

By revelation, Paul begins to compare these various lances to the various kinds of prayer God has made available to us. This is why he said, "Praying always, with all prayer and supplication...."

You see, when a believer effectively uses prayer, it becomes a lance that can be thrust forth into the spirit realm against the malevolent works of the adversary. By forcibly hurling this divine instrument of prayer into the face of the enemy, a believer can exert great spiritual power, literally attacking the devil from a distance in order to stop major obstacles from developing up close in his personal life.

I want you to especially notice the phrase "with all prayer." It is taken from the Greek phrase *dia pases proseuches* and would be better translated "with all kinds of prayer."

**Do you understand the various forms of prayer that are available for you to use as you pray and wage spiritual warfare? Don't wrongly assume that all prayer is of the same kind. Just as Roman soldiers used all kinds of lances in battle, Paul lets you know that many forms of prayer are available for you to use in the fight of faith (see February 26). For instance, there is the prayer of faith, the prayer of agreement, the prayer of intercession, the prayer of supplication, the prayer of petition, the prayer of consecration, the prayer of thanksgiving, united prayer, and so forth.**

**Paul instructs us to use every form of prayer that has been made available to us as it is needed. No one kind of prayer is better than the others; each serves a different and necessary purpose in the life of faith.**

**Never forget that prayer is a vital piece of your spiritual weaponry. If you neglect this strategic piece of weaponry, you will find that the enemy keeps attacking you from up close. But as you learn to pray with authority, you will develop the ability to strike the enemy from a distance and therefore maintain a victorious position in your life.**

**God has placed the lance of prayer at your disposal so you can be assured of absolute and total victory. As you use this lance of prayer and supplication in all its various forms, you will continually reinforce Jesus Christ's triumphant victory over Satan and gloriously demonstrate Satan's miserable defeat in every area of your life!**

**Sparkling Gems from the Greek.**

**Can you think of a time when you felt alerted in your spirit that an attack was coming from the enemy, and you disabled that attack by using your God-given authority in prayer? What was that occasion? How did your aggressive praying stop that attack in your life?**

**Looking back on your life, what do you think would have happened if you hadn't listened to the Spirit of God and hurled the lance of prayer and supplication into the spirit realm? If that attack against you had been successful, in what way would it have negatively affected your life? Have you taken the time to stop and thank God for alerting you to this potential spiritual attack?**

**Are you aware of the different kinds of prayer that are available for you to use? What are you doing to learn more about prayer and how to use prayer more effectively in your life?**

**Never forget that prayer is a vital piece of your spiritual weaponry. If you neglect this strategic piece of weaponry, you will find that the enemy keeps attacking you from up close. But as you learn to pray with authority, you will develop the ability to strike the enemy from a distance and therefore maintain a victorious position in your life. Sparkling Gems from the Greek.**

**Hebrews 1:1-2**

**God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;**

**John 3:16**

**King James Version (KJV)**

**16For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**

**(Word 9 Bible Software: Bible Software, multiple translations, dictionary, atlas, sermons of the past saints, concordance, 2005)  
(The Everyday Life Bible; Amplified, 2005, Joyce Meyers, Scripture, Commentaries, page 44-46)**