



~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



Vol. 17 Issue 322

Dec. 20, 2011

Prayer

Lord, I ask You to help me know how to respond appropriately to those who are around me. When they rejoice, help me put aside my own struggles and problems and enter into rejoicing with them. When people weep and I'm not feeling the pain they feel, help me set aside my own light-hearted mood so I can be the kind of friend they need in that vulnerable moment. Holy Spirit, I know You can teach me how to appropriately respond to the different situations I face in life. So I ask You to start teaching me how to be what I need to be in every type of circumstance in Jesus' name. Amen.

Scripture

Genesis 38:1-30 (AMP)

1 AT THAT time Judah withdrew from his brothers and went to [lodge with] a certain Adullamite named Hirah. 2 There Judah saw and met a daughter of Shuah, a Canaanite; he took her as wife and lived with her. 3 And she became pregnant and bore a son, and he called him Er. 4 And she conceived again and bore a son and named him Onan. 5 Again she conceived and bore a son and named him Shelah. [They were living] at Chezib when she bore him. 6 Now Judah took a wife for Er, his firstborn; her name was Tamar. 7 And Er, Judah's firstborn, was wicked in the sight of the Lord, and the Lord slew him. 8 Then Judah told Onan, Marry your brother's widow; live with her and raise offspring for your brother. 9 But Onan knew that the family would not be his, so when he cohabited with his brother's widow, he prevented conception, lest he should raise up a child for his brother. 10 And the thing which he did displeased the Lord; therefore He slew him also. 11 Then Judah said to Tamar, his daughter-in-law, Remain a widow at your father's house till Shelah my [youngest] son is grown; for he thought, Lest perhaps [if Shelah should marry her] he would die also, as his brothers did. So Tamar went and lived in her father's house. 12 But later Judah's wife, the daughter of Shuah, died; and when Judah was comforted, he went up to his sheepshearers at Timnath with his friend Hirah the Adullamite. 13 Then it was told Tamar, Listen, your father-in-law is going up to Timnath to shear his sheep. 14 So she put off her widow's garments and covered herself with a veil, wrapped herself up [in disguise], and sat in the entrance of Enaim, which is by the road to Timnath; for she saw that Shelah was grown and she was not given to him as his wife. 15 When Judah saw her, he thought she was a harlot or devoted prostitute [under a vow to her goddess], for she had covered her face [as such women did]. 16 He turned to her by the road and said, Come, let me have intercourse with you; for he did not know that she was his daughter-in-law. And she said, What will you give me that you may have intercourse with me? 17 He answered, I will send you a kid from the flock. And she said, Will you give me a pledge (deposit) until you send it? 18 And he said, What pledge shall I give you? She said, Your signet [seal], your [signet] cord, and your staff that is in your hand. And he gave them to her and came in to her, and she became pregnant by him. 19 And she arose and went away and laid aside her veil and put on the garments of her widowhood. 20 And Judah sent the kid by the hand of his friend the Adullamite, to receive his pledge from the woman's hand; but he was unable to find her. 21 He asked the men of that place, Where is the harlot or cult prostitute who was openly by the roadside? They said, There was no harlot or temple prostitute here. 22 So he returned to Judah and said, I cannot find her; and also the local men said, There was no harlot or temple prostitute around here. 23 And Judah said, Let her keep [the pledge articles] for herself, lest we be made ashamed. I sent this kid, but you have not found her. 24 But about three months later Judah was told, Tamar your daughter-in-law has played the harlot, and also she is with child by her lewdness. And Judah said, Bring her forth and let her be burned! 25 When she was brought forth, she [took the things he had given her in pledge and] sent [them] to her father-in-law, saying, I am with child by the man to whom these articles belong. Then she added, Make out clearly, I pray you, to whom these belong, the signet [seal], [signet] cord, and staff. 26 And Judah acknowledged them and said, She has been more righteous and just than I, because I did not give her to Shelah my son. And he did not cohabit with her again. 27 Now when the time came for her to be delivered, behold, there were twins in her womb. 28 And when she was in labor, one baby put out his hand; and the midwife took his hand and bound upon it a scarlet thread, saying, This baby was born first. 29 But he drew back his hand, and behold, his brother was born first. And she said, What a breaking forth you have made for yourself! Therefore his name was called Perez [breaking forth]. 30 And afterward his brother who had the scarlet thread on his hand was born and was named Zerah [scarlet].

Worship Music

[He Will Carry Me-](#)
[Mark Schultz](#)

[Love Came Down-](#)
[Kerrie Roberts](#)

[No Matter What-](#)
[Kerrie Roberts](#)

[Hanging On-Britt Nicole](#)

[Walk On Water-](#)
[Britt Nicole](#)

Radio Stations

[KWVE ...Calvary Chapel](#)

[KLOV](#)

Bible Study Sites

[Chuck Smith](#)
[Through The Bible](#)

[Bob Coy/Teachings](#)

[Mike MacIntosh](#)

[Jon Courson](#)

[Biblos.com](#)

[Billy Graham](#)

[Charles Stanley](#)

[David Wilkerson](#)

[Greg Laurie](#)

[Virtue for Women-](#)
[Cathe Laurie](#)

Genesis 38. Judah's Children

This chapter is probably inserted because Judah was progenitor of the Messiah, and it was in accord with the Old Testament purpose to preserve family registers all along the line of succession, even though they contained some things not very praiseworthy.

(Halley's Bible Handbook; Henry Halley; 2000; Zondervan; Bible History & Commentaries; page 124-125)

The Deception Of Judah: Apparently the Lord allowed this story to be included in the Bible because Judah was to play an important part in the lineage of Christ. Christ was the lion of the tribe of Judah. This story also demonstrates the grace of God because He even used a corrupt man rather than only saintly men. V 29 "Perez" means breach. V 30 "Zerah" means sunrise.

(Old Testament Study Guide; The Word For Today; Chuck Smith; Commentaries; page 18)

Learning To Rejoice And Learning To Weep**Romans 12:15**

It's such a big letdown when you experience something that gets you all excited, but you can't find anyone who will rejoice with you. Not so long ago, this happened to me.

After waiting a long time for a particular victory, it finally happened! I could hardly wait to tell it, so I summoned together the group I was with at the time to share this mighty victory. However, when I told these people the good news, they just stared back at me with expressionless faces, as if they hadn't heard a word I had said. When the meeting was dismissed, they left, barely acknowledging the great report I had told them. I was very disappointed because I wanted someone to rejoice with me!

Later that day as I thought about the group's lack of response to my exciting news, it made me wonder how many times I had done the same thing to people who shared their exciting news with me. As I pondered the expressionless faces I had seen earlier, I realized that the other members of that group may have been loaded down with their own cares or anxieties. Perhaps their own thoughts weighed so heavily on their minds that they weren't able to really grasp what I had told them.

We should never respond to someone's good report with a lack of enthusiasm. Regardless of what we're going through in our own lives, we need to get our focus off ourselves and learn to "rejoice with them that do rejoice...." (Romans 12:15). In this verse, the apostle Paul tells us about the importance of appropriate emotional responses. For instance, when a person rejoices about something wonderful that has happened in his life, then regardless of what we are personally feeling, it is appropriate for us to rejoice with him.

The word "rejoice" is from the Greek word *chairō*, and it means to be glad, to be full of joy, or to be elated. Furthermore, the word "rejoice" is a command, not a suggestion, which means Paul is ordering us to "rejoice with them that do rejoice...." The word "with" is the word *meta*. In this particular case, it means to rejoice along with those who are rejoicing and carries the idea of joining on the same level of rejoicing as "them that do rejoice."

The phrase "them that do rejoice" would be better translated as "the rejoicing ones." The Holy Spirit is instructing us that when people are thrilled and bubbling over with joy about something that has happened in their lives, we need to join right in with them and rejoice! If they are shouting, we need to shout with them. If they are laughing for joy, we need to laugh with them.

Therefore, this portion of Romans 12:15 presents this idea:

"When people are rejoicing that's a time for you to join in the celebration and rejoice along with those who are rejoicing...."

You might say, "But it's hard for me to rejoice when I don't feel like rejoicing." Well, you just need to get over it and put your flesh out of the way for a few minutes! Let the other person enjoy his exciting news. Think how selfish it would be for you to throw cold water on his joy simply because you don't "feel like" rejoicing at the moment. What if you were in that person's shoes and someone responded to you with such a noticeable lack of enthusiasm? It would disappoint you, wouldn't it?

So rather than disappoint the person who is so excited, push your own emotional struggles out of the way for a few minutes and join in with those who are rejoicing! Besides, when you start to rejoice with a fellow believer, your deliberate rejoicing may be the very thing that sets you free from the emotional quandary that is trying to hold you down!

Paul goes on to tell us that we need to learn to "... weep with them that weep." The word "weep" is translated from the Greek word *klaiō*, and it means to weep, to wail, to sob, or to shed tears. A very good example of this word is found in Mark 5:38 when Jesus went to Jairus' house and found "them that wept" because Jairus' daughter had died. This perfectly presents the idea of weeping and sobbing that is portrayed by the word *klaiō*.

Just as it is appropriate for us to rejoice with those who are rejoicing, it is equally appropriate for us to weep with those who weep. We will all face times when people in our lives weep because of something that has happened or because of an event that has broken their hearts. When that happens, then no matter what we are personally feeling, it is fitting that we show softhearted tenderness toward those individuals, doing all that we can to comfort them.

Brokenhearted people usually need someone's arms wrapped about them. They also need to feel like they're not all alone. And sometimes they need a shoulder to cry on—not because that will make everything better, but simply because they need a tender touch in that moment of crisis. This is why Paul says we need to "... weep with them that weep."

Learning to respond with appropriate emotions is very important. A sullen frown during a time of rejoicing is not appropriate. A laughing and light-hearted spirit is often not appropriate in a room that is filled with brokenness and grief. As believers, we need to be sensitive to the needs of those around us, allowing the Holy Spirit to show us how to respond to the emotional climate in which we find ourselves. If we respond properly, we can be a blessing. But if we respond inappropriately, we can hurt people's feelings and either dampen their joy or deepen their sorrow.

Let the Holy Spirit be your Teacher and show you how to emotionally respond to the various situations of life. He knows exactly what response is needed and will make you a master of appropriate responses in every situation of life.

QUESTIONS FOR YOU TO CONSIDER

Have you ever shared a great victory with a person or group of people who did not rejoice along with you? Was their lack of response a great letdown to you?

Have you ever seen someone respond inappropriately to a moment of crisis? When people were brokenhearted and weeping, did that person laugh and make jokes at a very serious moment? How did his or her insensitivity to the moment affect the other people in the room?

Are there people in your life right now who need you to rejoice with them or weep with them?

Brokenhearted people usually need someone's arms wrapped about them. They also need to feel like they're not all alone. And sometimes they need a shoulder to cry on—not because that will make everything better, but simply because they need a tender touch in that moment of crisis. This is why Paul says we need to "... weep with them that weep." Sparkling Gems from the Greek.

Nehemiah 8:9-10 (KJV)

9 And Nehemiah, which is the Tirshatha, and Ezra the priest the scribe, and the Levites that taught the people, said unto all the people, This day is holy unto the LORD your God; mourn not, nor weep. For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the law.

10 Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength.

Jer 9:17-20 — Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Consider ye, and call for the mourning women, that they may come; and send for cunning women, that they may come: 18 And let them make haste, and take up a wailing for us, that our eyes may run down with tears, and our eyelids gush out with waters. 19 For a voice of wailing is heard out of Zion, How are we spoiled! we are greatly confounded, because we have forsaken the land, because our dwellings have cast us out. 20 Yet hear the word of the LORD, O ye women, and let your ear receive the word of his mouth, and teach your daughters wailing, and every one her neighbour lamentation.

Mt 9:23 — And when Jesus came into the ruler's house, and saw the minstrels and the people making a noise,

Mt 9:24 — He said unto them, Give place: for the maid is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn.

Mt 11:17 — And saying, We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned unto you, and ye have not lamented.

Lk 8:52 — And all wept, and bewailed her: but he said, Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth.

Lk 8:53 — And they laughed him to scorn, knowing that she was dead.

Ac 9:39 — Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them.