



~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



Vol. 8 Issue 109

February 11 , 2011

Prayer

God Father; in Jesus' name I ask it, Lord rekindle Your love in each person; Your mercy, compassion, joy, gladness, kindness....cause each person to mount up like a eagle and soar. Refresh the dew of their youth. Give them all peace. Give each a day of ease and stress free. Protect them, keep them, and bless them and shine Your face upon them, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Worship Music

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Scripture

21 The hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number who believed turned to the Lord. Acts 2:47; Acts 5:14; 22 A report about them came to the attention of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. 23 When he came and saw the grace of God, he rejoiced and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with devoted hearts, Acts 13:43; Acts 14:22; 24 because he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith, and a significant number of people were brought to the Lord. Acts 4:36; Acts 6:5; 25 Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to look for Saul, Acts 9:27; 26 and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught a significant number of people. Now it was in Antioch that the disciples were first called Christians.

Acts 11 : 21-26

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Peter's acceptance of Cornelius, the Gentile, into the church, without first requiring circumcision, was approved by the rest of the apostles only after Peter explained that it was God's doing: God told Cornelius to send for Peter; God told Peter to go to Cornelius; and God sealed the transaction by sending the Holy Spirit (vv. 12-15). But a group of Jewish Christians who belonged to the party of the Pharisees refused to accept this (15:5).

The church at Antioch was founded, soon after the stoning of Stephen, by those who were scattered abroad in the persecution that followed, probably about A.D. 32. At first this church consisted only of Jewish Christians (v. 19).

Some years later, probably about A.D. 42, some Christians from Cyprus and Cyrene in North Africa (modern Libya), who may have heard of the reception of Cornelius into the church, came to Antioch and began to preach to the Gentiles that they could be Christians without becoming Jewish proselytes first: and that God Himself in some way, showed His approval (v. 21). (Note that today, the Jewish people, that do not think the Messiah has come still do not accept us unless we become proselytes; the Messianic Jews do but not the other Jews.) The church in Jerusalem heard of it. Convinced by Peter's story of Cornelius that the work was of God, they sent Barnabas to Antioch to convey the blessing of the mother church. And many Gentiles joined the church (v. 24). Then Barnabas went to Tarsus, about 130 miles northwest of Antioch, found Saul and brought him to Antioch. This seems to have been some eight years after Saul's conversion, three years of which he had spent in Damascus and Arabia, and the rest, as far as we know in Tarsus. God had called Saul to carry the Gospel to the Gentiles (22:21). No doubt he had spent the time since his conversion, wherever he may have been, unceasingly telling the story of Jesus and reflecting with new understanding on the Law of Moses and the rest of the Hebrew Bible, our Old Testament. Now he becomes an active leader in this newborn center of gentile Christianity.

Barnabas and Saul took gifts to the church in Jerusalem, which was under great pressure. This seems to have been Saul's second return to Jerusalem after his conversion (Galatians 2:1). On his first visit the Jews had attempted to kill him (Acts 9: 26-30). Saul's arrival in Jerusalem (11:30) would seem to have taken place in A.D. 44, since it is mentioned just before Herod's killing of James and his imprisonment of Peter (12:1-4), while his return to Antioch (12:25) is mentioned just after the death of Herod (12:23), which occurred in A. D. 44. (Halley's Bible Handbook; 2000; historical and commentaries; pages 737-739)

Luke here repeated the story of Peter, and the Gentiles demonstrated the importance of the event to the Jews, who had previously thought that the Gospel was only for the Jews (vv. 4-11). Peter explained that the Spirit told him to go to Cornelius, it wasn't Peter's idea to take the Gospel to the Gentiles (vv. 12-17). More walls of prejudice were broken down as other Jewish Christians realized that the Gospel was for everyone. The Grecians were again the Jews who were following and practicing the Greek culture. Barnabas was a brother with a ministry of bringing people together. The gift of exhortation is very important in the Body of Christians to encourage believers in the practical application of spiritual principles. At this point Saul had been a Christian for nine years, but he had dropped out of sight for a while. If Barnabas hadn't sought him and exhorted him to go to Antioch, perhaps Saul wouldn't have had the ministry he did. The term Christian was first used by the world to designate the followers of Christ. Though the world applied the name to derision, the Christians liked the term and began to use it. (New Testament Study Guide; Chuck Smith; 2005; page 60; commentary)

The Word of God teaches that though some people received the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands, other times the Holy Spirit was simply poured out upon people. Acts 10:44 says that while Peter preached to the people, the Holy Spirit fell on all who listened. The believers who came with Peter were amazed because they witnessed how freely the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on the crowd as evidenced by their talking in unknown tongues.

Encouraging people is a powerful gift. It is not flattery or empty praise, but heartening words that inspire us with hope and confidence meant to build us up in our relationships with God and others. Encouragement can edify and build up the people. This is why it is important to fellowship with other believers when we are going through or despairing it lifts us up, to encourage us to go through, that this situation will pass. It is really hard to go through a trying trial and no one is there, no one. God is always with us, sometimes we need encouragement verbally from other believers because we just need to hear it....so God puts people in our lives from time to time to encourage us, when a believer comes along beside you with prayer; encouragement and scripture it just lifts you, if not for my mentor in my last part of my last trial, God was with me, but I also needed to hear it verbally, so the really trying moments the mentor (fellowship) was there even when my husband's surgery did not succeed and he passed away, though I was kind of numb, I remember everything the mentor said; and I treasure it in my heart,

And also other people in that time and at other times in my life. It is sort of like filling up the gas tank when it is about out of gas. You are sort of gulping for air treading water, and someone comes along with a Word from God, or scripture, or prayer, fellowship.....though it was a while till I came to myself, I remember everything everyone said...as I said I treasure it. God put that all in line for that exact time, and I just shake my head, He loves me that much that He did that, after all.....who am I..just another believer....

Neh. 8:10..Do not sorrow or grieve for the joy of the Lord is your strength.

Jeremiah 29:11..for I know the thoughts and plans that I have for you, says the Lord, thoughts and plans for welfare and peace and not for evil, to give you hope in your final outcome.

James 4 : 2-3....2 You desire and you do not have; you murder and envy and you cannot obtain; you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask; 3 you ask and do not receive because you ask wrongly, so you can spend it on your passions. Matt 20:22; Rom 8:26;

Matthew 11: 25-30..... 25 At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank you, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hid these things from the wise and prudent, and have revealed them to babes. Luke 10:21; Job 5:12; Isa 29:14; 1Cor 1:19; 1Cor 2:7-8; 26 Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in your sight. 27 All things are delivered to me of my Father: and no man knows the Son, but the Father; neither knows any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him. Matt 28:18; Luke 10:22; John 3:35; John 1:18; John 6:46; 28 Come to me, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke on you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and you shall find rest to your souls. Ps 45:4; Jer 6:16; 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. 1John 5:3;

Psa 119:105

**Thy word [is] a lamp unto
my feet, and a light
unto my path.**



Chapel Flock; "Thought For The Day"

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"Friday Humor"

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"Hello It's Football"

Of all the blonde jokes, this one has to be the best -- because it makes football make sense! A guy took his blonde girlfriend to her first football game. They had great seats right behind their team's bench. After the game, he asked her how she liked it. "Oh, I really liked it," she replied, "all the big muscles, but I just couldn't understand why they were killing each other over 25 cents." Dumbfounded, her boyfriend asked, "What do you mean?" "Well, they flipped a coin, one team got it and then for the rest of the game, all they kept screaming was... 'Get the quarterback! Get the quarterback!' I'm like...Helloooooo? It's only 25 cents!!!!"