



~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



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Worship Music

[How He Loves-David Crowder](#)

[Never Let Go-David Crowder](#)

[Heaven Came Down-David Crowder](#)

[Broken-Lighthouse](#)

[Storm-Lighthouse](#)

Prayer

Lord, help me remember that real spiritual battles are fought and won in the Spirit. I'm so often tempted to focus on my physical appearance and the condition of my body. I even frequently judge myself by how physically "in shape" I am. But the fight I need to win isn't going to be won by my physical appearance. Yes, I want to be in good physical shape, and I ask You to help me achieve that goal. But please keep me from getting distracted by the less-than-pleasurable aspects of my physical body. Help me stay focused on the spiritual realm where the real battle is being waged. Lead me in all Scripture to learn how to stand in You and in Your name all battles are to be fought, give me wisdom and discernment in each circumstance and to be able to know and test the spirits and to spot the wolves in sheeps clothing, in Jesus name. Amen.

Scripture

Exodus 26: 1-37 (AMP)

1 MOREOVER, YOU shall make the tabernacle with ten curtains; of fine twined linen, and blue and purple and scarlet [stuff], with cherubim skillfully embroidered shall you make them. 2 The length of one curtain shall be twenty-eight cubits and the breadth of one curtain four cubits; each of the curtains shall measure the same. 3 The five curtains shall be coupled to one another, and the other five curtains shall be coupled to one another. 4 And you shall make loops of blue on the edge of the last curtain in the first set, and likewise in the second set. 5 Fifty loops you shall make on the one curtain and fifty loops on the edge of the last curtain that is in the second coupling or set, so that the loops on one correspond to the loops on the other. 6 And you shall make fifty clasps of gold and fasten the curtains together with the clasps; then the tabernacle shall be one whole. 7 And make curtains of goats' hair to be a [second] covering over the tabernacle; eleven curtains shall you make. 8 One curtain shall be thirty cubits long and four cubits wide; and the eleven curtains shall all measure the same. 9 You shall join together five curtains by themselves and six curtains by themselves, and shall double over the sixth curtain in the front of the tabernacle [to make a closed door]. 10 And make fifty loops on the edge of the outmost curtain in the one set and fifty loops on the edge of the outmost curtain in the second set. 11 You shall make fifty clasps of bronze and put the clasps into the loops and couple the tent together, that it may be one whole. 12 The surplus that remains of the tent curtains, the half curtain that remains, shall hang over the back of the tabernacle. 13 And the cubit on the one side and the cubit on the other side of what remains in the length of the curtains of the tent shall hang over the sides of the tabernacle, on this side and that side, to cover it. 14 You shall make a [third] covering for the tent of rams' skins tanned red, and a [fourth] covering above that of dolphin or porpoise skins. 15 And you shall make the upright frame for the tabernacle of boards of acacia wood. 16 Ten cubits shall be the length of a board and a cubit and a half shall be the breadth of one board. 17 Make two tenons in each board for dovetailing and fitting together; so shall you do for all the tabernacle boards. 18 And make the boards for the tabernacle: twenty boards for the south side; 19 And you shall make forty silver sockets under the twenty boards, two sockets under each board for its two tenons. 20 And for the north side of the tabernacle there shall be twenty boards 21 And their forty silver sockets, two sockets under each board. 22 For the back or west side of the tabernacle you shall make six boards. 23 Make two boards for the corners of the tabernacle in the rear on both sides. 24 They shall be coupled down below and coupled together on top with one ring. Thus shall it be for both of them; they shall form the two corners. 25 And that will be eight boards and their sockets of silver, sixteen sockets, two sockets under each board. 26 And you shall make bars of acacia wood: five for the boards of one side, 27 And five bars for the boards of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the rear end of the tabernacle, for the back wall to the west. 28 And the middle bar halfway up the boards shall pass through from end to end. 29 You shall overlay the boards with gold and make their rings of gold to hold the bars and overlay the bars with gold. 30 You shall erect the tabernacle after the plan of it shown you on the mountain. 31 And make a veil of blue, purple, and scarlet [stuff] and fine twined linen, skillfully worked with cherubim on it. 32 You shall hang it on four pillars of acacia wood overlaid with gold, with gold hooks, on four sockets of silver. 33 And you shall hang the veil from the clasps and bring the ark of the Testimony into place within the veil; and the veil shall separate for you the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place. 34 And you shall put the mercy seat on the ark of the Testimony in the Most Holy Place. 35 And you shall set the table [for the showbread] outside the veil [in the Holy Place] on the north side and the lampstand opposite the table on the south side of the tabernacle. 36 You shall make a hanging [to form a screen] for the door of the tent of blue, purple, and scarlet [stuff] and fine twined linen, embroidered.

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37 You shall make five pillars of acacia wood to support the hanging curtain and overlay them with gold; their hooks shall be of gold, and you shall cast five [base] sockets of bronze for them.

Exodus 25–31. Directions for the Tabernacle

God Himself gave the pattern in great detail (25:9). It is recorded twice: first in these chapters, where God explains how it is to be made; then in chapters 35–40 , where the details are repeated to indicate that this is exactly how it had been built—according to God's instructions. This repetition strikes us as redundant, but to the Hebrew ear it reflected the importance and solemnity of the building process. (See also Numbers 7 , where the same list of gifts is repeated 12 times!)

The tabernacle was a "likeness" of something, a "copy and shadow" of heavenly things (Hebrews 8:5). It had special meaning to the Hebrew nation; yet it was a "pattern of things to come" (see Hebrews 9–10).

The tabernacle and, later, the temple, which was built by King Solomon based on the pattern of the tabernacle, were the center of Jewish national life. Of direct divine origin, the tabernacle was an immensely important representation of certain ideas God wished to impress on mankind, foreshadowing many teachings of the Christian faith.

(Halley's Bible Handbook; Henry Halley; 2000; Zondervan; Bible History and Commentaries; pages 149-150)

Inside The Tabernacle: V 2 Twenty-eight cubits, or 42 feet. Four cubits, or six feet. V 3 A curtain of 30 feet by 42 feet. VV 4-6 You ultimately end up with one curtain that can be taken apart and folded into two. VV 7-13 The second curtain of goat's hair was to be giffer than the first; it's to drape down further over the linen one. Again, the length would be 30 cubits, or 45 feet, instead of 42 feet. V 14 Then the third covering was of badger's or ram's skin dyed red. This is the outer covering and it's waterproof. There are actually three coverings over the tabernacle. VV 18-26 This describes the tabernacle's front entrance. The boards were set in sockets of silver, side by side. Over the top hung the linen curtain, the hanging goat hair curtain, and the badger's skin. The boards were 27 inches wide and 15 feet high. Rings were necessary so the entrance could stand upright, and the curtains draped over the top. This is a rectangular shape, 45 feet by 15 feet. The tabernacle had two rooms. The outer room was 30 by 15, and then the Holy of Holies was a 15-foot cube. VV 31-35 A veil separated the rooms on the inside. Some records indicate that this veil was 18 inches thick woven together—a very heavy, thick veil. This same veil was torn from top to bottom when Jesus was crucified, symbolizing, that through Him, God had opened the door for all men to come to Him freely. Access to the Father is no longer limited to just the high priest, but is now open to everyone. (Old Testament Study Guide; The Word For The Day; 2005; Chuck Smith; Commentaries; page 37)

Be a 'Holy Terror' To the Kingdom of Darkness!

2 Corinthians 10:3

You have been delivered from Satan's power through the victorious, redemptive work of Jesus Christ. Make sure you keep that wonderful truth in mind the next time you have to deal with the devil's attack on your life. And don't try to defeat a spiritual enemy with fleshly weapons and techniques because fleshly weapons are for fighting fleshly adversaries; they were never intended to defeat a spiritual foe. Spiritual adversaries must be fought with spiritual weapons!

Paul makes this point in Second Corinthians 10:3 when he says, "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh." The word "walk" in this verse is taken from the Greek word *peripateo*. This is a compound of the word *peri*, which means around, and *pateo*, which means to walk. When these two words are compounded together, the new word means to walk around or to habitually live and carry on in one general territory. It is the picture of a person who has walked in one general path for so long that he can now almost walk that path blindfolded. He knows that area well because he has habitually lived and functioned there.

By using the word *peripateo* in Second Corinthians 10:3, Paul is making a very strong statement about his humanity. He's saying, "Nearly everything I do, I do in the flesh. I eat in the flesh; I sleep in the flesh; I think in the flesh; I study in the flesh. My life is primarily lived in this earthly realm." Although he was a spiritual man, he still lived in a body made of flesh.

Paul knew that he was locked into his fleshly body and couldn't get out of it—nor could he trade it for another! I'm sure he would have taken that option if it had been available because he had been brutally beaten and terribly abused during the course of his ministry. His physical body permanently bore the scars, marks, wounds, and disfigurement of those beatings (see 2 Corinthians 11:23-25 and Galatians 6:17). Having a body free of scars and disfiguring wounds would have seemed like a terrific prospect to Paul!

In addition to the beatings he had endured, Paul was naturally a man of small stature. In fact, the name Paul means "little one." Although he was an intellectual giant who was highly educated, cultured, and even skillful in the political arena before he came to Christ, he did not have a striking physical appearance. Even historians record that he was a small and unimposing man.

It seems that the appearance of Paul's body was even an issue in the Corinthian church. Those who were against his ministry and wanted to eliminate him used his physical appearance as a reason to discredit him. In response to this, Paul wrote and said: "... In presence [I] am base among you..." (2 Corinthians 10:1). Because his adversaries were judging him according to the flesh, he asked them: "Do ye look on things after the outward appearance?..." (2 Corinthians 10:7). Finally, Paul actually quoted what they were saying about him: "For his letters, say they, are weighty and powerful; but his bodily presence is weak..." (2 Corinthians 10:10).

Notice that Paul never argues with them about the condition of his body. In fact, it seems that he agrees with them, even stating, "I am base among you." But whereas some may have judged him according to the flesh, Paul's confidence was not in the flesh but in the spirit. That is why he told them, "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh" (2 Corinthians 10:3).

I think this message is important because we live in a day when people tend to judge themselves by the appearance of their bodies. If they are skinny, they feel good about themselves. But if they gain just a little weight, they are tempted to think that they are ugly and disgusting. Because of modern movies and advertisements, people are continually inundated with thousands of subliminal messages that say, "If you're not skinny and youthful-looking, you don't rate!"

Amazingly, even believers get caught up in judging themselves by their outward appearance. Although it's true that we should do what we can to stay in good shape physically, there are millions of people who are in great physical shape but couldn't win a spiritual battle if their lives depended on it!

You see, physical muscles make you look great in the natural, but mere flesh and blood has no effect on the devil or the spiritual realm. Spiritual battles are not to be fought or won with flesh, because the flesh is no match for spiritual foes. This disadvantage of the flesh is the reason God has supplied spiritual weapons for the believer.

Paul was aware of the weakness and futility of his flesh. He knew that when it came to dealing with the devil, he had to turn his attention to the realm of the Spirit where supernatural assistance was available and spiritual weapons existed for him to use against the devil. He knew his greatest weapons did not lie in his mind, his talents, or his flesh, but in spiritual weapons that exist in the realm of God's Spirit.

In Acts 19, a group of exorcists, whom the Bible identifies as the seven sons of a man named Sceva, attempted to cast an evil spirit out of a demon-possessed man. But when they commanded the evil spirit to come out of that man, the spirit answered them: "... Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?" (Acts 19:14, 15).

Think of it! That evil spirit knew who Jesus was and who Paul was! Even though Paul lived in a small body that had been mercilessly beaten and abused, he was so powerful in the spiritual realm that hell knew his name! Perhaps the limitations of Paul's flesh turned out to be to his advantage! Because he couldn't lean on his flesh, he had to learn how to function in the realm of the Spirit—and that's the reason the evil spirits knew who he was!

That's exactly what you need to do as well. Yes, you may live in a fleshly body that has all kinds of limitations, but you can go forth with spiritual weapons to do warfare in the Spirit! Regardless of what you look like in the natural realm, you can be a holy terror to the devil in the spiritual realm. So reach out and take the loin belt of truth, the shoes of peace, the breastplate of righteousness, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. When you're clothed in the whole armor of God, you can win the victory over the kingdom of darkness every time!

QUESTIONS FOR YOU TO CONSIDER

Do you tend to accept or reject yourself on the basis of how much you weigh or how you look physically? Be honest!

Do you spend as much time focusing on your spiritual development as you do fretting and complaining about your physical appearance?

How much do you think you could grow spiritually this year if you invested the same amount of time you now spend worrying about your body in developing yourself spiritually?

Sparkling Gems from the Greek.

(AMP Bible; The Everyday Life Bible; Joyce Meyers; Scripture; Commentaries; Past Pastor Sermons; Dictionary; 2006; pgs 129-130) (Word 9 Bible Software; 2010; Concordance, Dictionary, Scripture, Sermons of Saints past, Devotionals; Sparkling Gems From The Greek)