



# ~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

**Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing**



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## Prayer

Lord, help me see myself with the full potential I have in Jesus Christ. My temptation is to see myself according to my past, but starting today I ask You to help me see myself through the promises of Your Word. I know that with Your grace and power, I can rise above any weakness or infirmity that has hindered me in the past. I turn to Your grace, and I ask You to release Your power in me so I can step into the reality of the person You have made me to be, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Sparkling Gems from the Greek.

## Scripture

Exodus 29: 1-46 (AMP)

1 THIS IS what you shall do to consecrate (set them apart) that they may serve Me as priests. Take one young bull and two rams, all without blemish, 2 And unleavened bread and unleavened cakes mixed with oil and unleavened wafers spread with oil; of fine flour shall you make them. 3 You shall put them in one basket and bring them in [it], and bring also the bull and the two rams; 4 And bring Aaron and his sons to the door of the Tent of Meeting [out where the laver is] and wash them with water. 5 Then take the garments and put on Aaron the long and sleeved tunic and the robe of the ephod and the ephod and the breastplate, and gird him with the skillfully woven girding band of the ephod. 6 And you shall put the turban or miter upon his head and put the holy crown upon the turban. 7 Then take the anointing oil and pour it on his head and anoint him. 8 And bring his sons and put long and sleeved tunics on them. 9 And you shall gird them with sashes or belts, Aaron and his sons, and bind caps on them; and the priest's office shall be theirs by a perpetual statute. Thus you shall ordain and consecrate Aaron and his sons. 10 Then bring the bull before the Tent of Meeting, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands upon its head. 11 And you shall kill the bull before the Lord by the door of the Tent of Meeting. 12 And you shall take of the blood of the bull and put it on the horns of the altar with your finger, and pour out all the blood at the base of the altar. 13 And take all the fat that covers the entrails, and the appendage that is on the liver, and the two kidneys, and the fat that is on them, and burn them on the altar. 14 But the flesh of the bull, its hide, and the contents of its entrails you shall burn with fire outside the camp; it is a sin offering. 15 You shall also take one of the rams, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands upon the head of the ram. 16 And you shall kill the ram and you shall take its blood and throw it against the altar round about. 17 And you shall cut the ram in pieces and wash its entrails and legs and put them with its pieces and its head, 18 And you shall burn the whole ram upon the altar. It is a burnt offering to the Lord; it is a sweet and satisfying fragrance, an offering made by fire to the Lord. 19 And you shall take the other ram, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands upon the head of the ram; 20 Then you shall kill the ram and take part of its blood and put it on the tip of the right ears of Aaron and his sons and on the thumb of their right hands and on the great toe of their right feet, and dash the rest of the blood against the altar round about. 21 Then you shall take part of the blood that is on the altar, and of the anointing oil, and sprinkle it upon Aaron and his garments and on his sons and their garments; and he and his garments and his sons and their garments shall be sanctified and made holy. 22 Also you shall take the fat of the ram, the fat tail, the fat that covers the entrails, the appendage on the liver, the two kidneys with the fat that is on them, and the right thigh; for it is a ram of consecration and ordination. 23 Take also one loaf of bread, and one cake of oiled bread, and one wafer out of the basket of the unleavened bread that is before the Lord. 24 And put all these in the hands of Aaron and his sons and they shall wave them for a wave offering before the Lord. 25 Then you shall take them from their hands, add them to the burnt offering, and burn them on the altar for a sweet and satisfying fragrance before the Lord; it is an offering made by fire to the Lord. 26 And take the breast of the ram of Aaron's consecration and ordination and wave it for a wave offering before the Lord; and it shall be your portion [Moses]. 27 And you shall sanctify (set apart for God) the waved breast of the ram used in the ordination and the waved thigh of the priests' portion, since it is for Aaron and his sons. 28 It shall be for Aaron and his sons as their due portion from the Israelites perpetually, an offering from the Israelites of their peace and thanksgiving sacrifices, their offering to the Lord. 29 The holy garments of Aaron shall pass to his descendants who succeed him, to be anointed in them and to be consecrated and ordained in them. 30 And that son who is [high] priest in his stead shall put them on [each day for] seven days when he

comes into the Tent of Meeting to minister in the Holy Place. 31 You shall take the ram of the consecration and ordination and boil its flesh in a holy and set-apart place. 32 Aaron and his sons shall eat the flesh of the ram and the bread in the basket, at the door of the Tent of Meeting. 33 They shall eat those things with which atonement was made, to ordain and consecrate them; but a stranger (layman) shall not eat of them because they are holy (set apart to the worship of God). 34 And if any of the flesh or bread for the ordination remains until morning, you shall burn it with fire; it shall not be eaten, because it is holy (set apart to the worship of God). 35 Thus shall you do to Aaron and to his sons according to all I have commanded you; during seven days shall you ordain them. 36 You shall offer every day a bull as a sin offering for atonement. And you shall cleanse the altar by making atonement for it, and anoint it to consecrate it. 37 Seven days you shall make atonement for the altar and sanctify it [set it apart for God]; and the altar shall be most holy; whoever or whatever touches the altar must be holy (set apart for God's service). 38 Now this is what you shall offer on the altar: two lambs a year old shall be offered day by day continually. 39 One lamb you shall offer in the morning and the other lamb in the evening; 40 And with the one lamb a tenth measure of fine flour mixed with a fourth of a hin of beaten oil, and a fourth of a hin of wine for a drink offering [to be poured out]. 41 And the other lamb you shall offer at evening, and do with it as with the cereal offering of the morning and with the drink offering, for a sweet and satisfying fragrance, an offering made by fire to the Lord. 42 This shall be a continual burnt offering throughout your generations at the door of the Tent of Meeting before the Lord, where I will meet with you to speak there to you. 43 There I will meet with the Israelites, and the Tent of Meeting shall be sanctified by My glory [the Shekinah, God's visible presence]. 44 And I will sanctify the Tent of Meeting and the altar; I will sanctify also both Aaron and his sons to minister to Me in the priest's office. 45 And I will dwell among the Israelites and be their God. 46 And they shall know [from personal experience] that I am the Lord their God, Who brought them forth out of the land of Egypt that I might dwell among them; I am the Lord their God.

**Consecration Of Priests & Offerings: VV1-14** For the priest to serve God, his own sin had to be forgiven. Aaron is consecrated, the oil signifying the anointing of God, then the sacrifice of the sin offering. Aaron and his sons were to put their hands on the head of the bullock, symbolizing the transfer of guilt onto the ox. As that oxen had his throat slit, it is dying for their sin. It brings the awareness of the awfulness of sin and that sin brings death. VV 15-22 The ram was a burnt offering unto God, a gift to God. The next ram was offered for consecration, and thus the blood was placed upon Aaron and his sons on the tip of their right ear, their right thumb, and upon their big toe of their right foot. Remember it's the consecration, " I consecrate my ear to hear the voice of God. I consecrate my hands to do the work of God. I consecrate my feet to walk in the path of God." V 28 The priests could eat that portion themselves and it became theirs. V 33 " Atonement" is the word kaphar, which is to cover. In the New Testament the word "atonement" means becoming one with God, possible only through Jesus Christ. It was impossible that the blood of goats and bulls could put away sins. It was only covering for sin, but it could not put them away. These things were all testifying of Jesus Christ, our great sacrifice, the One who was sacrificed for our sins. V 34 What wasn't eaten was to be burned in the fire. V 42 Here we see the purpose of the tabernacle; a place where God would come and meet with them and speak to them.

(Old Testament Study Guide; The Word For Today; 2005; Chuck Smith; Commentaries; pages 38-39)

"Without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in flesh"

(1 Tim. 3:16). Yes, so "great" is this "mystery" that when faith attempts to view it, our eyes

Are dazzled: only as we contemplate it through the very words of Holy Writ shall we be

preserved from the blindness which carnal speculation inevitably imparts. "The Word

became flesh." The second person in the Holy Trinity took upon Him the form of a servant.

The eternal Son took holy humanity into union with Himself. Though that humanity

was not, in itself, a person, though it never had a separate existence, yet was it endowed

with all the elements and qualities of a human personality. Christ was not only God, but

man, having a human spirit, and soul, and body. As such, Christ lived the life of a perfect

man. Speaking by the Spirit of prophecy He declared, "I have set the Lord always before

Me: because He is at My right hand, I shall not be moved" (Psa. 16:8).

Arthur W. Pink (1886-1952)

**God Uses the Weak To Baffle Those Who Think They Are So High and Mighty****1 Corinthians 1:27**

Consider for a moment just how incredible it was that God chose David to fight the giant Goliath. David was just a young boy when God called him. He was so young in age and immature in physical development that the Bible says, "And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance" (1 Samuel 17:42). Goliath took it as a joke when he saw who had been sent to fight with him. The giant laughed when he saw whom God had chosen!

First Samuel 17:43 tells us what Goliath said: "... Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods." Who would have ever dreamed that God would select a young, inexperienced boy like David to bring down this giant? It may have looked laughable in the eyes of the world, but this young boy who fearlessly faced Goliath in battle was the exact person God had chosen!

With that in mind, consider what Paul says in First Corinthians 1:27: "But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty." The word "weak" is the Greek word *asthene*. It refers to something that is weak, base, feeble, puny, or powerless. This word *asthene* describes something that is so substandard, second-rate, low-grade and inferior that it's almost laughable!

When Paul wrote this epistle, the Corinthian church was the laughing stock of the city. In fact, believers were viewed as the laughing stock of the entire Roman Empire. Governmental authorities considered Christians to be a weak, puny, pathetic, useless group of religious idiots. They were literally the butt of all the jokes and were viewed as societal rubbish.

Yet these same Christians turned the world upside down in their day and evangelized the Roman Empire! Through their steadfast endurance and commitment to Jesus Christ, they liberated Rome from pagan religion and paved the way for the Gospel to go into the whole world.

The unbelieving world today views the Church very much in the same way. You see, the devil fears believers because He knows the power and authority they possess. That's why he uses the entertainment industry, educational institutions, and other human agencies to try to belittle the Church and make it look irrelevant, inconsequential, and trivial.

The enemy does everything he can to give the impression that we are minor-league players—a worthless waste of time. He knows the power God has placed at our disposal, so he attempts to discredit us in the eyes of the world. Therefore, if we perceive that the Church today is the butt of jokes and viewed in a derogatory fashion, we just need to realize that this perception is nothing new.

Paul told the Corinthians, "... God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty." The word "confound" is *kataishuno*, which means to put to shame, to embarrass, to confuse, to frustrate, or to baffle. The word "mighty" is the word *dunatoi*, describing people who have political power. When you keep in mind that the political arm of the Roman Empire was trying to wipe out the Early Church, it becomes clear that this verse packs a powerful message!

First Corinthians 1:27 communicates this message to us:

"... God has chosen those whom the world considers to be puny and powerless—even laughable. These are the very ones God will use to confuse, frustrate, and baffle the political powers of the world!"

It took awhile for the Church of Jesus Christ to put to shame all the evil forces that had come against it. But in the end, that's what happened! The Church eventually emerged in power and changed the face of history. The common, regular, run-of-the-mill people whom God had chosen were so mighty and powerful in the Lord that they "conquered the world" for Christianity in their day!

So quit seeing yourself as someone who is substandard, second-rate, low-grade, or inferior. You are filled with the Spirit of God and have the call of God on your life! Who cares what the world thinks? Even if your gifts and talents seem small in comparison to what others possess, that doesn't mean you're eliminated from God's list of candidates.

In fact, your feelings of weakness and inadequacy actually qualify you as a candidate in God's service! God is looking for people just like you, because He knows He will receive the glory for what He does through you. You're exactly the kind of person God wants to use!

**QUESTIONS FOR YOU TO CONSIDER**

If nothing could hinder you from fulfilling your dreams, what dream would you most want to fulfill in your life? Do you really believe that God can help you fulfill such a mighty dream? In what ways do you need to change the way you think about yourself in order for you to become the kind of person who carries out this kind of dream?

Sparkling Gems from the Greek.

(AMP Bible; The Everyday Life Bible; Joyce Meyers; Scripture; Commentaries; Past Pastor Sermons; Dictionary; 2006; pgs 134-136) (Word 9 Bible Software; 2010; Concordance, Dictionary, Scripture, Sermons of Saints past, Devotionals; Sparkling Gems From The Greek)