



# ~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

**Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing**



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## Prayer

Holy Spirit, I want to thank You for being my Partner in this world. I need Your partnership. I know that without You, I am so limited in what I am able to do. You see what I can't see; You know what I don't know; You have wisdom and insight that I don't have. I simply must have Your help if I am going to do what God has asked me to do. I ask You to please forgive me for all the times I have gotten in such a hurry that I didn't take time to fellowship with You. From this moment on, I promise I will do my best to consult You before I make a decision or take a single step, in Jesus' name. Amen.

## Scripture

Exodus 32: 1-35 (AMP)

1 WHEN THE people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, [they] gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, Up, make us gods to go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him. 2 So Aaron replied, Take the gold rings from the ears of your wives, your sons, and daughters, and bring them to me. 3 So all the people took the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron. 4 And he received the gold at their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made it a molten calf; and they said, These are your gods, O Israel, which brought you up out of the land of Egypt! 5 And when Aaron saw the molten calf, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, Tomorrow shall be a feast to the Lord. 6 And they rose up early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play. 7 The Lord said to Moses, Go down, for your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves; 8 They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them; they have made them a molten calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, These are your gods, O Israel, that brought you up out of the land of Egypt! 9 And the Lord said to Moses, I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people; 10 Now therefore let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and that I may destroy them; but I will make of you a great nation. 11 But Moses besought the Lord his God, and said, Lord, why does Your wrath blaze hot against Your people, whom You have brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power and a mighty hand? 12 Why should the Egyptians say, For evil He brought them forth, to slay them in the mountains and consume them from the face of the earth? Turn from Your fierce wrath, and change Your mind concerning this evil against Your people. 13 [Earnestly] remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Your servants, to whom You swore by Your own self and said to them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give to your seed, and they shall inherit it forever. 14 Then the Lord turned from the evil which He had thought to do to His people. 15 And Moses turned and went down from the mountain with the two tables of the Testimony in his hand, tables or tablets that were written on both sides. 16 The tables were the work of God; the writing was the writing of God, graven upon the tables. 17 And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, There is a noise of war in the camp. 18 But Moses said, It is not the sound of shouting for victory, neither is it the sound of the cry of the defeated, but the sound of singing that I hear. 19 And as soon as he came near to the camp he saw the calf and the dancing. And Moses' anger blazed hot and he cast the tables out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain. 20 And he took the calf they had made and burned it in the fire, and ground it to powder and scattered it on the water and made the Israelites drink it. 21 And Moses said to Aaron, What did this people do to you, that you have brought so great a sin upon them? 22 And Aaron said, Let not the anger of my lord blaze hot; you know the people, that they are set on evil. 23 For they said to me, Make us gods which shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him. 24 I said to them, Those who have any gold, let them take it off. So they gave it to me; then I cast it into the fire, and there came out this calf. 25 And when Moses saw that the people were unruly and unrestrained (for Aaron had let them get out of control, so that they were a derision and object of shame among their enemies), 26 Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Whoever is on the Lord's side, let him come to me. And all the Levites [the priestly tribe] gathered together to him. 27 And he said to them, Thus says the Lord God of Israel, Every man put his sword on his side and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp and slay

every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbor. 28 And the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses; and there fell of the people that day about 3000 men. 29 And Moses said [to the Levites, By your obedience to God's command] you have consecrated yourselves today [as priests] to the Lord, each man [at the cost of being] against his own son and his own brother, that the Lord may restore and bestow His blessing upon you this day. 30 The next day Moses said to the people, You have sinned a great sin. And now I will go up to the Lord; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin. 31 So Moses returned to the Lord, and said, Oh, these people have sinned a great sin and have made themselves gods of gold! 32 Yet now, if You will forgive their sin—and if not, blot me, I pray You, out of Your book which You have written! 33 But the Lord said to Moses, Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him [not you] out of My book. 34 But now go, lead the people to the place of which I have told you. Behold, My Angel shall go before you. Nevertheless, in the day when I punish I will visit their sin upon them! 35 And the Lord sent a plague upon the people because they made the calf which Aaron fashioned for them.

#### Exodus 32–33. The Golden Calf

The bull, the principal god of Egypt called Apis, later also would become the god of the Ten Tribes ( 1 Kings 12:28 ). This pitiful apostasy, so soon after God had thundered from the mountain, "You shall have no other gods before me," and after the marvelous miracles in Egypt, indicates the depths to which the Israelites had sunk in Egyptian idolatry. It was a crisis, calling for immediate discipline, and the punishment was swift and severe. Moses' willingness to be "blotted out of God's book" for the people's sake shows the grandeur of his character ( Exodus 32:31–32 ).

(Halley's Bible Handbook; Henry Halley; 2000; Zondervan; Bible History and Commentaries; pages 150-151)

Golden Calf and Moses' Intercession: V 1 Moses has been gone now for almost 40 days. VV 2-4 Remember Aaron is the high priest, which might be a warning that not all who are in the ministry are totally honest in all their dealings. V 7 The Lord isn't claiming them at this point. " Thy people, which you brought out of the land of Egypt, corrupted themselves." VV 11-12 Now Moses says, " They people." Nobody wants to claim them at this point. V 14 The obvious reading of the Scripture looks like God is angry, ready to destroy the children of Israel, and Moses usues sound logic and reason with God to spare them. " Repent " means to change or to turn from. The actions of an infinite God cannot adequately be described in human language. But since we have to describe the activities of God in human terms, we use the phrase " God repented." In reality God has no need to change or to repent. " God is not a man that He should lie, nor the son of man that He should repent." The inspiration of Moses' prayer came from God Himself. All true prayer begins with God. Thus God was the inspiration behind the prayer. What God has purposed, He will fulfill. Had He purposed their extermination. God would have done it. V 17 Joshua was Moses' servant. V 27 That is, those who were leading in this blasphemous sacrilege. V 31 We see Moses offering intercessory prayer before God. He first confesses the sins of the people. Confession of sin is so important because without it there can be no forgiveness. Unless you confess your sins to God, there's no way God can forgive your sins. " Whoso seeks to cover his sin shall not prosper, but whoso shall confess his sin, the same shall be forgiven (Proverbs 28: 13). V32 That dash with the semicolon indicates a passing of time. How much time, we don't know, but an interim of time passed as Moses was waiting for God to answer. This certainly shows a depth of love that very few of us can comprehend or understand. Where did this love come from? God had placed compassion and love for these people in the heart of Moses. That is why it is sheer folly for us to try to generate compassion. It has to come from God.

(Old Testament Study Guide; The Word For Today; 2005; Chuck Smith; commentaries; pages 39-40)

The Israelites did not want to take responsibility for their actions. Moses sought God for them, he did their praying for them, and he even tried to do their repenting when they got themselves into trouble (see Exodus 32:30-32). However, this eventually came to an end, and the Israelites had to become responsible.

A baby has no responsibility when he is born. But as the child grows up, he is expected to take on more and more responsibility. One of the most important things parents can do is to teach their children to accept responsibility. God desires that His children learn the same thing.

The Lord has given me the opportunity to be in full-time ministry—to teach His Word on national television and radio and to preach the gospel all over the world. I can assure you that there is a responsibility to that call, a responsibility many people know nothing of. A lot of people say they want to be in ministry. They expect constant excitement and think they will be involved in a continual spiritual event.

The truth is, people in ministry do not float around on a cloud all day singing "The Hallelujah Chorus." We work, and we work hard. We have to get up on time, follow a daily routine, and submit to authority. We walk in integrity and try to do so with excellence. It is a privilege to work in ministry, but it also requires a willingness to take responsibility for our attitudes and actions. Let's not be people who passively let others do for us what we need to do. Let's rise up in faith and be ready to take responsibility for our own lives and ministries. The Everyday Life Bible.

The Holy Spirit—A Partner Who Wants To Take Responsibility For You in This Life!..2 Corinthians 13:14....Most all of us would say we want to live a victorious Christian life. But without daily communion with the Holy Spirit, it's impossible to attain that goal. Communion with the Holy Spirit is the launching pad for a life of supernatural power and consistency. In Second Corinthians 13:14, Paul says, "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen." I want you to notice the word "communion" in this verse, because communion with the Spirit is what we are talking about today. The word "communion" is the Greek word koinonia, a word that has a whole flavor of meanings, but one primary meaning is that of partnership. An example of koinonia conveying the idea of partnership can be found in Luke 5:7 after Jesus supplied a miraculous

catch of fish. After the fishermen had fished all night and caught nothing, Jesus told them to cast their nets on the other side. When they obeyed, they caught such a massive amount of fish that the nets began to break!

Peter knew he couldn't handle this miraculous catch by himself, so he called to other fishermen in nearby boats to come and assist him. Luke 5:7 says, "And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink."

Do you see the word "partners" in this verse? It is a form of this word *koinonia*. However, in Luke 5:7 it refers to real, legitimate business partners. One scholar says that this word used in this context lets us know that Peter was no small-time fisherman. He owned an entire fishing enterprise, and those men in the other boats were his business associates or his company partners. Whether these other fishermen were co-owners or employees who worked for Peter, they were all working together on the same job and were focused on a joint venture to catch and sell fish.

Keeping this in mind, Second Corinthians 13:14 could convey the following idea:

"... and the PARTNERSHIP of the Holy Spirit be with you all."

If you stop and think about it, this really makes a lot of sense. When Jesus' earthly ministry was in operation, He and the Holy Spirit always worked together. Jesus was conceived of the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:35); empowered by the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:16); and led by the Holy Spirit (Matthew 4:1). Jesus also healed people by the power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:38); cast out demons by the power of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 12:28); was resurrected from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:11); and was seated at God's right hand in the heavenly places through the power of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:19, 20).

Every time we see Jesus in the Gospels, He is working hand in hand with the Holy Spirit. In fact, Jesus even said He wouldn't initiate anything by Himself, indicating His total dependence on the Spirit of God (John 5:30). Well, if Jesus needed this kind of ongoing partnership with the Holy Spirit in order to accomplish His divine role in the earth, we certainly have to have it as well!

But there is yet another idea conveyed by the word "communion" (*koinonia*)—that is, the idea of taking responsibility for someone. An example of this is found in Philippians 4:14, when Paul wrote to the Philippians and commended them for the generous gift they sent for his ministry. He told them, "Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction." The word "communicate" here is another use of the word *koinonia*.

At the time Paul wrote the Philippian letter, he was in prison in Rome. Over the years, he had traveled and preached, raised up churches, worked with leaders, and given his life for the Church. But of all the churches Paul had poured his life into, none of them helped him financially the way they should have.

In order to cover his expenses, Paul worked as a tentmaker during the day; then he preached and trained leaders during the evenings. This wasn't the best plan, but because no one would support him, it was what he had to do. He was pouring his heart and soul into churches that were not financially helping him bear his load.

Paul was in prison in Rome when he received a special delivery letter from the Philippians. In that package, he found a sizable offering that the Philippian church had sent to support him during his time of difficulty. In other words, the Philippian church didn't just say, "We'll pray for your situation, Brother," and then forget about Paul. Instead, they understood their responsibility to help him, so they took up an offering to support him and to communicate their love for him. In other words, they took responsibility for him. Paul uses the Greek word *koinonia* to convey this meaning—the same word he uses in Second Corinthians 13:14 when he writes about the "communion of the Holy Spirit."

Thus, Second Corinthians 13:14 could also be read this way:

"... and the RESPONSIBILITY of the Holy Spirit be with you all."

This means that just as the Holy Spirit wants to become your Partner, He also wants to assume great responsibility for you in this world. If you wish, He'll stand by and watch you try to do it all alone. But if you'll open your heart to the Spirit of God, He will assume a more active role in your life. He wants you to know that you are not alone—and that He will take responsibility for you!

If the cry of your heart is to know the partnership and the responsibility of the Holy Spirit—not merely as mental doctrines, but as constant, daily realities in your life—then decide today to get to know the Holy Spirit as your intimate Friend. Make Him your Partner. Allow Him to help you fulfill the responsibilities of your calling in Christ. Begin today to develop a walk of daily communion with the Greater One within. Let Him be all He wants to be in your life—your Source of wisdom, power, and strength to launch you forth into victory!

**QUESTIONS FOR YOU TO CONSIDER:** Have you asked the Spirit of God to be your Partner in life and to take responsibility for all your cares and concerns? What can you do to make the Holy Spirit a closer, more active Partner in every area of life? Have you spent quality time in communion with the Holy Spirit today, being still and simply knowing that He is your God?

Sparkling Gems from the Greek.

(AMP Bible; The Everyday Life Bible; Joyce Meyers; Scripture; Commentaries; Past Pastor Sermons; Dictionary; 2006; pgs 139-141)  
(Word 9 Bible Software; 2010; Concordance, Dictionary, Scripture, Sermons of Saints past, Devotionals; S Gems From The Greek)