



~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



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Prayer

Lord, You have always been faithful. I thank You that even in my present situation, You are going to be faithful again. Please help me recall all the times in the past when You delivered and rescued me from other situations that also looked hopeless. Thank You for helping me keep those awesome experiences alive and fresh in my mind and heart. I thank You for always being faithful to me thank you for walking with me through the valley's and through the mountain tops. Thank You for leading me and guiding me, each day in Your will for me, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Scripture

Genesis 46:1-34(AMP)

1 SO ISRAEL made his journey with all that he had and came to Beersheba [a place hallowed by sacred memories] and offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac. 2 And God spoke to Israel in visions of the night, and said, Jacob! Jacob! And he said, Here am I. 3 And He said, I am God, the God of your father; do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for I will there make of you a great nation. 4 I will go down with you to Egypt, and I will also surely bring you [your people Israel] up again; and Joseph will put his hand upon your eyes [when they are about to close in death]. 5 So Jacob arose and set out from Beersheba, and Israel's sons conveyed their father, their little ones, and their wives in the wagons that Pharaoh had sent to carry him. 6 And they took their cattle and the gains which they had acquired in the land of Canaan and came into Egypt, Jacob and all his offspring with him: 7 His sons and his sons' sons with him, his daughters and his sons' daughters—all his offspring he brought with him into Egypt. 8 And these are the names of the descendants of Israel who came into Egypt, Jacob and his sons: Reuben, Jacob's firstborn. 9 And the sons of Reuben: Hanoch, Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi. 10 The sons of Simeon: Jemuel, Jamin, Ohad, Jachin, Zohar, and Shaul the son of a Canaanite woman. 11 The sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari. 12 The sons of Judah: Er, Onan, Shelah, Perez, and Zerah; but Er and Onan died in the land of Canaan. And the sons of Perez were Hezron and Hamul. 13 The sons of Issachar: Tola, Puvah, Iob, and Shimron. 14 The sons of Zebulun: Seread, Elon, and Jahleel. 15 These are the sons of Leah, whom she bore to Jacob in Padan-aram, together with his daughter Dinah. All of his sons and his daughters numbered thirty-three. 16 The sons of Gad: Ziphion, Haggi, Shuni, Ezbon, Eri, Arodi, and Areli. 17 The sons of Asher: Imnah, Ishvah, Ishvi, Beriah, and Serah their sister. And the sons of Beriah: Heber and Malchiel. 18 These are the sons of Zilpah, [the maid] whom Laban gave to Leah his daughter. And these she bore to Jacob—sixteen persons all told. 19 The sons of Rachel, Jacob's wife: Joseph and Benjamin. 20 And to Joseph in the land of Egypt were born Manasseh and Ephraim, whom Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On, bore to him. 21 And the sons of Benjamin: Bela, Becher, Ashbel, Gera, Naaman, Ehi, Rosh, Muppim, Huppim, and Ard. 22 These are the sons of Rachel, who were born to Jacob—fourteen persons in all. 23 The son of Dan: Hushim. 24 The sons of Naphtali: Jahzeel, Guni, Jezer, and Shillem. 25 These are the sons of Bilhah, [the maid] whom Laban gave to Rachel his daughter. And she bore these to Jacob—seven persons in all. 26 All the persons who came with Jacob into Egypt—who were his own offspring, not counting the wives of Jacob's sons—were sixty-six persons all told. 27 And the sons of Joseph, who were born to him in Egypt, were two persons. All the persons of the house of Jacob [including Joseph and Jacob himself], who came into Egypt, were seventy. 28 And he sent Judah before him to Joseph, to direct him to Goshen and meet him there; and they came into the land of Goshen. 29 Then Joseph made ready his chariot and went up to meet Israel his father in Goshen; and he presented himself and gave distinct evidence of himself to him [that he was Joseph], and [each] fell on the [other's] neck and wept on his neck a good while. 30 And Israel said to Joseph, Now let me die, since I have seen your face [and know] that you are still alive. 31 Joseph said to his brothers and to his father's household, I will go up and tell Pharaoh and say to him, My brothers and my father's household, who were in the land of Canaan, have come to me. 32 And the men are shepherds, for their occupation has been keeping livestock, and they have brought their flocks and their herds and all that they have. 33 When Pharaoh calls you and says, What is your occupation? 34 You shall say, Your servants' occupation has been as keepers of livestock from our youth until now, both we and our fathers before us—in order that you may live in the land of Goshen, for every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians.

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Genesis 46–47. Jacob and His Family Settle in Egypt

God had planned that Israel should be nurtured for a while in Egypt, which was the most advanced civilization of that day. As Jacob left Canaan, God gave him assurance that his descendants would return (46:3–4).
(Halley's Bible Handbook; Henry Halley; 2000; Zondervan; Bible History & Commentaries; page 128)

Jacob Moves To Egypt: Jacob's family accompanied him, to Egypt. The various members are listed with their mothers. VV 8-15 Thirty-three descendants from Leah. VV 16-18 Sixteen descendants from Zilpah. VV 19-22 Fourteen descendants from Rachel. VV 23-25 Seven descendants from Bilhah. V 27 Seventy members of Jacob's family went into Egypt. VV 31-34 Joseph encouraged his brothers not to become urbanized but to stay out in the country in Goshen and to continue to be shepherds.
(Old Testament Study Guide; The Word For Today; Chuck Smith; 2005; Commentaries; page 19-20)

Isn't It Time for You To Hit the Rewind Button?**2 Timothy 1:6**

Have you ever experienced the delivering and rescuing power of God? I'm talking about those moments when your situation looks completely hopeless—but suddenly God's amazing grace intervenes and your situation is miraculously changed! Can you think of moments like this in your past?

It's amazing that when we are confronted with a new challenge, we often fail to remember God's faithfulness in the past. Our perspective gets blurry because of the problems we are currently facing, and we forget that we've gone through similar or worse circumstances before. The looming mountain of problems before us looks so big that we momentarily fail to remember all the other mountains we've already faced and overcome with the help of God.

When Paul wrote his second letter to Timothy, the younger man was facing the biggest mountain of his life. Nero had become the emperor of the Roman Empire. Because of his tyrannical rule, believers were being persecuted and were even dying for their faith. In the midst of all the panic, Timothy was tempted to fear for his life and his future. He must have wondered, *Is God going to be faithful to me in this terrible hour?*

So in Second Timothy 1:5, Paul tells Timothy, "When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice, and I am persuaded that in thee also." Paul wanted to remind Timothy about something very important!

God's faithfulness was a part of Timothy's family heritage. His grandmother trusted the Lord—and the Lord had never failed her or let her down. His mother trusted the Lord—and the Lord had never failed her or let her down either. Because Timothy was dealing with great stress and difficulty, Paul took the opportunity to remind him that just as God had never failed his grandmother or mother, neither would He abandon Timothy in his difficult hour.

Then Paul told him, "... I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands" (2 Timothy 1:6). I want you to particularly focus on the phrase, "I put thee in remembrance." It is taken from the Greek word *anamimnesko*, a compound of the words *ana* and *mimnesko*. Pay close attention, because this is very important! The word *ana* means again or to repeat something. The second part of the word *mimnesko* means to be reminded of something, such as memories.

When these two words are joined together as in this verse, it means to regather or to recollect memories. The little prefix *ana* carries the idea of replaying these memories over and over again in your mind, the way you would hit the rewind button on your video player so you can back up and watch one part of a movie over and over again.

This means there are some memories we should never forget! For example, we should constantly hit the rewind button in our minds and "replay" the times that God has been faithful to us in the past—delivering us, healing us, and rescuing us time and time again. We should "replay" those scenes in our minds until we never forget His faithfulness to us!

You could translate Second Timothy 1:6 in the following way:

"I am putting you in memory of all these things, so that by your remembering them, you might stir up the gift of God that is in you...."

Paul reminds Timothy (and us) to take our eyes off these times of trouble or the present crisis and to remember God's delivering and rescuing power in the past. If we really looked at our past, we'd find that we have faced other moments more severe than the one we're facing right now—and God never failed us or let us down. In fact, He delivered us and turned those situations around!

Don't ever forget what God has already done for you, for those memories will stir you up and encourage you to face your present dilemma. Just as God has always been faithful to you in the past, He will be faithful to you right now.

Never forget how:

God has healed you.

God has delivered you.

God has saved you.

God has guided and directed you.

God has brought you through difficult trials.

God has provided for you during hard financial times.

God has protected you from the snare of the enemy.

These kinds of memories are powerful and will stir up your faith today!

So the next time the devil tells you there is no way you'll survive what you're facing, take the time to get alone with the Lord. Then hit the rewind button, and ask the Holy Spirit to help you regather and recollect all those past events when God came through for you! As you replay those memories over and over in your mind, your faith will rise to a new level of confidence. You'll be able to look your problems right in the face and say, "God's record with me has always been faithfulness, and I know He'll be faithful to me now as well!"

QUESTIONS FOR YOU TO CONSIDER

As you think about God's faithfulness in your life, how does it affect the way you perceive the problems you are dealing with right now?

What are some of the seemingly impossible situations you faced in the past that God delivered you from?

What steps can you take to trust God more fully to deliver you from your present situation as He has done for you in the past?

Sparkling Gems from the Greek.

Psalm 45:1-17 (AMP)

1 MY HEART overflows with a goodly theme; I address my psalm to a King. My tongue is like the pen of a ready writer. 2 You are fairer than the children of men; graciousness is poured upon Your lips; therefore God has blessed You forever. 3 Gird Your sword upon Your thigh, O mighty One, in Your glory and Your majesty! 4 And in Your majesty ride on triumphantly for the cause of truth, humility, and righteousness (uprightness and right standing with God); and let Your right hand guide You to tremendous things. 5 Your arrows are sharp; the peoples fall under You; Your darts pierce the hearts of the King's enemies. 6 Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; the scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. 7 You love righteousness, uprightness, and right standing with God and hate wickedness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness above Your fellows. 8 Your garments are all fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and cassia; stringed instruments make You glad. 9 Kings' daughters are among Your honorable women; at Your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir. 10 Hear, O daughter, consider, submit, and consent to my instruction: forget also your own people and your father's house; 11 So will the King desire your beauty; because He is your Lord, be submissive and reverence and honor Him. 12 And, O daughter of Tyre, the richest of the people shall entreat your favor with a gift. 13 The King's daughter in the inner part [of the palace] is all glorious; her clothing is inwrought with gold. 14 She shall be brought to the King in raiment of needlework; with the virgins, her companions that follow her, she shall be brought to You. 15 With gladness and rejoicing will they be brought; they will enter into the King's palace. 16 Instead of Your fathers shall be Your sons, whom You will make princes in all the land. 17 I will make Your name to be remembered in all generations; therefore shall the people praise and give You thanks forever and ever.

The Lord encourages us in Psalm 46:10 to be still and to know that He is God. Often it is difficult for us to be still or quiet because our flesh is full of energy and usually wants to be active doing something. Do not go to God and talk to Him only when you want or need something; also spend quiet time with Him just listening for His voice. He will give you great revelation and direction if you will be still before Him and simply listen. The Everyday Life Bible.

(Word 9 Bible Software: Bible Software, multiple translations, dictionary, atlas, sermons of the past saints, concordance, 2005)
(The Everyday Life Bible; Amplified, 2005, Joyce Meyers, Scripture, Commentaries, page 79-80)