



~ 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 step out of the sins and bad attitudes that have held me captive for so long. Help me know the right steps to take to remove these destructive and unworthy things from my life. You want me to be free, and I desire to be free. With Your help, I know I can be permanently set free from these negative things, stepping out of them and pushing them so far away that I will never pick them up again. I ask that You led me and guide me in this and all circumstances, if there is anything I need to do tell me, led me and guide me in God's will for me and plans, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Worship Music

[Bless Us Keep Us-
John Waller](#)

[Our God Reigns Here-
John Waller](#)

[The Blessing-John
Waller](#)

[Though I Am Not
Worthy-Kari Jobe](#)

[The More I Seek You-
Kari Jobe](#)

[Come To Me-Kari Jobe](#)

Scripture

Genesis 49:1-33(AMP)

1 AND JACOB called for his sons and said, Gather yourselves together [around me], that I may tell you what shall befall you in the latter or last days. 2 Gather yourselves together and hear, you sons of Jacob; and hearken to Israel your father. 3 Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might, the beginning (the first fruits) of my manly strength and vigor; [your birthright gave you] the preeminence in dignity and the preeminence in power. 4 But unstable and boiling over like water, you shall not excel and have the preeminence [of the firstborn], because you went to your father's bed; you defiled it—he went to my couch! 5 Simeon and Levi are brothers [equally headstrong, deceitful, vindictive, and cruel]; their swords are weapons of violence. 6 O my soul, come not into their secret council; unto their assembly let not my honor be united [for I knew nothing of their plot], because in their anger they slew men [an honored man, Shechem, and the Shechemites], and in their self-will they disabled oxen. 7 Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce, and their wrath, for it was cruel. I will divide them in Jacob and . (Adam Clarke, The Holy Bible with A Commentary). scatter them in Israel. 8 Judah, you are the one whom your brothers shall praise; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons shall bow down to you. 9 Judah, a lion's cub! With the prey, my son, you have gone high up [the mountain]. He stooped down, he crouched like a lion, and like a lioness—who dares provoke and rouse him? 10 The scepter or leadership shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until Shiloh [the Messiah, the Peaceful One] comes to Whom it belongs, and to Him shall be the obedience of the people. 11 Binding His foal to the vine and His donkey's colt to the choice vine, He washes His garments in wine and His clothes in the blood of grapes. 12 His eyes are darker and more sparkling than wine, and His teeth whiter than milk. 13 Zebulun shall live toward the seashore, and he shall be a haven and a landing place for ships; and his border shall be toward Sidon. 14 Issachar is a strong-boned donkey crouching down between the sheepfolds. 15 And he saw that rest was good and that the land was pleasant; and he bowed his shoulder to bear [his burdens] and became a servant to tribute [subjected to forced labor]. 16 Dan shall judge his people as one of the tribes of Israel. 17 Dan shall be a serpent by the way, a horned snake in the path, that bites at the horse's heels, so that his rider falls backward. 18 I wait for Your salvation, O Lord. 19 Gad—a raiding troop shall raid him, but he shall raid at their heels and assault them [victoriously]. 20 Asher's food [supply] shall be rich and fat, and he shall yield and deliver royal delights. 21 Naphtali is a hind let loose which yields lovely fawns. 22 Joseph is a fruitful bough, a fruitful bough by a well (spring or fountain), whose branches run over the wall. 23 Skilled archers have bitterly attacked and sorely worried him; they have shot at him and persecuted him. 24 But his bow remained strong and steady and rested in the Strength that does not fail him, for the arms of his hands were made strong and active by the hands of the Mighty God of Jacob, by the name of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel, 25 By the God of your father, Who will help you, and by the Almighty, Who will bless you with blessings of the heavens above, blessings lying in the deep beneath, blessings of the breasts and of the womb. 26 The blessings of your father [on you] are greater than the blessings of my forefathers [Abraham and Isaac on me] and are as lasting as the bounties of the eternal hills; they shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him who was the consecrated one and the one separated from his brethren and [the one who] is prince among them. 27 Benjamin is a ravenous wolf, in the morning devouring the prey and at night dividing the spoil. 28 All these are the twelve tribes of Israel, and this is what their father said to them as he blessed them, blessing each one according to the blessing suited to him. 29 He charged them and said to them, I am to be gathered to my [departed] people; bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, 30 In the cave in the field at Machpelah, east of Mamre in the land of Canaan, that Abraham bought, along with the field of Ephron the Hittite, to possess as a cemetery. 31 There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife, there they buried

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Isaac and Rebekah his wife, and there I buried Leah. 32 The purchase of the field and the cave that is in it was from the sons of Heth. 33 When Jacob had finished commanding his sons, he drew his feet up into the bed and breathed his last and was gathered to his [departed] people

Genesis 48–49. Jacob's Blessing and Prophecy

Jacob seems to have split the birthright, designating Judah as the channel of the messianic promise (49:10), yet pronouncing national prestige on Joseph's son Ephraim (48:19–22 ; 49:22–26 ; 1 Chronicles 5:1–2). Jacob's prophecy about the Twelve Tribes parallels to a remarkable degree the subsequent history of the tribes. "Shiloh" (49:10 kjv) is commonly taken to be a name for the Messiah. The tribe of Judah produced David, and David's family produced Christ.

(Halley's Bible Handbook; Henry Halley; 2000; Zondervan; Bible History & Commentaries; page 128)

Jacob Blesses His Sons; In this chapter Jacob called his sons to his deathbed and prophesied over each one. V 4 Reuben lost the good opinion of his father when he took Jacob's concubine. VV 5-7 Simeon and Levi always seemed to work together. They had vile, ungoverned tempers. VV 8-9 The lion became the symbol of the tribe of Judah. V 10 After God rejected Saul who was from the tribe of Benjamin, as king over Israel, He placed David, who was from the tribe of Judah, on the throne. The throne of Israel was to belong to Judah until the Messiah (Shiloh) came. V 13 Zebulun's tribe was to dwell by the sea along the northern coast of Israel. V 16 Dan's tribe produced the judges. V 19 Dan's tribe produced the judges. V 19 Gad's tribe produced the troops, the soldiers. V 20 Asher was the baker for the tribes. V 22 Joseph could enjoy the fruit of his godly life and others were blessed by his life too, as passersby enjoy fruit that hangs over the wall. God wants our lives to be fruitful and to overflow with the blessings He bestows on us so that we share His goodness with others. V 23 Most of the arrows were shot by Joseph's brothers. There were various trials he had to endure. A. Arrows of doubt and scorn sent when he tried to share his dreams (Genesis 37:8). B. Arrows of hatred because the ten older brothers knew he was their father's favorite (Genesis 37:4). C. Arrows of treachery when his brothers decided to kill him (Genesis 37:18). D. Arrows of temptation as Potiphar's wife tried to seduce him (Genesis 39:7). E. Arrows of false accusations as she accused him of trying to attack her (Genesis 39: 13-18). F. Arrows of forgetfulness when the butler forgot Joseph for two years (Genesis 40:23). V 24 It takes greater strength to hold back from taking revenge when it is in our power to do it. Though the arrows were shot at him, Joseph did not shoot back. The Father had His arms around Joseph's arms, holding the bow for him and giving him His strength to draw upon. VV 29-32 Jacob asked his sons to bury him with his fathers back in the Promised land.

(Old Testament Study Guide; The Word For Today; Chuck Smith; 2005; Commentaries; pages 20-21)

Dealing With Wrong Attitudes The Right Way

James 1:21

Today I would like to draw your attention to the words "lay apart" in the verse above. These words are taken from the Greek word *apotithimi*, a compound of the words *apo* and *tithimi*. The word *apo* means away, and the word *tithimi* means to place or to lay something down. When these two words are compounded together, it gives a picture of someone who is laying something down at the same time he is pushing it far away from himself. Therefore, this compound word means to lay something down and to push it far away and beyond reach.

An example would be a person who is about to sinfully indulge in eating too much pie but suddenly realizes what he is doing. So instead of diving into the extra piece of pie and eating it, he chooses instead to lay it back down on the table; then he deliberately shoves it away from himself lest he should overindulge one time too many! He lays it down, and he pushes it away. This is the idea of the word *apotithimi* James uses when he tells us to "lay apart" all filthiness in our lives. But there is another very important meaning to this word in the New Testament!

In New Testament times, the word *apotithimi* was frequently used to describe someone taking off his dirty clothes at the end of the day. How do you deal with your dirty clothes at the end of the day? You take them off and put them away in the clothes hamper! Now James uses this illustration to explain how you must deal with wrong attitudes and actions in your own life. Just as you wouldn't go to bed in dirty clothes at night, neither should you go to bed with wrong attitudes. You must deal with them like an old set of filthy clothes. You have to decide to get rid of those bad attitudes!

James 1:21 could be interpreted to mean:

"You must make the choice to remove those filthy, stinking garments from your life, to permanently lay them down and then deliberately push them out of your range forever...."

Also, it's important to realize that dirty clothes don't fall off your body by accident! To get them off, you have to push the buttons through the button holes, unzip the zipper, and slip the clothes off your arms and legs one piece at a time. Dirty clothes don't automatically come off just because you realize they are dirty. They will only come off if you do something to remove them! This is exactly what James has in mind when he tells us to "lay apart" all filthiness from our lives.

When James says to "lay apart" all filthiness from our lives, he is telling us to first acknowledge what is wrong and then to take appropriate measures to remove those areas from our lives. If you are going to get free and stay free, it won't happen by accident. You must start taking steps to remove those negative things from your life—to lay them down and push them so far away that you'll never be able to reach them again!

Are you struggling with a sin today? Does a wrong attitude keep trying to conquer your life? If so, you must begin to look at that sin or wrong attitude like an old set of filthy clothes that isn't worthy for you to wear anymore. Make the decision to step out of every destructive area of your life that has held you captive. Once you make that decision, the Holy Spirit will give you the power to carry it out!

QUESTIONS FOR YOU TO CONSIDER

Do you recognize wrong attitudes or patterns of behavior in your life that you know need to change?

Are you willing to make the necessary adjustments to walk free from the sins, attitudes, habits, and bondages that have been clinging to you?

If your answer is yes, what steps do you need to take to start walking toward your freedom?

Does a wrong attitude keep trying to conquer your life? If so, you must begin to look at that sin or wrong attitude like an old set of filthy clothes that isn't worthy for you to wear anymore.

Sparkling Gems from the Greek.

Gen 45:5-8 — But now, do not be distressed and disheartened or vexed and angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me ahead of you to preserve life. 6 For these two years the famine has been in the land, and there are still five years more in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. 7 God sent me before you to preserve for you a posterity and to continue a remnant on the earth, to save your lives by a great escape and save for you many survivors. 8 So now it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

Ps 76:10 — Surely the wrath of man shall praise You; the remainder of wrath shall You restrain and gird and arm Yourself with it.

Ps 105:16 — Moreover, He called for a famine upon the land [of Egypt]; He cut off every source of bread.

Ps 105:17 — He sent a man before them, even Joseph, who was sold as a servant.

Ps 119:71 — It is good for me that I have been afflicted, that I might learn Your statutes.

Isa 10:7 — However, this is not his intention [nor is the Assyrian aware that he is doing this at My bidding], neither does his mind so think and plan; but it is in his mind to destroy and cut off many nations.

Acts 2:23 — This Jesus, when delivered up according to the definite and fixed purpose and settled plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and put out of the way [killing Him] by the hands of lawless and wicked men.

Acts 3:13-15 — The God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob, the God of our forefathers, has glorified His Servant and Son Jesus [doing Him this honor], Whom you indeed delivered up and denied and rejected and disowned in the presence of Pilate, when he had determined to let Him go. 14 But you denied and rejected and disowned the Pure and Holy, the Just and Blameless One, and demanded [the pardon of] a murderer to be granted to you. 15 But you killed the very Source (the Author) of life, Whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.

Acts 3:26 — It was to you first that God sent His Servant and Son Jesus, when He raised Him up [provided and gave Him for us], to bless you in turning every one of you from your wickedness and evil ways.

Romans 8:28 — We are assured and know that [God being a partner in their labor] all things work together and are [fitting into a plan] for good to and for those who love God and are called according to [His] design and purpose.

Jeremiah 29:11-14 (AMP)

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. 12 Then you will call upon Me, and you will come and pray to Me, and I will hear and heed you. 13 Then you will seek Me, inquire for, and require Me [as a vital necessity] and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. 14 I will be found by you, says the Lord, and I will release you from captivity and gather you from all the nations and all the places to which I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I caused you to be carried away captive.

(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 83-85)