



~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



Vol. 8 Issue 135

March 22, 2011

Prayer

God Father; in Jesus' name I ask it, fill each person with Your wisdom, lead and guide them. I ask that You encourage and give them the will to study Your Word, to pray and to fellowship with You and with other believers. Teach them Your way Lord well up in each of them. Protect them, bless and keep each one, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Scripture

14 What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid. Deut 32:4; 2Chr 19:7; Job 34:10; 15 For he said to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. Exod 33:19; 16 So then it is not of him that wills, nor of him that runs, but of God that shows mercy. 17 For the scripture said to Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. Exod 9:16; 18 Therefore has he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardens. 19 You will say then to me, Why does he yet find fault? For who has resisted his will? 20 No but, O man, who are you that reply against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why have you made me thus? Isa 45:9; Jer 18:6; 21 Has not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel to honor, and another to dishonor? 2Tim 2:20; 22 What if God, willing to show his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much long-suffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: 23 And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had before prepared to glory, 24 Even us, whom he has called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles? 25 As he said also in Hosea, I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved. Hos 2:23; 26 And it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said to them, You are not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God. Hos 1:10; 1Pet 2:10; 27 Isaiah also cries concerning Israel, Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved: Isa 10:22; 28 For he will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make on the earth. 29 And as Isaiah said before, Except the Lord of Sabbath had left us a seed, we had been as Sodom, and been made like to Gomorrah. Isa 1:9; Gen 19:24; Isa 13:19; Jer 50:40; Ezek 16:46;

30 What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith. 31 But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, has not attained to the law of righteousness. Rom 10:2; Rom 11:7; 32 Why? Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumbling stone;

Romans 9: 14-32

Worship Music

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One of the greatest stumbling blocks to the general acceptance of the Gospel of Christ was Jewish unbelief. While considerable numbers of Jews, especially in Judea, had become Christians, the nation as a whole was not only unbelieving but bitterly antagonistic. The Jewish rulers had crucified Christ. They had persecuted the church every opportunity. It was Jewish unbelievers who made trouble for Paul in almost every city he went. If Jesus was really the Messiah promised in the prophetic writings of their own Scriptures, how did it happen that God's own nation rejected Him? These three chapters contain Paul's answer.

Paul's sorrow for Israel (9:1-5), a very expressive statement of his feelings for Israel; he would be willing to give his own soul if it meant that Israel would be saved. After all he endured from his fellow Jews, there is no anger or resentment, only profound sadness. Paul continually sorrowed that the Jews didn't accept Jesus as the Messiah. God adopted the children of Israel as His special people. The glory of God's presence filled the tabernacle and the temple. God made a covenant with the people that He would be their God and they would be His people. God gave the Law and the order for service to Him (Leviticus). God gave numerous promises to Israel, some that are still in effect today (v. 4). The great patriarchs belonged to Israel. Paul demonstrates that not all of the children of Israel were acknowledged by God as His people. God had chosen Jacob because He knew that Jacob would be a spiritual man and Esau would be a fleshly man. The choices God has made haven't closed the door to one individual. He loves and accepts all who come to Him.

The sovereignty of God (9:6-24), in this passage Paul is not discussing the predestination of individuals to salvation or condemnation. Rather, he asserts God's absolute sovereignty in the choice and management of the nations of the world so as to bring all at last in subjection to Him. The strong statement in verse 16 places all responsibility for the outcome on God's mercy. (This verse speaks of a nation, but it may also refer to individuals; other, similar passages certainly do: Acts 2:23; 4:28; 13:48; Romans 8:28-30.) Since God is supreme, He can choose and act as He pleases. His ways are beyond our human understanding. God has called the Church out from among the Jews and Gentiles that He might display His mercy through us. Only a remnant of Israel will be saved, so being Jewish doesn't guarantee salvation. The Gentiles, who didn't follow the Law, gained righteousness through faith. Jesus was the stumbling stone. The idea of righteousness by faith was difficult for the Jews to accept after the years they'd spent seeking righteousness by the Law. Paul continually sorrowed that the Jews didn't accept Jesus as the Messiah, as I stated before.

How to reconcile the sovereignty of God and the freedom of the human will we do not know. Both doctrines are plainly taught in the Bible. We believe them both. But to explain how both can be true we shall have to leave to others for now. Some things we now see are but a poor reflection, as in a mirror, but some day we shall know, even as we are known (1 Corinthians 13:12).

(9:25-33) Israel's rejection and the adoption of gentile peoples by God were both foretold. So, instead of stumbling at it, we should have expected it. God did not make the Jews reject Christ; they did it of their own accord. It was simply a matter of hearing (vv. 8-17). The Jews heard and were willfully disobedient.

Paul, stated in (v. 1) that he knew he was doing the right thing, not because his reasoning said it was right, but because it bore witness in his spirit.

The mind does aid the spirit at times, the mind and the spirit work together, but the spirit should always be honored above the mind. Always allow the Holy Spirit to bear witness with you concerning whether something is right or wrong, let your conscience always be enlightened and prompted by the Holy Spirit.

(Halley's Bible Handbook; 2000; historical notes and comments; pages 768-769)

(New Testament Study Guide; 2005; Chuck Smith; notes and commentary; pages 76)

(KJV Bible; Amplified Bible; 2005; Joyce Meyers; Scriptures, notes, commentaries; pages 1825-1827)

Isaiah 13

1 The burden of Babylon, which Isaiah the son of Amoz did see.

2 Lift you up a banner on the high mountain, exalt the voice to them, shake the hand, that they may go into the gates of the nobles.

3 I have commanded my sanctified ones, I have also called my mighty ones for my anger, even them that rejoice in my highness.

4 The noise of a multitude in the mountains, like as of a great people; a tumultuous noise of the kingdoms of nations gathered together: the LORD of hosts musters the host of the battle. 5 They come from a far country, from the end of heaven, even the LORD, and the weapons of his indignation, to destroy the whole land.

6 Howl you; for the day of the LORD is at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty. 7 Therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt: 8 And they shall be afraid: pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travails: they shall be amazed one at another; their faces shall be as flames.

9 Behold, the day of the LORD comes, cruel both with wrath and fierce anger, to lay the land desolate: and he shall destroy the sinners thereof out of it. 10 For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine. Ezek 32:7; Joel 2:31; Joel 3:15; Matt 24:29; Mark 13:24; Luke 21:5; 11 And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogance of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible.

12 I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir.

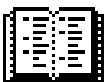
13 Therefore I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall remove out of her place, in the wrath of the LORD of hosts, and in the day of his fierce anger. 14 And it shall be as the chased roe, and as a sheep that no man takes up: they shall every man turn to his own people, and flee every one into his own land. 15 Every one that is found shall be thrust through; and every one that is joined to them shall fall by the sword. 16 Their children also shall be dashed to pieces before their eyes; their houses shall be spoiled, and their wives ravished.

17 Behold, I will stir up the Medes against them, which shall not regard silver; and as for gold, they shall not delight in it. 18 Their bows also shall dash the young men to pieces; and they shall have no pity on the fruit of the womb; their eyes shall not spare children.

19 And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, the beauty of the Chaldees' excellency, shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. Gen 19:25; Isa 1:9; Jer 49:18; Jer 50:40; 20 It shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelled in from generation to generation: neither shall the Arabian pitch tent there; neither shall the shepherds make their fold there. 21 But wild beasts of the desert shall lie there; and their houses shall be full of doleful creatures; and owls shall dwell there, and satyrs shall dance there. 22 And the wild beasts of the islands shall cry in their desolate houses, and dragons in their pleasant palaces: and her time is near to come, and her days shall not be prolonged.

Psa 119:105

**Thy word [is] a lamp unto
my feet, and a light
unto my path.**



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