



~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



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Prayer

God Father; in Jesus' name I ask it, my Lord, led us and guide us this coming week Your will for us and plans. Give us peace. Strengthen us all mentally, physically and spiritually. Remind us to always be watching and ready, so that when You come that it is not as a thief in the night for us, that we are ready, praying and watching. I ask for the continued open door for the gospel through out the world, and I thank You that Your servants are through out the world, for the harvest is ripe. I ask that all our needs are provided and bless us I pray with our daily bread, in Jesus' name. Amen.

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Scripture

Galatians I (NKJV; 2005)

1 Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;) **Titus 1:4; 2** And all the brothers which are with me, to the churches of Galatia: **3** Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, **Rom 1:7; 1Cor 1:3; Eph 1:2; 1Pet 1:2; 4** Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father: **Matt 20:28; Gal 2:20; Eph 5:2; Titus 2:14; Heb 9:14; 5** To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

6 I marvel that you are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ to another gospel: **7** Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. **Acts 15:1; 8** But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than that which we have preached to you, let him be accursed. **2Cor 11:4; 9** As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel to you than that you have received, let him be accursed. **10** For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ. **1Thess 2:4; Jas 4:4;**

11 But I certify you, brothers, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. **1Cor 15:1; 12** For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ. **Eph 3:3;**

13 For you have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it: **Acts 8:3; Acts 9:1; Acts 22:4; Acts 26:9; Phil 3:6; 1Tim 1:13; 14** And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers. **15** But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, **Acts 9:15; Acts 13:2; 16** To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood: **Acts 9:15; Acts 13:2; Acts 22:21; Gal 2:8; Eph 3:8; Matt 16:17; 17** Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me; but I went into Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. **18** Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and stayed with him fifteen days. **19** But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord's brother. **20** Now the things which I write to you, behold, before God, I lie not. **Rom 1:9; Rom 9:1; 2Cor 1:23; 2Cor 11:31; 1Thess 2:5; 1Tim 5:21; 2Tim 4:1; 21** Afterwards I came into the regions of Syria and Cilicia; **22** And was unknown by face to the churches of Judaea which were in Christ: **23** But they had heard only, That he which persecuted us in times past now preaches the faith which once he destroyed. **24** And they glorified God in me.

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Have you ever thought that God could not or would not use you because of your past? No one was more likely to feel that way than the apostle Paul. Who tried to destroy the early church. Paul received God's forgiveness and recognized that it was God who gave him his ministry and whom placed authority in him..... To do God's will and plans.....

It seems that the Judaizers, to discredit Paul in the eyes of the Galatians, were saying that Paul was not an original apostle, that he had not been taught by Jesus but by the Twelve. This may supply the background for his passionate vindication of himself as an independent, true apostle. He received his Gospel directly from God, and there is no other gospel.

Arabia (v. 17). There is no mention of this in the account in Acts. The three years (v. 18) includes the time he was in Damascus and in Arabia (Acts 9:23). According to the Jewish custom of reckoning partial years are the beginning and end of a period as full years, the three years may have been only one full year and parts of two years.

Arabia is the desert country southeast of Palestine, consisting today of Saudi Arabia and Yemen. Paul was so stunned by the stroke from heaven, and the instant realization that his whole life had been wrong, that he felt he had better think things through. He sought solitude to get himself reoriented, and it was in Arabia that some of his revelations came (v. 16). (Halley's Bible Handbook; 2000; history, commentaries, notes; page 799)

Apostle; means one who has been sent. Paul said in Galatians 1:10 that if he wanted to be popular with people, he would not be a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul says that needing people's approval in an unbalanced way can steal our destinies. We cannot be God pleasers, and people pleasers at the same time. Any one whom is only intent on pleasing people may not be fully committed to God, and they will sway to and fro with the wind, their faith and foundations in Him are not strong....other wise....they would do God's will.....and not tickle the ears of mankind or womankind. God is first, and we are to keep Him first....above all.

(v.3) Grace is God's unmerited favor. The peace Paul speaks of here is the peace of God. When we know the grace of God, then we can experience the peace of God. The title "Lord" describes our relationship to Jesus. Paul described the work of Jesus Christ for us. The Galatians were Gauls, who had conquered and settled the area of Asia Minor long before the birth of Christ. Paul traveled in Asia Minor on his missionary journeys. The false teachers followed Paul after he left cities and challenged his authority and criticized his teaching. The word gospel; means good news.

Paul taught the Galatians, that their basis for righteousness was the grace of God. The false teachers said that a man's works made him righteous. They were putting the Galatians under the yoke of the Law, which was really not another gospel, but a perversion of the good news that Christ had brought to man. Accursed in Greek is anathema, which means cursed to the lowest hell. (vv. 10-12) Paul was taught the gospel by Jesus Christ. (v. 13) "Wasted" means devastated. (v. 15) God's hand was on Paul's life from the moment of his birth. He arranged for Paul to be a well educated Jew, a Roman citizen, and a man who was immersed in the Greek culture from boyhood. God knew what Paul needed to prepare him for the ministry. God creates us for His pleasure (Revelation 4:11). He has a specific purpose for each one of us, and we can only be fulfilled when we're serving Him according to His plan (Psalm 17:15; John 8:29). (...if you look back through your life....if not now, but in the future you will see where God had everything lined up, and in the exact place and time....for His will for you....some have really suffered...and this may be so that you can lead other people out.....of the sin, bondage....or if other pain you have lived through so that you may minister and comfort someone....He will use what we have went through for His purpose and He also takes the bad....and turns it for good....and I can testify to that. This is not to discredit any pain or trauma you are going through now..it hurts and sometimes so bad that you curl up in a fetal position.)

(v. 16) God wants us to reveal His Son to the world. He continually works in us through the Holy Spirit to mold us into the image of Christ (2 Corinthians 3:18; 1 John 2:6; 4:17). The word "heathen" refers to the Gentiles. (vv. 17-18) Paul was prepared for the ministry by Jesus Christ for three years (Zechariah 4). (vv. 19-24) Paul wanted the Galatians to know that his teachings were direct revelations from Jesus Christ, not doctrine from the Church leaders. (New Testament Study Guide: 2005; notes and commentaries; Chuck Smith; pages 99-100)

When Paul was called by God to preach the Gospel to the Gentiles, he did not discuss the matter with anyone else. Sometimes when we receive the will of God and plans from Him, we confer too much with flesh and blood. We go around looking for someone to assure us that we are doing the right thing. We need to be careful of whom we go to, and always go to God first, some people will try to sway you and some not intentionally and some of it is..most of it is the "what-if's".....and some I don't know...some get upset because God has given you His will and plan, but they have not heard anything yet.....He has a purpose for all of us.....and in the time allotted for each of us, and it will not be before than. If you know you have heard from God, and have went to Him first, but still you feel you need Godly council with someone whom has been in the trenches....in Proverbs it says ".....in the multitude of counselors there is safety" (Proverbs 11:14).....make sure they are wise and they have more experience that you in that area.....we should always listen to God, though and not depend so much on what people say that we fail to listen to God, Himself. The wise council make sure that it can be backed up by Scripture. If God calls you to it,

Than the grace is there to do it. Meaning.....if He has plans to use you for something and you know it is His will, and you are thinking , but I don't know how to do that.....He would not call you to do it, if His grace is not there to enable you, so you do know how....you just don't see it clearly yet. You may not have the full plan yet....He does not usually give us everything all at once, usually a step, than another, than another....and believe me, when He called me and His will for me and plans, my mentor was right, the vision He placed in me, has been done a whole lot different than I thought.....but I also know His plans are above mine and above men for His ways are higher and believe me He is much more intelligent than we ever thought about being.....and when we listen...it also most usually saves time....did for me anyway.....There are different ways to reach a conclusion, plans...and God knows the best route....

Ephesians 2:8

For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

Grace

Kindness; favor.

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by GRACE ye are saved;) and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: that in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his GRACE in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by GRACE are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast. (Ephesians 2:4-9)

Grace

Favor, mercy. Divine grace is the free and undeserved love and favor of God towards man as a sinner, especially as exhibited in the plan of redemption through Jesus Christ, John 1:17;3:16 Romans 3:24-26. It is only by the free grace of god that we embrace the offers of mercy, and appropriate to ourselves the blessings graciously purchased by redeeming blood.

The "**GRACE OF GOD**," spontaneous, unmerited, self-directed, and almighty, is the source of the whole scheme of redemption, Romans 11:6 2 Timothy 1:9. With it are united "the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ," who gave himself for sinners; and that of "the Spirit of grace," by whom alone the grace offered by the Father and purchased by the Son is effectually applied. Thus **GRACE** in man, or all true holiness, 2 Peter 3:18, is traced up to the grace of God as its only source; and the gospel of Christ and the work of the spirit-both pure grace-are its only channels of communication. Hence also all the fruits and blessings of the gospel are termed graces, 2 1 Corinthians 8:7 Philippians 1:7; not only regeneration, pardon, enlightenment, sanctification, etc., but miraculous, official, and prophetic gifts, the peculiar traits of Christian character, and everlasting salvation, 1 Peter 1:13. In Galatians 5:4, "grace" means God's plan of salvation by his mercy, not by our works. (American Bible Tract Society)

(KJV; 2005; Scripture)

(Amplified Bible; 2005; Scripture, notes, commentaries; Joyce Meyers; pages 1910-1911)

Psa 119:105

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



Chapel Flock; "Thought For The Day"

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