

Blessed Life

- A. Life is filled with swift transitions:
 - 1. Life, as you know it, can change overnight.
 - 2. One day you are the shark, next you are the nemo.
- B. Gen. 34:18-29 – One day of success
- C. Gen. 34:30 – Next day distress
- D. Eccl. 7:14 - The need to prepare for both

I. Areas of No Control:

- A. Psa. 59:4 - "without my fault."
- B. Lam. 3:52 - "without cause."

II. Areas of Control:

- A. Lk. 2:52
 - 1. Wisdom:
 - a. Eccl. 7:11-12 – preserveth life
 - b. Prov. 1:1-6 - gives prudence
 - 2. Stature:
 - a. Psa. 18:39 - "For thou hast girded me with strength unto the battle."
 - b. Prov. 20:29 - "The glory of young men is their strength"
 - 3. Favor with God:
 - 1. Prov. 3:1-4 - find favor...in the sight of God and man."
 - 2. Prov. 12:2 - "A good man shall obtain favor of Jehovah"
 - 3. Favor with man:
 - a. Prov. 12:8 - "commended according to his wisdom."
 - b. Prov. 22:1 - "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches"
 - c. Prov. 19:22 - "maketh a man to be desired is his kindness"

- B. Spiritually:
 - 1. Gen. 1:27, 31 - "It was very good"
 - 2. Gen. 3:22-24 - Expelled from the garden
 - 3. Rom. 5:12 - "death passed unto all men, for that all sinned"
 - 4. Heb. 9:27 - Judgement issued concerning accountability
 - 5. 2 Cor. 5:14-15, 17-18 - God provided a means whereby man could be reconciled.
 - 6. 2 Cor. 5:20 - God calls man (through the gospel) to receive this reconciliation.
 - 7. Acts 17:30-31 - Commands man to repent in preparation of the judgment.
- C. Call to Reflection:
 - 1. Rom. 1:16 - The gospel is God's power unto salvation.
 - 2. Jn. 3:16 - God gave his Son that man might live.
 - 3. Isa. 5:4 - Consider all that God did for the nation of Israel, they rebelled, and this question is as valid today as 2700 years ago.
 - 4. Heb. 10:26-29 - Jesus is man's only hope.
 - 5. Acts 4:12 - "neither is there any other name under heaven, that is given among men, wherein we must be saved"



The dumbing-down of religion:
will eventually be utilized as a tool to undermine the foundation upon which the church was built, i.e., Jesus said, “I will build my church” (Matthew 16:18), and when that happens, so will go the freedom to exercise one’s religion. When “going to church” floods the mind with food and drink, good times and fun, there is a serious breakdown in spiritual concepts. ret

In the 119th Psalm, the Psalmist reveals a number of terms that describe the manner in which God revealed his will: The Law of Jehovah, Testimonies, His way, Precepts, Statutes, Commandments, Judgments, thy Word, Ordinances, Word of Truth: all of which have a singular and specific application, i.e., a Precept is, “An authoritative rule for action; injunction where man’s obligations are set forth.” In dealing with these terms and the way God dealt with and deals with mankind, God is not obligated to explain why the injunction is given. Moses addressed man’s obligation to keep the laws when he said, “And Jehovah commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear Jehovah our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as at this day. And it shall be righteousness unto us, if we observe to do all this commandment before Jehovah our God, as he hath commanded us” (Deuteronomy 6:24-25). Nevertheless, man continually questions the purpose, intent, and wisdom of God regarding commandments.

This is seen in man’s use and abuse of God’s revelation. Man tends to define or translate God’s will based upon man’s doctrine, that is, men have particular doctrines of which they are rather fond. They want to involve themselves in certain things without condemnation. Solomon put it this way, “All the ways of man are clean in his own eyes; But Jehovah weigheth the spirits” (Proverbs 16:2). When man has something he wants to do, or wants to practice, he will approach the text of a certain passage from a standpoint that will validate the doctrine. Since this method of Bible interpretation is so prevalent it would behoove Bible students to give serious consideration to a conclusion.

Isaiah said, “Seek ye Jehovah while he may be found; call ye upon him while he is near: 

let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto Jehovah, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith Jehovah. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain cometh down and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, and giveth seed to the sower and bread to the eater; so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it” (Isaiah 55:6-11).

Remember the words of the Apostle Peter, saying, “Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for these things, give diligence that ye may be found in peace, without spot and blameless in his sight. And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also, according to the wisdom given to him, wrote unto you; as also in all [his] epistles, speaking in them of these things; wherein are some things hard to be understood, which the ignorant and unstedfast wrest, as [they do] also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. Ye therefore, beloved, knowing [these things] beforehand, beware lest, being carried away with the error of the wicked, ye fall from your own stedfastness. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever. Amen” (2 Peter 3:14-18).



“Jehovah is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him”
(Habakkuk 2:20).

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	P	R	E	C	E	P	T	S	L	L	U	F
S	T	A	T	U	T	E	S	H	T	R	E	E
I	K	E	H	U	Y	C	E	M	G	H	O	L
L	E	C	T	C	O	T	S	O	W	I	P	A
E	E	N	R	T	P	R	O	S	P	E	R	B
N	P	E	A	L	A	U	W	E	E	I	U	U
C	M	G	E	T	R	T	E	E	F	W	D	N
E	C	I	L	I	D	H	R	D	I	U	E	D
H	O	L	Y	R	O	L	G	S	L	J	N	A
N	M	I	T	I	N	Y	D	U	E	H	C	N
E	M	D	I	P	M	O	F	L	T	E	E	T
D	A	T	L	S	M	I	P	G	H	N	H	H
R	N	E	I	B	T	M	N	T	O	I	E	O
A	D	R	B	U	E	E	U	R	K	R	A	U
G	S	C	A	T	R	O	H	L	D	T	V	G
R	B	E	T	T	M	T	I	W	N	C	E	H
O	B	S	S	A	L	V	A	T	I	O	N	T
W	G	R	A	C	E	L	I	V	K	D	P	S

DOCTRINE	STABILITY	SECRET	BEAUTIFUL
COMMANDS	DILIGENCE	WISDOM	RIGHT
LIVE	TEMPLE	SILENCE	KIND
PROSPER	HEAVEN	THRONE	THOUGHTS
PARDON	EARTH	MERCY	ABUNDANT
SEED	GROW	GRACE	HOLY
KEEP	PRECEPTS	STATUTES	LAW
SPIRIT	TRUTH	SOWER	MOUTH
PRUDENCE	STRENGTH	FULL	GLORY
GARDEN	TREE	LIFE	SALVATION

When the Apostle Paul, describing his condition as “already being offered, and the time of my departure is come” (2 Tim. 4:6), he said, “Demas forsook me, having loved this present world, and went to Thessalonica” (Vs. 9), Paul further described his condition, saying, “Alexander the coppersmith did me much evil: the Lord will render to him according to his works: of whom do thou also beware; for he greatly withstood our words. At my first defence no one took my part, but all forsook me: may it not be laid to their account” (2 Tim. 4:14-16). How bitter it must have been! ret

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With Him is

Plenteous Redemption

Psalms 130:7

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Weekly Reading
I Samuel 6:1-21; 8:1-22
2 Kings 2:1-14; 13:14-21



Luke 16:19-31

Your Choice
Choose Wisely



Revelation 4:4

In the Crosshairs



Wherefore also we make it our aim,
whether at home or absent, to be
well-pleasing unto him.

Doctrinal Stability

“He hath made everything beautiful in its time: also he hath set eternity in their heart, yet so that man cannot find out the work that God hath done from the beginning even to the end” (Ecclesiastes 3:11), and again, “The secret things belong unto Jehovah our God: but the things that are revealed belong unto us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law” (Deuteronomy 29:29).

How many times have you attempted to figure out why God does what He does, or why God gives certain commandments to be obeyed? (Cont. pg. 4)