

Love Letters from the Lord

I will take you as
my own people,
and I will be your
God. Then you will
know that I am
the Lord your God,
... Ex 6:7

... "Never will
I leave you;
never will I
forsake you.
Heb 13:5

But now, this is what the LORD says—
he who created you, Jacob,
he who formed you, Israel:
"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have summoned you by name; you
are mine. Isa 43:1

The LORD appeared to
us in the past, saying:
"I have loved you with
an everlasting love; I
have drawn you with
unfailing kindness.
Jer 31:3

I took you from the ends
of the earth,
from its farthest corners
I called you.

I said, 'You are my serv-
ant'; I have chosen you
and have not rejected
you.

So do not fear, for I am
with you;
do not be dismayed, for
I am your God.
I will strengthen you and
help you;
I will uphold you with my
righteous right hand.
Isa 41:9-10

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House of Praise**

Fresh Fire Ministries International
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FFMI TENETS OF FAITH

Fresh Fire Ministries International is a prophetic and apostolic Full Gospel Ministry.

We believe that the Bible rightly divides the word of truth and is our rule of faith and practice.

We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ – that He was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified and resurrected to justify us of our sins.

We believe in water baptism by immersion in water.

We believe that the Bible was written by inspired men of God and is the revealed word of God to man.

We believe in the Trinity – that there is only one true and living God who has chosen to reveal Himself as Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

We believe in the Five Fold Ministry – that the Church should operate and be led by Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers.

We believe in miracles and divine healing.

We believe in the Millennial Reign of Christ.

We believe in the Final Judgment.



THE WORD IN REVIEW

Rejection Is No Excuse! Fulfill Your Destiny.

Sunday August 27, 2023

Genesis 29

We may find ourselves having to leave behind the things we love for Christ but the word of God according to Matt 19:29 says: *...everyone who has left houses, brothers or sisters, father or mother, children, or fields because of My name will receive 100 times more and will inherit eternal life.*

Presented By:
Bishop Jack Drummond Jr

“When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take care of me.” Psalms 27:10.

From before we were born, the Lord made a way of escape.

Rejection is refusal to accept; to dismiss; disqualify; decline. While rejection touches all of us, it is usually not our faults. It usually comes about from the decisions made by others for us.

The Bible speaks of a Canaanite woman who cried out to Jesus on behalf of her daughter who was demon-possessed and suffering.

At first, Jesus did not answer her and his disciples urged Him to **dismiss** her. When He finally spoke, He referred to her indirectly as the half-breed as the Jews did not keep company with other nations. However, the woman pressed Him by faith and with humility and Jesus granted her request.

The bible describes Leah (Laban's daughter) as having weak eyes while Rachel, her younger sister was described as beautiful in form and appearance. It probably means Leah was unattractive. Now Jacob came on the scene and falls in love with Rachel. He asks Laban's permission to marry her and Laban agrees on condition that Jacob would work for him for seven years. On completion of the seven years, Laban deceived Jacob and gave him Leah instead.

Leah was tolerated as a wife but not chosen. It was not her fault, the decision was made for her. Jacob eventually received Rachel as well and he continued to love her more than Leah.

The Lord saw that Leah was hated and He granted her children. At first the names she gave to her sons expressed her identity as a rejected wife, daughter and sister. Her first child, was named **Reuben** which means **“to see”** ...now my husband will see me and love me. The second, **Simeon** which means **“now I will be heard”**. The third, **Levi** which means **“to be attached”**. All Leah was focused on was getting her husband Jacob to love and approve her.

Many of us make that same mistake today. We don't see our worth in God's eyes, so we try to get approval through others, landing us in a vicious cycle of people-pleasing and fighting situations.

Leah finally realized that the love and approval of God was what really mattered in her life. She gave birth to a fourth son and named him **Judah** which means **Praise**. **“Now I will praise the Lord.”** God's promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob of the coming Messiah was fulfilled through **Judah**, Leah's fourth son.

Rejection causes us to seek after the affections of others but if we seek after God, we will be satisfied in Him.

And He said, my presence shall go with thee and I will give thee rest. And Moses said unto Him, if your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here. Exodus 33:14-15

I decree and declare that as we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we will fear no evil for your presence is with us, your rod and staff they comfort us in Jesus name. Psalm 23:4

I decree and declare that in you we live and move and have our being as your presence dwells with us for we are your offspring in Jesus name. Acts 18:28

I decree and declare that we shall repent and be converted so that our sins may be blotted out when the time of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord in Jesus name. Acts 3:19

I decree and declare that you, oh God, shall not cast us away from your presence and that you shall not take your Holy Spirit away from us. In Jesus name. Psalm 51:11

I decree and declare that thou shalt hide us in the secret place of your presence from the pride of man, thou shalt keep us secretly in your Pavilion from the strife of tongues in Jesus name. Amen. Psalm 31 : 20



Financial Management and The Church (Part 2)

Today we want to focus on 5 principles of Christian Financial Management that we should all embrace:

1. We are above reproach (1 Timothy 3:2 / Titus 1:7)
This requires us to be accountable and transparent. This acknowledges that we are Stewards on behalf of and managing the church's financial affairs. All transactions should have proper documentation and follow financial policies and delegations. Recall Luke 16:10-13
2. We operate in Excellence (1 Peter 2:9)
We must be excellent in all fiscally related matters. This translates to sound principles, procedures, and having a current effective accounting system that produces reports without manipulations. Training is required for persons handling financial affairs.
3. We plan properly (Luke 1:28)
Jesus made it clear that planning is important. Some saints may believe this is not needed especially in smaller churches however the devil is the author of confusion and will use the lack of planning against us once there is a loophole. Budgeting / Planning for events is critical to the financial management of God's accounts.

4. We abide in the Law (Romans 13:1-5 / Titus 3:1)
Churches should not overlook the need to be updated with legal and accounting compliance requirements and therefore not adhering to the law of the land. It is a risk for churches to believe that the laws do not apply to them. It is better to seek advice and be compliant than to be disobedient.
5. We value People (Romans 12:10 / Colossians 3:11)
It is critical for church leadership to value its people. This aligns with financial management in that many church duties are performed by volunteers/Helps and need to be valued. Ways to value the people include (1) Training and support and ensuring efficient systems are in place (2) Providing financial or kind incentives as needed (3) Providing paid assistance to reduce the workload on volunteers/Helps (4) Celebrate peoples contribution openly through luncheons, church parties, dinners, etc.

By MIT. Donrossi Simpson



Up Close and Personal - This bloom has over 100 individual flowers.

Just imagine that this magnificent bloom is you. Created by God and planted in your Church.

As I admired it, I noticed some mature flowers, suggesting that they were there for a while fulfilling their purpose, holding down the fort. Then I saw others on the verge of stepping out to join the elders in ministry trained and ready for the battle. Finally, there are the new buds, eagerly awaiting their turn to serve and become part of the glorious body called the Church.

When God looks down, He sees us as a united army equipped by him to Manifest His Glory in this SEASON. Male and female working together possessing various talents and abilities to fulfill His Vision and Purpose for such a time as this.

Whatever stage of development you are in, know that God is preparing you to SERVE in HIS ARMY as a United Force for His Kingdom. Just as God sees this magnificent bloom arrayed in beauty and armed for the battle. So too He sees the Body of Christ standing at attention awaiting His Orders.

**Let the Church of God Arise Triumphant!
Onward Christian Soldiers. March Out!**

HALLELUJAH!

By Grace Beckett

Psalms 133:1
Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

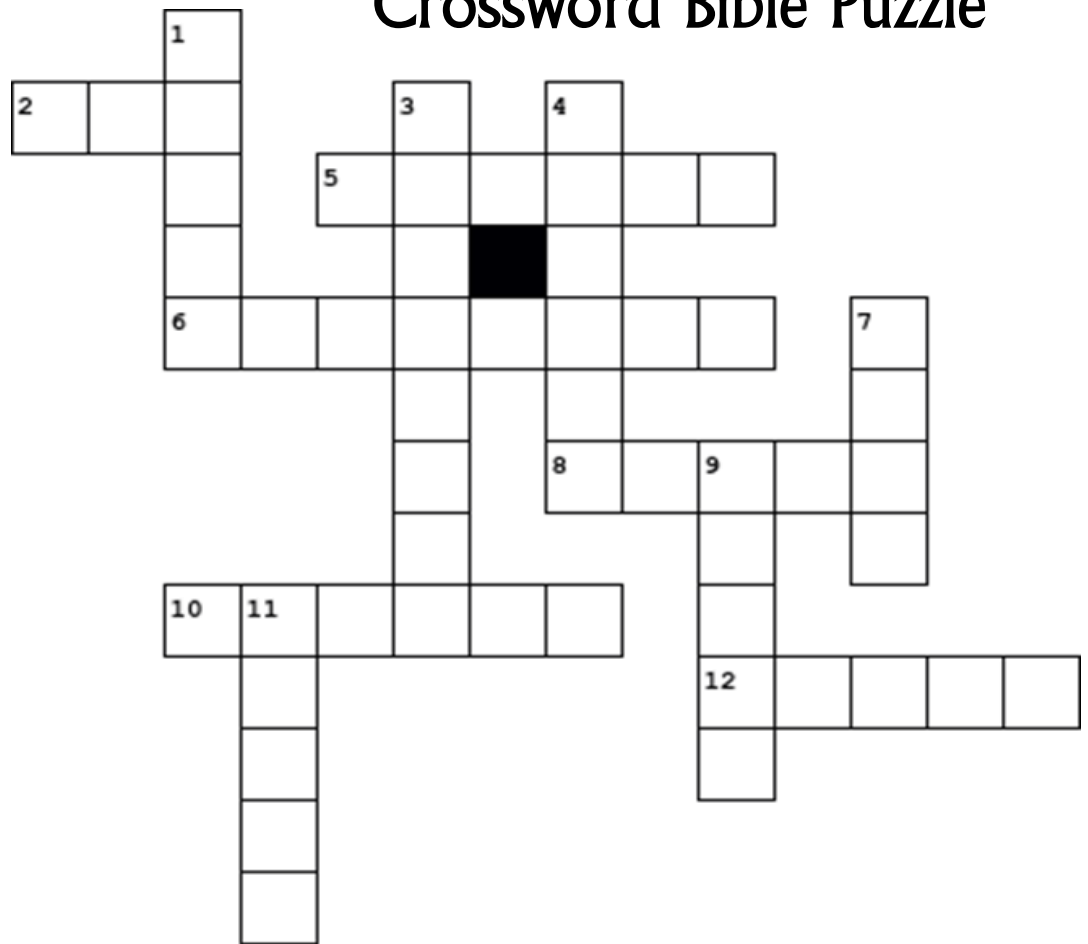
Psalms 110:1
The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy foot-stool.

Psalms 107:15
Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

Psalms 71:17-18
O God, thou hast taught me from my youth: and hitherto have I declared thy wondrous works.
18 Now also when I am old and greyheaded, O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to every one that is to come.



Crossword Bible Puzzle



Children's Page

Across

- 2. How many plagues did God send upon the Egyptians?
- 5. Where did Moses run away to?
- 6. Who did Moses kill?
- 8. Whose name means, "drawn from the water"
- 10. Name of Moses father-in-law
- 12. What is the name of Moses brother?

Down

- 1. Moses' brother's staff became a _____.
- 3. Give the name of Moses' wife
- 4. What was the name of Moses sister?
- 7. Moses saw the _____ bush.
- 9. What did the people use to make brick in Egypt?
- 11. Where was Moses born?

By Min Norine Johnson



Happiness is all I need

Happy is that people, that is in such a case: yea, happy is that people, whose God is he Lord.

Psalm 144:15

God is the source of true happiness NOT family or friends. Happiness cannot be found unless God's blessing rest on our lives.

Psychologists and experts believe that true happiness comes from within. This includes being around those you love or doing the things you like, but God is the one that makes all things possible. Without God we will never find the happiness we seek but only experience temporary happiness.

Ecclesiastes 5:10 shows this clearly, it states: *"He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver, nor he that loveth abundance with increase: this is also vanity."*

No matter the challenges or situations faced in life we can experience God's joy. Importantly, we are not to depend on worldly possessions, wealth or power but God who is our source.

**I Will Bless Thee, O Lord,
I Will Bless Thee, O Lord;
With A Heart Of Thanksgiving,
I Will Bless Thee, O Lord.**

Let the aforementioned chorus ring out in our daily thoughts as we express our gratitude to God for each day that our lives are spared.

By MIT. Charmaine Thomas

Selahn



Greetings



Beauty for Ashes

Wonderful, merciful Father, precious Redeemer and friend, Almighty, infinite father!!!! God sometimes guides circumstances, whether good or bad, in order to draw you closer to himself. At times you may have a need because he wants you to turn to him for help. When he answers, he will be glorified and your faith will be built up. God may supply what you need to make it through your difficulties rather than remove them.

When you ask for God's help, you gain the chance to see all the things he can do. Take your difficulties and weaknesses to God in prayer. Ask him to use them in a way that reveals his strength and greatness. Remember the One who makes all things possible for you; the One who gave His life, and redeemed you from destruction and eternal death. His name is Jesus.

#whenheanswershewillbeglorified.

By Min. Loveta Knight



“At summer camp, we learned how to make WiFi smoke signals!”

Health & Fitness

Blessing and salutation people of Christ. I'm here again with more fitness bits and tips.

So today I wanted to talk to you guys some more about fitness information and social media. Now I'm stressing this topic because there are a lot of so-called fitness gurus and influencers online giving misinformation and half truths.

I know a lot people are on their respective journeys and aiming to be healthy but when you go out and seek information it can be hard to know who to listen too, especially if you don't have any formal fitness training or a medical background.

So these are some universal truths I wanna share and I'll go more in-depth with them in the coming weeks:

1. If you eat less and move more (meaning become more active in life. Like exercise or everyday activities) you will lose weight.

2. If you eat less, move more and consume plenty of protein you lose body fat. (Losing fat is different from losing weight).
3. If you eat less, move more, eat plenty of protein and do strength training you lose body fat and gain muscle.

This is a lot to unpack but I'll dive further into these in the coming weeks.

In the meantime Remember, diet and exercise doesn't have to be hard, it just needs to be done. Take care until next week. Be blessed.

By MIT. Dario Dowie



Abraham

Isaac is born to Sarah [Gen. 21:1-7].

She was unhappy with the presence of Hagar and Ishmael so she asked Abraham to cast them out of the family, which he did after the Lord told him they would have His protection. Ishmael does not play an important role in the rest of Abraham's story; he does reenter the picture in Genesis 25:9, accompanying Isaac at Abraham's death.

The Supreme Test

God's command for Abraham to sacrifice his beloved son Isaac was the crucial test of faith. He was willing to give up his son in obedience to God. Although at the last moment the Lord intervened to save Isaac [Gen. 22:1-13]. .

The Lord's promise of descendants as numerous as the stars was reaffirmed as a result of Abraham's unquestioning obedience [Gen. 22:16-18].

Abraham did not want Isaac to marry a woman from the local tribes. Thus, he sent a senior servant to Haran, the city from which he had migrated to find a wife for Isaac. The Mission was successful and Isaac eventually married Rebekah, the sister of Laban [Gen. 24:1-67]. Sarah had died some time earlier [Gen. 25:7-11]

By Min. Stephannie Ellis

References

Youngblood, Ronald. F. *Nelson's New illustrated Bible Dictionary*. Rev Ed. London: Thomas Nelson Inc, 1995.

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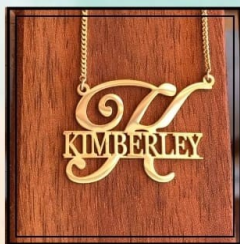
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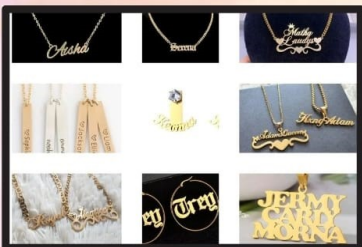
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