

February

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The studies are taken from the New Kings James Version. There are no right or wrong answers; just fill in the blanks from the Scripture used, write out an occasional verse and answer some very simple questions from the text.

February Day One: Read 1 Thessalonians 3 – 5

- 1) 1:11-13 Now may our God and Father Himself, and our Lord Jesus Christ, direct our way to you. And may the Lord _____ and _____ to one another and to all, just as we do to you, so that _____ before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.
- 2) 4:3-5 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality: that _____ know how to _____ in _____, not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God.
- 3) 4:7-8 For _____, _____ Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.
- 4) 5:2 For you yourselves know perfectly that the _____ so _____ in the night.
- 5) 5:9 For _____ us to _____, but to obtain _____ through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 6) 5:15-18 _____ to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all. _____; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
- 7) 5:28 The _____ of our _____ be with you. Amen.

Daily Thought

Again, we are to be a sanctified people, set apart by God (4:3-5). We are to know how to conduct ourselves as Christians. We are to possess our own vessels (bodies) in an appropriate manner. This is a way to please God. We are children of the light – we do not belong to darkness (5:4-5). The dark evil of this world is to be shameful to us, we are not to take part in it. We are to live in this world, not of it. Leave worldly things to the world, we are of heaven and we shall keep our minds on things of above. We shall rejoice always, pray continuously and never cease giving praise to our Lord thanking Him for all things.

February Day Two: Read 2 Thessalonians 1 – 3

- 1) 1:1-2 _____, _____, and _____, to the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: _____ to you and _____ from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 2) 1:11-12 Therefore we also pray always _____ that our God would _____ worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power, that the _____ may be glorified in _____ and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 3) 2:3 _____ by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition.
- 4) 2:13-14 But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because _____ for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, to which _____, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- 5) 3:1 Finally _____ that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified, just as it is with you.
- 6) 3:10 For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: _____.
- 7) 3:18 The _____ of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

Daily Thought

Paul begins and ends all his epistles (letters) with grace from God. All things in life begin and end this way. Even life itself. By the grace of God we were born and through His grace He allowed completion of this life, unto better living in His Kingdom. I pray we are in the midst of this grace, we retain the Lord's grace, and trusting Him we receive eternal life with Him. Our security here is to trust our Lord's Word which comes through reading, understanding, and following His instruction.

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Romans 10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.

Know the Lord, and share His Word – this will secure your future as well as those you've shared the Word with. Begin and end in the grace of our Lord through the faith we share in His grace, and giving, loving, and mercy. Only our Lord can give such a gift to us.

Word of Growth

1 Thessalonians 5: 14-15 Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all. See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all.

We find Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy in chapter 1 speaking to the church of the Thessalonians. As we view the end of this verse we see this also includes us. "In God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." We belong to God, therefore anything in Him or to Him is for us and our use. Especially His Word and instruction. Then Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, through the Holy Spirit, encourage us to warn the unruly, comfort the faint of heart, support the weak in their weaknesses, and keep patience in all things, paying no one evil for evil. We are to seek good things not only for self but for others.

"No evil for evil" hits the spot for me. How often do we find ease in acting rudely to the rude, or hateful to those who hate? Misery loves company! But let us show the miserable love and compassion and see what happens. This may take a bit of work but how does one remain miserable while being loved? Don't respond as they would expect but as Jesus would, in loving concern. Encourage those around us, brethren or not. Show them all the ways of God, lead them home. Show them the good – we are told to do so. To allow them to see the good shining through us could be just the thing to change and lead someone in the right direction. Show them that path.

Daily Thought

Reach to the Lord – He is reaching to us!

- Mark 1:31 So He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and immediately the fever left her. And she served them.
- Mark 1:41 Then Jesus, moved with compassion, stretched out His hand and touched him, and said to him, “I am willing – be cleansed.”
- Mark 2:5 When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven you.”
- Mark 3:5 And when He had looked around at them with anger, being grieved by the hardness of their hearts, He said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored as whole as the other.

Jesus will help you and me but we must first receive Him. Reach to Him in faith. Trust Him in our lives and He can and will heal our wounds – He is with us!

“I am willing, be cleansed.”

- 1) 4:9 And He said to them, “_____ , _____
_____!”
- 2) 4:20 “But these are the _____, those who
_____ the word, _____ it, and _____: some thirtyfold,
some sixty, and some a hundred.”
- 3) 4:24 Then He said to them, “Take heed what you hear. With the same
_____ it will be _____; and to you
who hear, more will be given.”
- 4) 4:39 Then _____ arose and _____ and said to the sea,
“_____!” And the wind ceased and there was a great
calm.
- 5) 5:19 However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, “_____
_____, _____, and how He has had
compassion on you.”
- 6) 5:35-36 While He was still speaking, some came from the ruler of the
synagogues house who said, “_____ . Why
trouble the teacher any further?” As soon as Jesus heard the word that
was spoken, He said to the ruler of the synagogue, “_____
_____; _____.”
- 7) 5:41-42 Then He took the child _____, and said to her “Talitha,
cuni,” which is translated _____,
_____.” Immediately the girl _____, for she was
twelve years of age. And they were overcome with great amazement.

8) 6:38; 42;44 ³⁸But He said to them, “How many loaves do you have? Go and see.” And when they found out they said, “_____.”
⁴²So they ___ ate and were _____. ⁴⁴Now those who had eaten the loaves were _____.

Daily Thought

Much has been said in these few chapters. Let’s be those on good ground, founded on Jesus and retaining these words. Living by them. Bearing fruit, spreading the seed. A word here, a word there, who knows where the seed will take? Who knows how one word could grow? A good deed done, a show of care, a gift to a person in need, any of these could change a person and lead them to life. These small seeds could sprout into eternal life of many. “With the measure used it will be measured back to you.” Our Lord is watching and He is a loving and merciful God. He is waiting to give each of us our reward.

“Be a blessing to those around you and so you shall be blessed.”

- 1) 7:15 “There is _____ that _____ a _____ from outside which can _____; but the things which _____, those are the things that _____.
- 2) 7:37 And they _____ beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He makes both the _____ and _____.
- 3) 8:5; 7; 9 ⁵He asked them, “How many loaves do you have?” and they said, “_____.”...⁷They also had a _____; and having blessed the, He said to set them also before them...⁹Now those who had eaten were _____. And He sent them away.
- 4) 8:19-20 “When I broke the _____ for the _____, how many baskets full of fragments did you take up?” They said to Him, “_____.” “Also, when I broke the _____ for the _____, how many large baskets full of fragments did you take up?” And they said “_____.”
- 5) 8:38 For whoever is _____ in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him _____ when He comes in the glory of His Father with the Holy angels.
- 6) 9:7 And a _____ and overshadowed them; and a voice came out of the cloud saying, “_____!”
- 7) 9:24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “_____, _____!”

8) 9:50 _____, but if the salt loses its flavor, how will you season it?
_____, and have peace with one another.”

Daily Thought

In Chapter 9:24 we find it is okay to ask for help in our faith. Jesus still answered this man. If we have doubts, ask for assurance. “Lord, I believe, help my unbelief!” also in Chapter 9:50 we see, salt is good and we should have salt in our lives. Here Jesus is telling us we are the salt of the world. We as salt are to make people thirst for the Word of God. We are not only to proclaim the Word of God but we are to conduct ourselves in such a way to make others thirst for what we have (Christ). Give them a taste; let them know what you are about. Don’t only make them thirst but let them drink of the Word.

Word of Growth

The Gadene:

When Jesus entered Gadera, a city about six miles southeast of Galilee, He found “Legion.” As soon as Jesus climbed out of the boat a man ran to Him out of the tombs. This man was possessed by demons and at once these demons recognized Jesus. In verse 7 we read “And he cried out with a loud voice and said, ‘What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God that You do not torture me.’” Demons know our Lord, He rules over them as all things. When Jesus asked this man his name he replied, ‘Legion, for we are many.’ He was full of evil spirits. This man could not be restrained – they tried to calm him down but he would break the chains. He would torment the whole city. He wore no clothes. He would chase anyone in the streets. He would cry out in the nights while cutting himself with stones.

Demons are fallen angels. Before Jesus cast these demons from this man they requested to be sent into the pigs. Rather be pigs than go back to hell. I’d say they made the wrong choice, evil would not be a good way to go. “Angels to pigs.” From the highest of highs to the lowest of the low, Jesus sent them to the pigs, then the pigs ran into the bay and drowned. The men tending the pigs went and told the towns’ people what they had seen. These men returned to see the Legion healed, clothed, sitting clam. They were amazed to the point of fear. But they loved bacon; they asked Jesus to go. The once demon-possessed man asked Jesus ‘Lord may I go with you?’ “No.” What? I didn’t understand at first – why couldn’t he go with Jesus? Jesus had bigger plans. The people of Gadara knew this man was of more use here with those who

knew the way the man had been. Jesus told him, “Go home to your friends and tell them what the Lord has done for you.”

This is another great example of our Lord using the worst of the worst to spread His Word. He will use all who are willing! How “Great is Our God” – not only saved but used! What a reward! The grace and mercy, the goodness of our Lord is beyond our understanding.

- 1) 10:8-9 ...and the _____ flesh; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what ___ has _____ together, let not _____.
- 2) 10:25 It is _____ for a camel to go through the eye of a _____ than for a _____ to enter the kingdom of God.
- 3) 10:33-34 Behold, we are going up to _____, and the _____ will be _____ to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to _____ and deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit on Him and _____. And the third day He will rise again.
- 4) 10:45 For even the _____ did not come to be served, but _____, and to give His life a ransom for _____.
- 5) 11:22-23 So Jesus answered and said to them, “_____ For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this _____, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea’ and does _____ in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he _____ whatever he says.
- 6) 12:8 So they took him and killed him and _____ of the vineyard.
- 7) 12:27 He is not the _____, but the _____. You are therefore greatly mistaken.
- 8) 13:22 For _____ and false _____ will rise and show signs and wonders to _____, if possible, even the elect.
- 9) 13:32 But of that _____ and _____ no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but _____.

Daily Thought

Our largest goal in life is to not only have and keep faith but to build it up. As Chapter 11: 22-23 tell us, “Have faith in God.” Don’t doubt and whatever you say you will have. As I’ve heard and mentioned often, “Believe and receive, doubt and go without.” Let us read God’s Word and build our faith, trusting God’s every Word! Let us read the Word and build a faith that is able to move mountains. Never doubt our Lord or His Word; keep faith in Him and He will be with you.

- 1) 14:11 And when they heard it, they were glad and promised to _____
_____. So he sought how he might conveniently _____.
- 2) 14:24 And He said to them, “This is my _____ of the _____,
which is _____.
- 3) 14:38 _____, _____
_____. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.
- 4) 14:56 For _____ against Him, but their
testimonies did not agree.
- 5) 15:2 Then _____, ‘Are you the king of the Jews?’ He
answered and said to him, ‘It is as you say.’
- 6) 15:5 But _____ still _____ so that Pilate marveled.
- 7) 15:13 So they cried out again, ‘_____!’
- 8) 15:19 Then they _____ Him on _____ with a reed and _____
____; and bowing the knee, they worshipped Him.
- 9) 16:6 But he said to them, ‘_____ . You seek Jesus of
Nazareth, who was crucified. _____! He is not here. See the
place where they laid him.’
- 10) 16:15-16 And He said to them, “Go into _____ and _____
the gospel to _____. He who believes and is baptized
____; but he who does not believe will be condemned.”

Daily Thought

Again, the sad but very needed ending of our Gospel (good news). Jesus' death saves many whom were lost, who willingly receive His gift.

I want to look at Chapter 15:19 for our thought today. "Then they struck Him on the hand with a reed and spat on Him; and bowing the knee, they worshipped Him." This sad image given here is very similar to the worship of many today. Though we cannot physically spit on or stick Jesus, the worship today can only be as insulting to our Lord. We bow down in prayer at service or in our homes. We pray in need not often giving thanks. Then as soon as we move from worship we find ourselves right back in sin. Some cuss, drink, lust, and just have lack of self-control. We get caught in the sinful pleasures of life. It amazes me how fast one can walk out of a church and walk straight back to sin. Any act of sin no matter how small, hurts our Lord and is on the level of physical pain. Let us pay attention to sin, be aware of it, avoid it at all cost. Let us worship our Lord and then honor Him in our obedience to His Word.

- 1) 1:1-2 _____, an apostle of Jesus Christ, by the commandment of God our Savior and the Lord Jesus Christ, our hope, to _____ a true son in the faith: _____, _____ and _____ from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.
- 2) 1:15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that _____ _____ into the world to _____, of whom I am chief.
- 3) 1:17 Now to the King _____, _____, _____, to God who alone _____, be _____ and _____ and ever. Amen.
- 4) 2:1-4 There, I _____ first of all that supplications, _____, intercession, and giving of thanks be made for all _____, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and reverence. For this is _____ and _____ in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
- 5) 3:5 (for if a man does not know _____, how will he take care of the _____?)
- 6) 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was _____ in the _____, _____ in the _____, _____ by _____, _____ among the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up _____.

Daily Thought

In Chapter 2 Paul exhorts (encourages) us to pray for “all” men. This is good in God’s sight as He wants all men to be saved. He wants “all” to be saved. It’s easy at times to find ourselves upset with authorities in our life. We are to honor and respect authority, God gave them their power. Their authority is God’s authority. We shall respect them, we shall pray they be led to rule justly. Let us not forget all people, though we are not to have part with evil, we are, though, to pray for those who are in sin. We should set an example through God’s instruction and guidance fall all to see, acting in a way to lead others to our Lord. We shall pray for all people from the highest of the righteous to the lowest of the wicked. All should have a chance to know God’s love. Remember, God loves everyone!

8) 6:21 ...by professing it some have strayed concerning the faith, _ _ _ _ _
_ _ _ _ _ . Amen.

Daily Thought

As we have read today, a “Christian: is to provide for themselves and their families. Being lazy is a way of denying our faith. We are not to strive to be rich in money or in possessions, but provide what is needed. I was so hooked on work, so stuck on making a dollar, I forgot to enjoy all God had given me. Money is good, but it does not provide everything. We should leave time for family, friends, self, and most of all, God. This is rich, money only provides some of life’s necessities and pleasures. Strive to be spiritually wealthy, take care of your needs, spend time with your family. But don’t be lazy – work to supply your needs, love God and He will take care of the rest.

Word of Growth

We read in Mark 12 of a “vineyard” (12:1-22). This vineyard is as heaven in this parable, the master is God, the son is Jesus, and the servants whom were killed as God’s prophets. This parable is to teach the way man should be compared to the way they have been.

- 1 Kings 19:10 So he said (Elijah), “I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life.”
- Acts 7:52 Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, of whom you now have become the betrayers and murderers.
- Revelation 16:5-6 And I heard the angel of the waters saying, “you are righteous, O Lord, the One who is and who was and who is to be, because You have judged these things. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due.

We are the men leasing “God’s vineyard”. In the past men have killed all God’s servants whom He sent to them. Just as the parable records.

Chapter 12:6 says, “Therefore, still having one son, his beloved, he also sent him to them last, saying ‘They will respect my son.’ But men did not even respect God’s Son...”

- Mark 15:13 So they cried out again, “Crucify Him.”
- Mark 15:37 “And Jesus cried out with a loud voice and breathed His last.”
(They killed the son of the vinedresser.)
- John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

God has shown us an unbelievable amount of love and merciful grace. He even gave His only Son! When will He receive of His fruit? The fruit He has planted in you and me, in our hearts, through His Word. Be different. Be God’s sanctified (separate) people, live for Him. He has supplied you. Let us be fruitful through His great instruction (the Bible). Show fruit, live in righteousness, be His people, honor Him, and let him receive the fruit He is waiting on.

- 1) 1:1-2 _____, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus, to _____, a beloved son: _____, _____, and _____ from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.
- 2) 1:6-7 Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God _____, through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of fear, _____ and of _____ and of sound _____.
- 3) 2:1 You therefore, my son, _____ the grace that is in _____.
- 4) 2:11 This is a faithful saying: For if we died _____, we shall also _____.
- 5) 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself _____, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.
- 6) 3:16-17 _____ is given by inspiration of God, and is _____ for _____, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.
- 7) 4:2 Preach the word! Be ready _____ of season...
- 8) 4:22 The Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. _____.
Amen.

Daily Thought

There is a lot to be taken in just the last and first verses in each book of our Bible. Paul's epistles state his name and title, whom he is addressing and then he begins and ends each letter with "grace and peace". Paul is really on to a big thing here. If

we begin and end with grace and peace from our Lord in all areas of our lives, how great our blessings will be. Not only for us, but all those around us as well. Let us concentrate on this the next few days, doing all in God's grace.

Grace is God's gift to us. We will then praise Him for all He gives us to do, and through obedience to His Word He will bless us with peace. The more we pay attention and interact with God this way, the more grace and blessings we will receive.

February Day Eleven: Read Titus 1 – 3

- 1) 1:1 _____, a bondservant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God’s elect and the acknowledgment of the truth which accords with godliness.
- 2) 1:4 To _____, a true son in our common faith: _____, _____, and _____ from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior.
- 3) 1:15 To the pure all things are _____, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but _____
_____.
- 4) 2:1 But _____, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine...
- 5) 2:11 For the _____ that brings salvation has appeared _____
_____.
- 6) 3:1-2 Remind them to _____ to rulers and authorities, to obey, to _____ for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to _____.
- 7) 3:7 ...that having been _____ we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.
- 8) 3:15 All who are with me greet you. Greet those who love as in the faith. _____ be with you all. Amen.

Daily Thought

Titus had a job! Titus 1:12 One of them, a prophet of their own, said, “Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.”

One of their own said this! Crete would have been a hard place to change. All the selfish sinners, liars, evil beasts, and lazy gluttons. In Chapter 2 we read “Speak the thing which are proper.” Older men be sober, older women likewise. Exhort (teach, encourage) the young to be sober-minded. We are to teach our younger generation to be of sound mind and of sound judgment. Have we done this? Some, maybe, most have not. The proof stands out in our society. I wish it were different. In many ways we’ve taught ourselves to look and sound good but without much action. Again, look at our society today. I pray things will get better, I pray we all can and will do better.

Prayer is only the beginning. We need faithful action. I’ve heard many “open prayers”. I want prayers, no action. Let us work for results, let us mentor our youth in the ways of God, let us cause results that can be seen.

Pray it, believe it, act on it!

- 1) 1:1-3 _____ a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and _____ our brother, to _____ our beloved friend and fellow laborer, to the beloved _____, _____ our fellow soldiers, and to the _____ in your house: _____ to you and _____ from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 2) 1:15 For _____ he departed for a while for this _____, that you might receive _____.
- 3) 1:17 If then you count me as a partner, receive _____.
- 4) 1:25 The _____ of our Lord Jesus Christ _____.
Amen.
- 5) 1:5 For to which of the angels did He ever say: “_____ , today I have begotten you”? And again: “I will be to Him a Father, and _____ shall be to _____
- 6) 1:13 But to which of the angels has He ever said, “_____ _____ , till I make Your enemies Your _____”?
- 7) 2:10 For it was _____ , for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing _____ to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through _____.
- 8) 2:16 For indeed _____ give _____ , but _____ give _____ of Abraham.

Daily Thought

In Hebrews 1:1-5 we truly see our Father's love. He has guided His people in many ways, prophets, miracles, signs, our trials in life, and even and most importantly, with the death of His Son. With the blood of His beloved He purges our sins! O how He loves us! He took His beloved Son who is of higher authority than all, lowered Him to earth with us, and watched Him die. He gave the life of His Son for you and me. . .

O how He loves us! Thank you, Father, for Your love.

“Live for Him . . . He Died for You”

by Betty Tice

*He was born in a stable to Joseph and Mary,
He was sent to earth our sins to carry.
To teach us to live our lives for God each day,
To show us that this is the only way.
He took our sins and made them His own,
Then died on the cross all alone.
So we could spend eternity with God in Heaven above,
All this He did with unconditional love.
So . . . no matter what else in life you do,
Live for Him . . . He died for you.*

Word of Growth

The book of Hebrews is a little different than the other books or letters in our New Testament. Many people don't understand why some books didn't make it into our Bible. There are several books that were not considered spirit-inspired and forgeries of men that were not put in our Bible. The standard used in the New Testament was that you had to know Jesus, be an apostle of Jesus or a person who was near to the apostles and an eyewitness of Christ. If these standards were not met the book was not placed in our Bible. The Old Testament was already in place and quoted by Jesus so this standard is only for our New Testament.

The reason I say the book of Hebrews is different is that no one for sure knows the author. Someone did know. Hebrews 13:18 says “Pray for us; for we are confident that we have a good conscience, in all things desiring to live honorably.”

The recipient of this letter had prayed for someone. But we are no longer sure who wrote this book and it remains in our New Testament on merit alone. Whoever wrote this book knew their Bible, was well educated, and really had a way with words. The best part of having no author is the glory may go straight to God where it belongs.

February Day Thirteen: Read Hebrews 3 – 5

- 1) 3:1 Therefore, holy brethren, _____ of the heavenly calling, consider the _____ and _____ of our confession, _____
_____.
- 2) 3:4 For every house is built by someone, but _____
_____.
- 3) 3:13 ...but _____ one another daily, while it is called “_____”, lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.
- 4) 4:12 For _____ and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.
- 5) 4:14-15 Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, _____, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weakness, but was in all points tempted as we are, _____.
- 6) 5:8-9 ...though He was a Son, yet He _____ obedience by the things which He _____. And having been _____, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.

Daily Thought

Hebrews 5: 12-14 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is

unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

As believers we need to grow spiritually, just as a child from milk to solid food. Sometimes Christians stay at the beginning, knowing Christ saved us and believing that is all we need to know. This is what we need to know, but we are to continue in spiritual growth. Others as mentioned in the 12th verse, get carried away and forget the basics. The first principles of the oracles (words) of God. God's Word should be first priority in our lives: study your Bible, know His word, then all that is left is prosperous living. Take the time, go through the steps. We start by crawling, then on to walking, then as Paul, we may begin to run the race.

Be serious in God; know your growth; then begin to grow.

- 1) 6:11-12 And we desire that _____ of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, that you do not become _____, but imitate those who through faith and patience _____.
- 2) 6:15 And so, after he had _____, he _____.
- 3) 7:22 ...by so much more _____ has _____ of a _____.
- 4) 7:28 For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, _____.
- 5) 8:6 But now He has obtained as more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also _____, which was established _____.
- 6) 8:10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: _____; _____, _____.
- 7) 8:12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds _____.

Daily Thought

In Chapter 6, we're asked to leave the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ to move on to perfection. Often one becomes proud of what they already know and

forgets there is much more to learn. It's good to discuss what we understand to gain further understanding. But to learn we must study what we don't know. Through discussion of the unknown leaves us looking not so wise, we learn from it. Studying builds us up; while sharing is good, we are to look and strive for spiritual growth. As verse 3 states, "And this we will do if God permits." First concentrate on growth, not only for self, but for all. Learn of the Kingdom, store up riches in God alone. Then if time permits, then the rest is up to God. Strive to share and know our Lord: He will provide the rest.

- 1) 9:14 How much more shall the _____, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, _____ from dead works to serve the living God.
- 2) 9:28 ...so _____ was _____ to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him, He will appear as second time, _____,
- 3) 10:12 _____, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, _____.
- 4) 10:22 ...let us draw near with a _____ in full _____, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.
- 5) 11:1 Now faith is the _____,
- 6) 11:6 But _____ to please Him, for he who comes to God _____ that He is, and He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.
- 7) 11:37 They were _____, they were _____, were _____, were _____. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented.

Daily Thought

We are not to live by the law, but by faith in Christ. We do not need sacrifices, we've been covered through the one sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Our Lord is truly great and loving, He gave us the way. We only need to follow His lead; He will guide us the rest

of the way. We've already been shown the way. God is of light; He has shared His light with us so we may see.

Chapter 10:32 "But recall the former days in which, after you were _____, you endured a great struggle with sufferings."

We were lit like candles or turned on as lamps! We're the light (knowledge) – we need to shine!

February Sixteen: Read Hebrews 12 – James 1

- 1) 12:6 For whom the Lord loves __ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ , and scourges every son whom __ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .
- 2) 12:14 Pursue __ _ _ _ _ with all people, __ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ , without which no one will see the Lord.
- 3) 13:1 Let __ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ . Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so some have unwittingly __ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .
- 4) 13:8 __ _ _ _ _ is the same yesterday, today and __ _ _ _ _ .
- 5) Write out this verse: _____

- 6) 1:1 __ _ _ _ _ , a bondservant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the __ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ which are scattered abroad: Greetings.
- 7) 1:12 Blessed is the man who __ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ ; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord __ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to those who love Him.
- 8) 1:19-20 So then, my beloved brethren, let every man __ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ , __ _ _ _ _ , __ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.
- 9) 1:22 But __ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ , and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Daily Thought

The book of James is written by James, the brother of Jesus. Now James was an unbeliever before the death of his brother, Jesus. I can understand this. Just

imagine your brother coming to you and saying, “I am the Christ, God’s Son.” Yeah, right, Brother . . . You, the son of my mother. . .

After witnessing or at least hearing of all that Jesus was doing, James still did not believe his brother. Only after Jesus was crucified, killed on the cross, and risen from the dead, seen in person by many people including James, did James become a believer.

As we look at James in this personal light, what a testimony he has given us. So convinced, he began teaching the Gospel he once could not believe. What a glory to our Father.

Word of Growth

Hebrews 11 – faith chapter (trust). All should be done in faith, trusting in our Lord. I really enjoy reading this chapter. Faith is our strength and endurance. Many great feats have been made in faith. But what could be done without it? Nothing could be done without having faith in something. To tie my shoes, I must trust I can do so. I trust myself to do much, all this of course comes from God even while I was unaware. He gave us our abilities. It’s up to us how we use those abilities though. We could use them for good or evil purposes, we could use them trusting in ourselves or in God, or in something else. With the many possibilities only one will lead to righteousness, prosperity, and eternal life. Only faith in One can give us a record as our fathers in Hebrews 11. For us to reach such great feats we must trust and follow our Father’s lead. Know the sooner you start and the closer you follow His guidance in faith the more of His greatness you will see. Right through you He can and will do a mighty work, through your faith in Him He will bless you greatly.

Our Lord is a Mighty and Powerful God and He is full of mercy and love. He loves all of us, all of His creation.

- 1) 2:5 Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the _____
_____ in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He
promised to those who love Him?
- 2) 2:24 Write out this verse: _____

- 3) 3:5 Even so the tongue is a little member and boast great things. _____
_____.
- 4) 3:10 Out of the same _____ proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren,
these things _____.
- 5) 4:3 Yet you do not have because _____ You ask and do not
receive, because _____ that you may spend it on your
pleasures.
- 6) 4:6 But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: _____
_____.
- 7) 4:7 Therefore _____ and he will
flee from you.
- 8) 4:17 Therefore, _____ to do good and does not do it, to him
it is sin.
- 9) 5:1 Come now, you rich, _____ for your _____ that are
_____ upon you!
- 10) 5:12 But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or
with any other oath. But _____ “_____” _____ “_____”, and _____
“No”, “No”, lest you fall into judgment.

Daily Thought

James 3: 8-10: But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and curing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so.

These verses are on point for me. How often do we say a thing which is hurtful to someone else? How often have we said things that are not pleasing to our Lord? An unruly tongue can be contagious. I find the more people I'm around with a loose tongue, the more I catch mine loosening up. Foul language becomes second nature to those not alert. Let us watch what comes from our mouths. Our mouth can be one of the biggest tattle-tales.

Matthew 15:18: But those things which proceed out the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man.

What a man loves he keeps in his heart; our mouth speaks of our love. If we love the evil things evil we speak; if good then our speech will be righteous.

- 1) 1:1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the (finish this verse) _____

- 2) 1:4 ...to an _____ incorruptible and undefiled and that does not
fade away, _____ in _____...
- 3) 1:13 Therefore _____ the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope
fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the _____
of _____...
- 4) 1:23 ...having been _____, not of corruptible seed by
_____, through the word of God which lives and abides
forever.
- 5) 2:6 Therefore, it is also contained in the Scripture, “Behold I lay in Zion a
chief cornerstone, elect, precious, (finish this verse) _____

- 6) 2:24 ...who Himself bore _____ in His own body on the tree, that we,
having died to sins, might live for righteousness (finish this verse) _____

- 7) 3:8 Finally, _____ be of one mind, having compassion for one
another; love as brothers, _____, be courteous...
- 8) 3:17 For _____, if is the will of God, _____ for doing good
than for doing evil.

Daily Thought

We know life is not always fair. Things don't always end up the way we would like. Just remember to persevere, stay focused, keep your mind on heavenly things. Peter reminds us even Jesus suffered. The Son of God came to this world right here on this very place we live. To suffer for us at the hands of men like us. If the Son of God suffered here on this earth, where does that leave us, His followers? We shall be thankful for all we have, be grateful in our sufferings.

Suffering tells us we belong to our Lord. It can be hard to stay humble in these times. Chapter 3:17 says: "For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil." If we remain focused and on task even in our suffering, we will find our reward. If may find concern if I were not suffering, perhaps the enemy already has victory over the man who does not suffer . . . And if we suffer in correction, does God our Father not correct His children?

Just hold on, endure till you see that victory in Christ.

- 1) 4:7-8 But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. And above all things have fervent love for one another, for (finish the verse) _____

- 2) 4:16 Yet if _____ as a Christian, let him not be ashamed but _____ him _____ in _____.
- 3) 5:4 ...and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the _____ that does not fade away.
- 4) 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about _____, seeking whom he may devour.
- 5) 1:1 _____, a bondservant and apostle of Jesus Christ, to those _____ like _____ with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ.
- 6) 1:5-7 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith _____, to virtue _____, to knowledge _____, to self-control _____, to perseverance _____, to godliness _____, and to brotherly kindness _____.
- 7) 1:18 And we _____ which came from _____ when we were with Him on the holy mountain.

Daily Thought

1 Peter 4: 7-8 But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. And above all things, have fervent love for one another, for “love will cover a multitude of sins.”

“Love”: love will cover a multitude of sins. How could love lead us wrong?

In Matthew 6 we are told to forgive as we want to be forgiven. I feel if I love someone, I have no grudges against them. To love someone, I must first forgive them. We are told not to repay evil for evil, but as we love how could we react in evil? Love takes care of many of life’s issues – even eternal life. Out of love God gave His Son Jesus to die for our sins. Jesus endured the cross out of love for us – to cover a multitude of sins. Practice love.

1 Corinthians 12: 4-8a: Love suffers long and is kind; loves does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

Love Never Fails

Word of Growth

Peter spoke of Christians suffering. If we suffer for good we are rewarded by our Father. Endure, don’t act out in evil wickedness, but trust in the Lord. Repay evil with good, show love to even those who are unjust to you. This is to glory God.

I may be a little long today, but I want to share the sufferings Jesus and the twelve apostles enduring in their deaths. (Some of these could be legend or embellished upon over the years.)

- Jesus: crucified
- Peter: crucified upside-down – it is said he did not feel worthy to die as Jesus so he requested to be crucified in this way
- James: killed by the sword and beheaded by Herod Agrippa (Acts 12:2)
- John: exiled to Patmos island having been said to be the only apostle to die a natural death
- Andrew: crucified for the faith
- Philip: scourged (whipped), thrown in prison, then crucified
- Bartholomew: said to have been flayed (skinned) alive, then crucified
- Matthew: killed with a spear
- Thomas: also killed with a spear

- James (the less): beaten, stoned, and then clubbed to death
- Thaddeus: crucified
- Simon: crucified

All these men suffered and were martyred for their faith, not willing to denounce Christianity. We shall be proud of our faith and suffering to claim and glorify God.

See Paul's suffering in 2 Corinthians 11: 22-27.

All these men died to bring the Gospel to me and you. Through much suffering they have delivered! Praise and glory be to God our Father!

- 1) 2:9 ...then _____ how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment.
- 2) 2:17 These are _____, clouds carried by a tempest, for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.
- 3) 3:3-4 ..._____ : that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, “Where is the promise of His coming?” For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.
- 4) 3:8 But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, _____ one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.
- 5) 3:18 ...but _____ of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.
- 6) 1:1 _____, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to _____, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ. . .
- 7) 1:9 _____, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, “_____!”
- 8) 1:24-25 Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, (write out verse 25) _____

Daily Thought

2 Peter 3:9 “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”

Many will question our Lord’s return or even His willingness to let bad things happen in the world. Where is this God of yours, why has He not returned? Why does He allow bad things to happen? Why does He not make this world perfect?

Our world, the earth, is a learning environment. We are being prepared for eternity. God will be here when He pleases. Bad things happen to teach us good. Without had how would you know good? The world is not perfect, God allows free will. If He wanted perfection He would have made a world of angels without free will – “robots”. God wants our love – but He wants it by our choice – not by force. “Love Him!”

2 Peter 3:14 “Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless.”

“Even though it seems long, He will arrive!”

- 1) 1:13 But the _____ to him, “Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for _____
_____ ; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and
you shall call his name _____.
- 2) 1:16 And he will _____ of the children of Israel _____ their
God.
- 3) 1:26-27 Now in the sixth month the _____ was sent by God
to a city of Galilee names _____, to a virgin betrothed to a man
whose name was _____, of the house of _____. The virgin’s name
was _____.
- 4) 1:31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and _____ a
_____, and shall call His name Jesus.
- 5) 2:7 And she brought forth her first born ___ and wrapped Him in
_____, and laid Him in a _____ because there
was no room for them in the inn.
- 6) 2:21 And when eight days were completed for the circumcision of the Child,
His name was called _____ the name given _____ before
He was conceived in the womb.
- 7) 2:49 And __ said to them, “Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that
(finish the verse) _____

- 8) 3:3 And he went into all the region around _____, preaching a
baptism of repentance for _____.

9) 3:21 When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that _____
_____; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened.

Daily Thought

John the Baptist was a relative of Jesus and he prepared the way for salvation. He preached a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins in preparation of baptism of the Spirit in Acts 2:38. Only through Jesus are our sins forgiven, and our salvation comes from the Lord.

We must obey the command of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ to be baptized—to receive the merciful salvation given through the grace of our Lord and the indwelling gift of the Holy Spirit.

- 1) 4:2 ...being tempted for _____ by the _____. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry.
- 2) 4:8 And _____ and said to him, “_____, _____!”
- 3) 4:12 And Jesus answered and said to him, “It has been said, ‘_____.’”
- 4) 5:16 So __ Himself often _____ into the wilderness and _____.
- 5) 5:32 I have not come to call the righteous, _____, to _____.
- 6) 6:5 And He said to them, (finish the verse) _____

- 7) 6:31 Write out this verse _____

Daily Thought

In Luke 4:13 we read, “Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.”

Jesus fought the devil in such a way that we shall follow His example. He fought him with the Word. Know your Scripture – it is your life line. God’s Word keeps us in thought and spirit in Christ. Through the Word with God’s grace we can win the crown. This is our only victory to sin and temptation – remember to keep your knowledge fresh and study your Bible daily to stay strong. Satan will come at the opportune time.

- 1) 7:23 And _____ who is not offended because of ____.
- 2) 7:47 Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, _____, for _____ But to whom little is forgiven the same loves little.
- 3) 8:11 Now the parable is this: _____.
- 4) 8:21 But He answered and said to them, “My mother and my brother are those (finish the verse) _____

- 5) 9:2 _____ to _____ the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.
- 6) 9:23 Then He said to them all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, (finish the verse) _____

- 7) 9:62 But Jesus said to him, “_____, having put his hand to the plow, _____, is fit for the kingdom of God.”

Daily Thought

Luke 7:35 “But wisdom is justified by all her children.” Such a short verse yet so full of truth and meaning.

Parents, your children’s actions show all you have taught them. If they lack, it is because you’ve lacked in instructing them. Children, when you act badly you are making your parents look bad – you are bringing shame to your family.

This scripture has a further meaning as well. The wise are known by their actions. When you do anything foolish or wise you have an impression (children). Your actions, impressions, show your true being and prove how wise one has been in their ways. If we ourselves look back to these impressions we find our need for guidance. Act wisely and be justified through these impressions.

Word of Growth

In Luke 7: 11-16 we find a woman who has lost everything. She was a widow, with only one son left to her. Jesus arrived to her city (Nain) in time to see her son being carried away in a funeral procession. Jesus arrived right at this woman's most needed time. Jesus knows our needs and He provides to those who need. Our Lord's mercy and love is beyond belief; He can and will comfort our needs.

This woman lost her son, her only remaining family member. Jesus saw her sorrow. He said, "Woman, do not weep." He then touched the open coffin and said, "Young man, I say to you, arise."

It was that easy! Seven little words. Jesus brought her son back to life. Jesus did the impossible – raised the dead to meet this woman's needs.

Jesus loves us, Jesus loves you! And He will provide our every need even the impossible ones. Trust in Christ – He waits on you.

1) 10:3 Go your way; behold, I send you out as _____.

2) 10:24 ...for I tell you that _____ have
desired to see what you see, and have not seen it, and to hear what you
hear, and have not heard it.

3) 11:26 Write out the Lord's Prayer

4) 11:28 But He said, "More than that, _____ who
hear the _____ and _____."

5) 12:2 For there is _____ covered that will not be revealed, nor _____
that _____.

6) 12:8 Also I say to you, _____ Me _____ him the
Son of Man also will confess before the angels of God.

7) 12:34 For where your _____, there _____ heart _____ be _____.

Daily Thought

In Luke 10:38-42 we read of two sisters, Mary and Martha. Martha invited Jesus into her house. While He was there, Martha was overwhelmed, distracted with "much serving." She looked to Jesus to tell her sister to help her. "Lord, do You now care that my sister has left me to do serve alone?"

“And Jesus answered and said to her, ‘Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.’”

In verse 39 we find Mary was content sitting at the feet of Jesus. Martha was caught up in the troubles of living, while Mary was learning of and only concerned with the things of above. How often do we get tied up in the trouble of daily life instead of living for and trusting in our Lord?

“Let us be aware of those needed things, the ones which will not be taken from us.”

- 1) 13:24 _____ to _____ through the narrow gate, _____, I say to you, will seek to enter and _____.
- 2) 13:32 And He said to them, “____, _____, ‘Behold I cast out demons and perform cures, today and tomorrow, and the _____ _____.’”
- 3) 13:34 O _____, _____, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to _____ your _____ together, _____ a _____ gathers her brood under her wings, but you were not willing!
- 4) 14:11 Write out this verse: _____

- 5) 14:33 Go likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has _____ be _____.
- 6) 15:7 I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over _____ than over _____ just _____ who need no repentance.
- 7) 15:32 It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was _____ and is _____ again, and was _____ and is _____.

Daily Thought

In Luke 13: 6-9 we read of a man who had a fig tree which produces no fruit for three years. He told his servant to “cut it down. Why does it use up the ground?”

We can look at ourselves through this short parable. Are we producing fruit? Or wasting the ground we stand on?

We know a person is in Christ by the fruit they produce. If one does not produce fruit but continually calls to Christ, the proof (fruit) seems to show they are wasting ground. If one truly receives Jesus Christ and turns from their ways, it will show in their conduct. God will not tolerate sin and if we are not truly in Christ we are still in sin. "He will be forced to cut us down!"

The man of this parable is like God and his servant, like Jesus Christ. If we receive Christ He, as this man's servant, is going to dig around us, removing our sins. Then He is going to fertilize us in His Word through love so we may grow spiritually and show fruit. This brings us into right standing with God who may now receive this fruit and not cast us out of His vineyard.

Receive Christ – produce fruit – and honor God, our Father.

- 1) 16:10 He who is _____ in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is _____ in what is least is _____ also _____.
- 2) 16:15 And He said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is _____ among men is an _____ in the sight of God.”
- 3) 17:3 Take heed to yourselves. If your brother _____ against you, _____; and if he _____, _____.
- 4) 17:26 And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the _____ of the _____.
- 5) 18:1 Then He spoke a parable to them, that _____ to _____ and _____.
- 6) 18:7 And _____ who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them?
- 7) 18:17 Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not _____ the kingdom of _____ as a _____ will by no means enter it.
- 8) 18:27 But He said, “The things which are impossible with men _____.”

Daily Thought

In Luke 17: 11-19 we read of Jesus cleansing ten lepers. These ten lepers cried out the Jesus for mercy, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” Jesus showed mercy – He told them to go show themselves to the priest and as they were on their way, they were cleansed from their leprosy. All ten men were cleansed!

Now in verse 15 we read “And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God.”

Only one in ten men gave glory to God. The other nine as so many today forgot to give thanks – they just went on in life like nothing had taken place.

How often do we ask of the Father and then receive without notice. We shall pay attention of even the smallest of things if good comes from above.

James 1: 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

Remember to give glory to God – all good is from Him – He is full of mercy and He is without change. He will always care for us – give the glory to Him.

Word of Growth

As we near the end of this Gospel, let's look to the parable of the rich man and Lazarus (16: 19-31). In this parable we have two men who are exact opposites – one of the richest of men and the other the poor of the poorest. The rich man at the highest of living had Lazarus eating table scraps as did the dogs. His dogs licked Lazarus' sores. Lazarus was as a dog to the rich man. Picture in your head a man sitting at his table eating as king and another sitting at his feet begging for food. Who would treat another human this way? Nothing of God could do such a thing.

Now both men die. Lazarus goes and meets our father, Abraham; the rich man receives his place in torment. The rich man has the nerve to ask Abraham to have Lazarus bring him a little water just on his finger to cool his tongue. Abraham says to remember in his lifetime he received good things – now it was Lazarus' turn.

The sinner then asked for Lazarus to be sent to his father's house to convert his five brothers so they didn't end up as he had. Abraham then said that they had Moses and the prophets, let them hear them.

The rich man said "No, father Abraham, but if one from the dead tells them they will repent." Abraham replied, "IF they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead."

How true this statement is even today. Our Bible now contains Moses, the prophets and the Gospels of Christ, the one who was raised from the dead. And yet, how many will still not receive the Word and God and repent?

Trust our Bible, believe the Word of God. God has reached to us in many ways – let us receive Him and praise Him. He sent even His own Son, who we killed, who returned from the dead for our salvation.

- 1) 19:7 But when they saw it, _____, saying, “He has gone to be a _____ with a man who is a _____.”
- 2) 19:38 ...saying, “_____ is the king _____ of the _____! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”
- 3) 19:40 But He answered and said to them, “I tell you that if these should keep silent, the _____.”
- 4) 20:36 ...nor can they die anymore, for they are equal to the angels and _____ of _____, being sons of the resurrection.
- 5) 20:42 Now David himself said in the Book of Psalms (write out the rest of this verse) _____

- 6) 21:8 And He said: “_____ be _____. For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am he,’ and ‘The time has drawn near.’ Therefore do not go after them.”
- 7) 21:19 Write out this verse _____

- 8) 21:33 Heaven and earth will pass away, (finish the verse) _____

Daily Thought

In Chapter 20:18 we read “Whoever falls on that stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder.”

I can relate to this verse in first-hand experiences. Jesus is the Rock – we don’t know our need for Him until we are broken. One becomes broken in sin when we realize our

wrongs, how sinful we have been. Sin hurts – it is a failure to self and those around us. In sinned in such a way I thought there was no help – I was broken in spirit almost unable to stand on my own feet.

Jesus will accept the broken, forgive them if they are ready or even if they are not as long as they are aware of their need of Him.

Our Lord is merciful. He will forgive and receive those who receive Him. How much better we fall on Him than Him on us! If we refuse His grace until the end, there will be no stopping His judgment. Those who wait to this point will be ground to powder, destroyed in judgment. Pray for all to receive the Lord Jesus before it is too late.

- 1) 22:3 _____, surnamed Iscariot, who was numbered among the twelve.
- 2) 22:40 When He came to the place, He said to them, (finish the verse) _____

- 3) 23:3 Then Pilate asked Him, saying, “Are _____ of the _____?”
He answered him and said, “_____.”
- 4) 23:12 That very day, _____ and _____ with each other, for previously they had been at enmity with each other.
- 5) 23:30 Then they will begin to say to the mountains, “_____!” and to the hills, “_____!”
- 6) 24:6 _____! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee. . .
- 7) 24:25 Then He said to them, “O _____, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!”
- 8) 24:36 Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, “_____.”

Daily Thought

All evil starts as a temptation, which started in the Garden of Eden. The serpent himself caused Eve to eat of the forbidden tree. The tree of knowledge, knowledge between good and evil. Until the serpent's temptation men only knew good, and this the good of God.

In these last days of Jesus' life we find the tempter at work. Luke 22:31: “And the Lord said, ‘Simon, Simon! Indeed Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat.’” Satan did gift Simon (Peter) and Simon did sin by denying Jesus three times (22: 57-59).

Judas also betrayed Jesus while being tempted by the serpent (22: 3). These two men were opposites; one knew the Lord and returned to Him trusting His mercy (Peter). The other killed himself and went home to his lord, the serpent.

Read the Word (Bible) and know the Lord's will for us. Jesus is mighty in mercy and forgiveness! He even forgave those who crucified Him. Luke 23: 34: "Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.'"

Always seek the Lord, He has paid for our pardon as long as we seek Him. That lying serpent has nothing on us, no power whatsoever! Praise be to our King!

James 4:7 "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you."