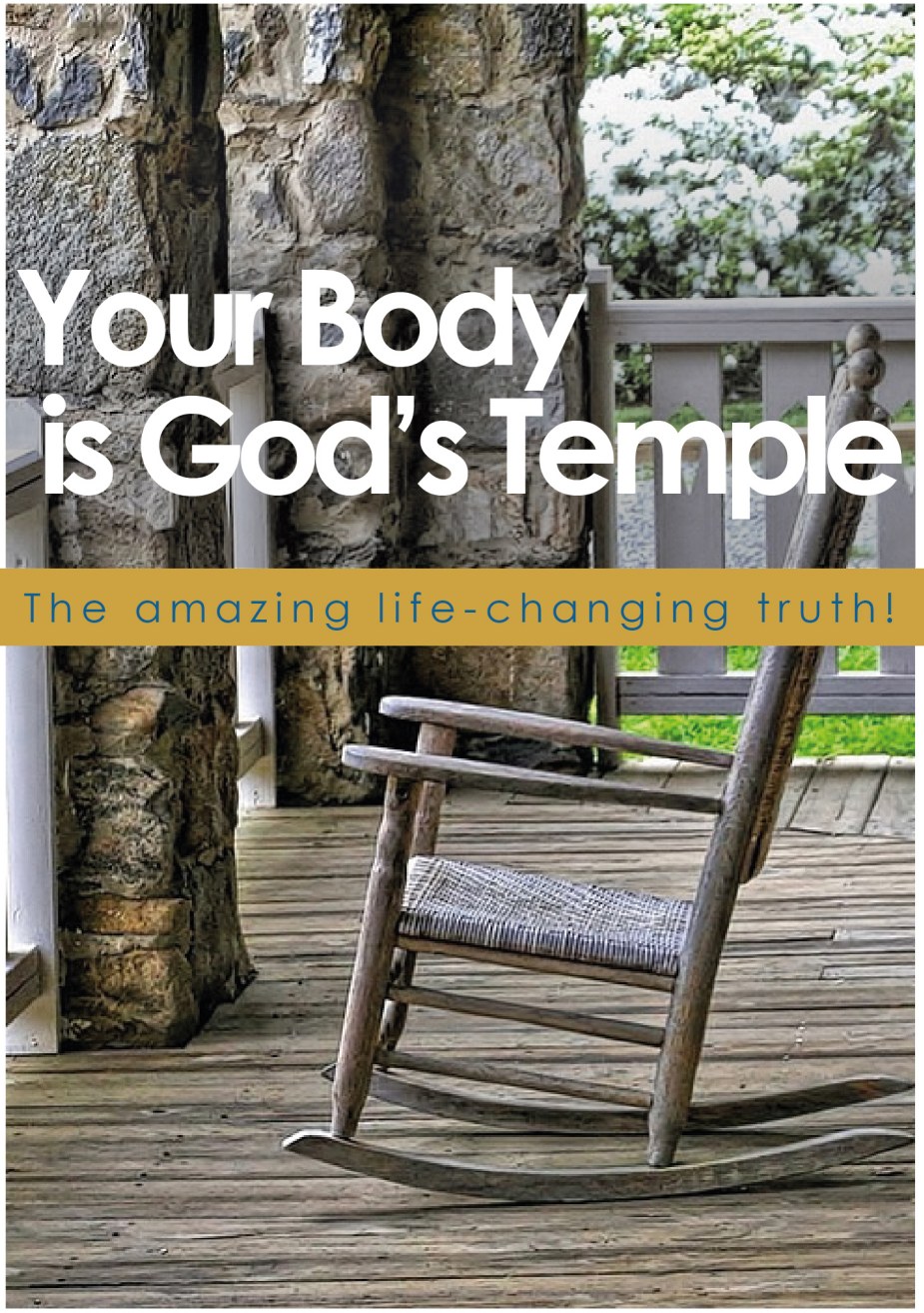
SOLOMON'S PORCH



Your Body is God's Temple

The amazing life-changing truth!

BARRY BORTHISTLE



"From his dedicated daily study of the Word of God and related historical research, Barry brings you profound insights into important issues for our day that are seldom addressed in our churches and Christian publications. You will be amazed by the relevant truths that Barry brings out from his focused study of the Bible."

—Dr. Don Page

Historian and former policy analyst for Global Affairs Canada and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Trinity Western University

"Barry Borthistle's enthusiasm, experience and extraordinary Bible knowledge has influenced and impacted me in a profound way! I am so thankful to count him as a friend."

—Ryan Walter

Stanley Cup Champion, author, speaker and Leadership Expert (ryanwalter.com)

“I have known Barry for several years through our mutual church affiliation at Peace Portal Alliance. I first heard Barry speak at The Gathering where he shared from the word of God. I was impressed with his ability to relate to people in a confident and professional manner.

He also can influence others with his passion, enthusiasm and impeccable leadership skills. Barry loves to teach the Word of God in a creative and energetic style. He is a great encourager and motivates others to pray and study the Word of God for themselves. I consider it a privilege to recommend Barry in his ministry endeavours as he seeks to proclaim from the Bible, the whole council of God.”

—Owen C. MacRae

Distinguished ToastMaster, public speaker, worked with Gideons International, and Chairman of the Board for Product Care
(clanmacraecanada.ca)

“Barry Borthistle as I know him... When I met Barry many years ago, I immediately felt that this is a man of character. As I spent more time with him, I found two additional attributes that made this man different, and they were *truth* and *wisdom*.

Over the last 50 years I have conducted business in 30 countries and have met and worked with many famous people. If I had to list friends in categories, Barry would be in the top 5!”

—Dr. Peter J. Daniels

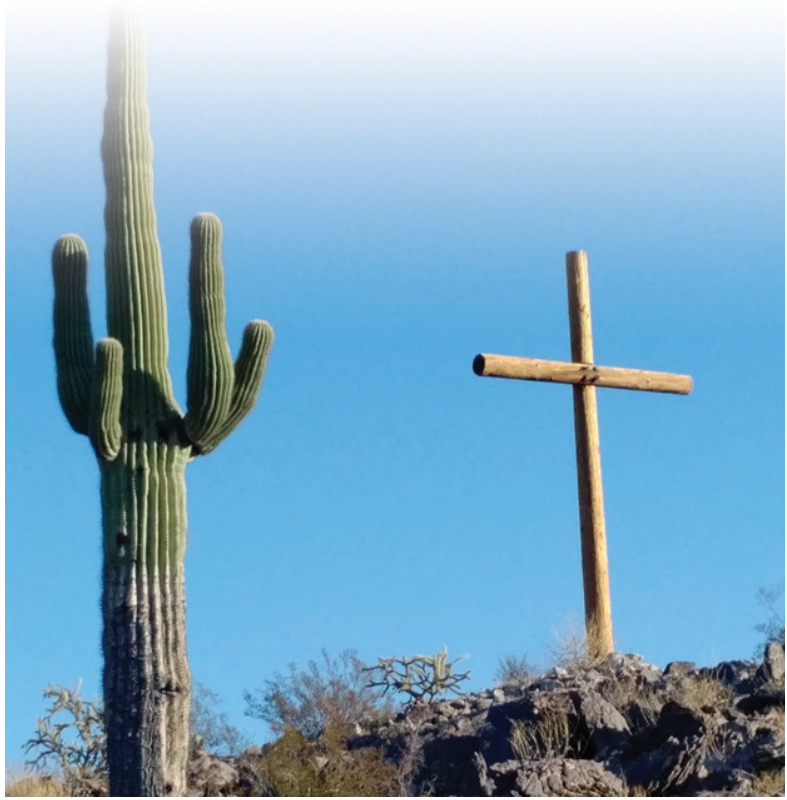
Founder of the World Center Entrepreneur Studies Foundation

“Through years of research and revealed in this book, *Your Body is God’s Temple*, Barry Borthistle has helped unfold and reveal a most powerful truth for these times.

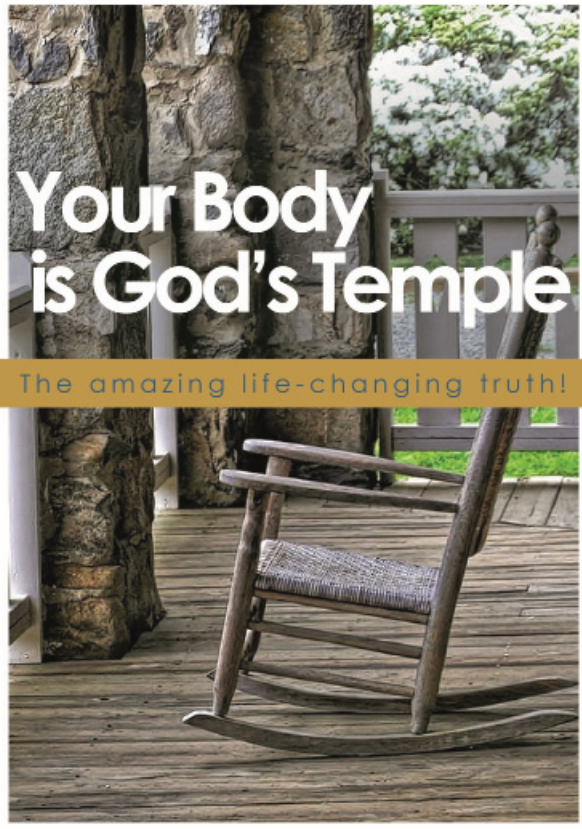
Apostle Paul, in Colossians 1:24-27, wrote about this truth as the mystery that has been hidden from the ages and generations. Now uncovered for all is the riches of the magnificence of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

To recognize and receive the wondrous truth of being God’s Temple is the beginning of walking and living a supernatural life!”

—Michael Ellison
Author of *10 Habits of Wellness*,
Founder and CEO, TriVita Corporation



SOLOMON'S PORCH



Your Body is God's Temple

The amazing life-changing truth!

BARRY BORTHISTLE

Motivated Publishing STUDIOS

SOLOMON'S PORCH

Your Body is God's Temple

Published by Barry Borthistle
with Motivated Publishing Studios (MPS)

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DEDICATION

"I am dedicating this book to God Almighty my Creator, pillar, my source of inspiration, knowledge, wisdom, and understanding."

—Barry Borthistle

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A special acknowledgment to my longtime friend Jim Janz, who has backed up his verbal encouragement and prodding for me to write a book with many contributions. Jim's ongoing support and words have tangibly contributed to getting this book to print. Thank you, Jim.

My podcast could only happen with the support of the amazing Solomon's Porch team. I would like to give credit to Christi Walter who literally has done hundreds of hours of typing in support of the creation of my message. Rod Janz not only produces the show but contributes his expertise in communicating the message. Without him, the show would still be an idea in my head. My son Garth, who I have worked with for many decades, has done many things to help this podcast and book become reality. I love that Ruth shares the vision and brings wisdom and insight into each episode. I also want to thank the following for their encouragement for the podcast and in the podcast: my podcast music leader Dave Johannesson, those that wrote me endorsements with enthusiasm, Dr. Don Page, Ryan Walter, Bill King, and Dr. Peter J. Daniels.

I would also like to add a special thanks to Heather Stelzer and Ken Hayes, thank you both for your support.

My major life accomplishments do not stand alone because I have been shaped by so many wonderful teachers, pastors, friends, and business partners. It would take pages to write out all their names, but I am honoured to have a huge community of people who have supported and taught me.

Without a doubt, the most influential force in my life is God's inspired Word. It has shaped me and molded my world view more than anything. The word of God is living and active and I take the responsibility to teach it as my highest calling in life.

Lastly, I also wish to extend my appreciation to Rod Schulhauser at Motivated Publishing Studios, who helped make this project a reality.

God Bless,

—Barry



FOREWORD

I have known Barry for many years. Our paths have crossed many times as we helped out with many causes and organizations. More recently, we have become more closely associated as he has launched a deep dive into the Scriptures with an attempt to make them relevant to the times we live in. This seems to be something many people are searching for.

He is often up at 4:00 AM, digging into these subjects for hours, then communicating his insights to an ever-growing community of searching believers. Recently, several of us have been encouraging him to put these findings, which are in a notebook form, into book form so many more people can be blessed with the truths he's discovered. He has enough material to fill several books and we may well be blessed with that possibility as he is now putting his toe in the water of publishing some of his inspiring and very interesting findings.

You will be spellbound as you begin this journey with him, as are those of us who have already enjoyed many inspirational times with him. He has revealed so many amazing truths that need to be publicized and explained to those of us who await for His return.



—Jim Janz

Author of *A Rendezvous with Destiny*, international speaker, and Chairman of the Board for numerous charities and Christian organizations

PREFACE

We All Know That Health is the Best Wealth. However, most people do not realize that their body is GOD'S TEMPLE.

My Health Story

"My body is a temple, and my temple needs redecorating."
– Joan Rivers

At 40 years of age, I weighed about 300 pounds and my resting heartbeat was 88 beats a minute—it should have been near 70. My MD brother told me that if I did not do something to improve my health, chances are I would not see 50 years of age.

We all know that life is made up of choices. So I began eating and exercising correctly, got my resting heart rate down to 58 beats a minute and lost 80 pounds. The number of heartbeats I have saved is well into the millions.

My dear mother told me once, "You will never have a heart attack, but you will probably cause many others to have one." So, here are the results after 40 years of treating my body as GOD'S TEMPLE. I am now 80 years of age.

My current status:

- I run or jog 30 minutes a day with Monty, our dog
- I sleep 8 to 9 hours per night
- My blood pressure is 124 over 72
- I've only had two prescription drugs in 40 years with no flu and only one cold

What I have realized is that with our body being God's Temple, it needs to be sound:

- Physically
- Emotionally
- Spiritually (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

God has provided an approved/written vaccine to give us instructions on how to care for God's Temple.

"Self-care is the new frontier of wellness."
– Michael Ellison

Stan Fryer

My good friend, Stan Fryer, is another real-world example. Between 1944 and 1946 he was the assistant physical director at the YMCA and started to strengthen and build his body.

Here's his story…

When I was introduced to Jesus Christ in 1972, my Spiritual life began to grow. That same year I went to an allergist due to my Asthma. I began to watch my diet and take supplements. I did make some improvements. When I turned 65, I became very serious about my health because of the teaching regarding the Temple of the Holy Spirit. My body, being the temple of the Holy Spirit, needed to be cleaned up so I made many changes in my diet—namely more fruit, vegetables, and much stronger supplements. My asthma disappeared! I began to feel 10 to 20 years younger! I believe one can never be too old to start this process when they realize that their body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit. One of the side-benefits is the growth of the Soul and Spirit.

For the record, at 80 years of age I began training for competition in track and field. I was fortunate to win a number of gold medals in the 400-, 800-, and 3,000-meter events in the Canada games, held in Langley, British Columbia.

Spiritual:
When I wake up, I say out loud "Good morning Father, good morning Jesus, good morning Holy Spirit." My request to God is to "Create in me a pure heart of God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me." While having my morning smoothie, I do my devotions followed by a Bible study and personal prayer time.

Physical:
We are given one body, which is the Temple of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, it's up to us to look after what God created. I feed my body to keep it healthy: lots of fruit and vegetables, along with my vitamins and minerals.

I play and teach pickleball everyday outdoors, weather permitting. I line dance outdoors three days a week, weather permitting. I golf three days a week, weather permitting. I walk, rain or shine, each day. I do strength exercises each day to keep my bones and body sturdy.

My Soul:
I believe that having a wide range of friends keeps the soul alert and filled with joy. Reading, pickleball, and line dancing keeps the brain active and alert (John 13:34). Jesus says, "A new commandment I give you. Love one another. You must love one another". When I started to put this into practice with my fellow Christians and non-Christians, my whole outlook began to change.

I live this way because I chose that my body is the Temple of the Living God.



INTRODUCTION

The Miracle Of You and Me as God's Temple

We are made up of three parts (1 Thessalonians 5:23):

- Body/Physical
- Soul/Emotional
- Spirit/Spiritual

Solomon's Temple:

- Courtyard
- Holy Place
- Holies of Holies

Unlike Solomon's Temple, which was made of brick and mortar, God formed each of us and knew us in our mother's womb (Jeremiah 1:5). We are also told that we are fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14). God also knows the number of hairs in his temple (Luke 12:7).

HERE IS AN AMAZING BIBLICAL TRUTH: The word atonement is mentioned 130 times in the Old Testament but is mentioned in the New Testament only once. *Atonement* means "restoration to a Divine Favour." (Romans 5:11)

When Did This Huge Transformation Take Place?

It happened at the very moment when Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins. Jesus Christ shed his blood seven ways.

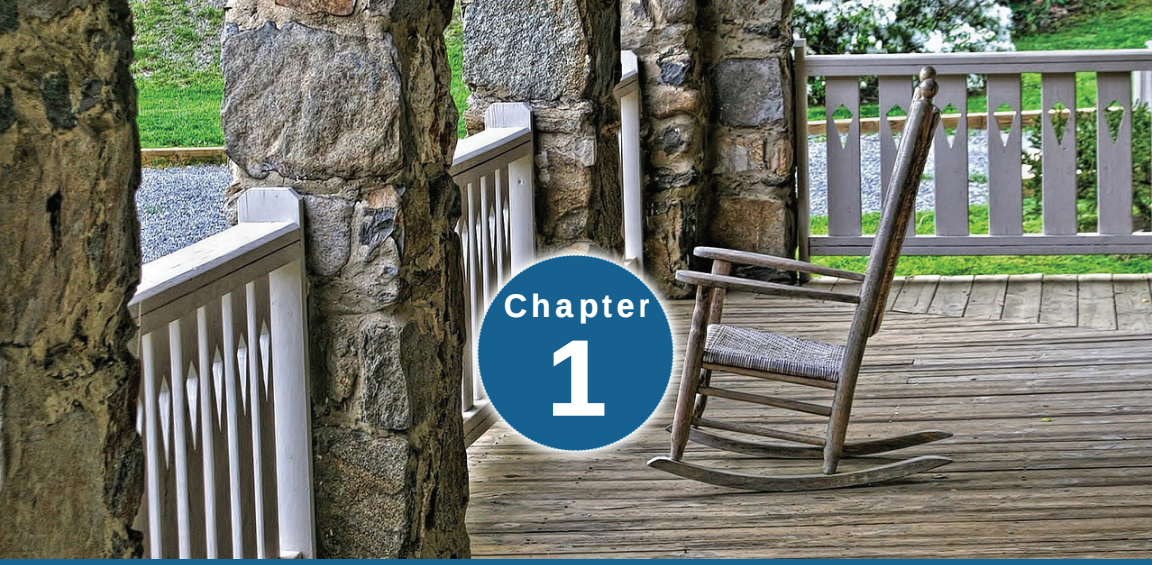
The veil of the Temple which protected the Holies of Holies was split in two from the top to the bottom. At this moment of transformation there was a massive earthquake so powerful that many graves were opened and many dead people arose (Matthew 27:50-54). This was no accidental event. Consider this: it is estimated that the veil of the Temple was as high as 30 feet and Jewish custom says that if it was wet it would take 300 men just to pull it—even two horses could not pull it.

The significance of this incredible event: again, in the Old Testament you would need a High Priest and then only once per year could the High Priest enter the Holies of Holies.

Because you and I are now God's Temple, the veil has been ripped from top to bottom allowing us 24/7 access to our High Priest Jesus Christ (Hebrews 4:14-16).

If this doesn't convince you of who you are in the Lord, think about this:

"The DNA in one cell in the human body holds the equivalent of roughly 800 books of information. A typical human body has about one hundred trillion cells, each of which has a DNA strand that could be uncoiled to about three meters in length. Thus, if the DNA in one adult human were strung together it would stretch from Earth to the Sun and back about 70 times."
– Josh MacDowell



AMAZING TRUTH

YOUR BODY IS THE TEMPLE OF GOD
(1 Corinthians 3:17-18, 1 Corinthians 6:17-20)

The History of the Temple

When King Solomon finished the first Temple, which took him seven years to build at a cost of about 300 million dollars, the Temple was eleven floors high, 1 million square feet, able to house up to 10,000 people and was divided into three parts:

1. **The Great or Outer Court:** This is where the general public could gather for worship.
2. **The Holy Place:** This is where the priest would offer sacrifices for sin on a daily basis.
3. **The Holies of Holies:** This is the place where the Ark of the Covenant was kept.

The Ark of the Covenant contained:

- Aaron (the first High Priest) and his blossoming rod
- The Golden Pot of Manna
- The 10 Commandments (Hebrews 9:4)

The High Priest would enter the Holies of Holies for the atonement of sin once per year. This was known as the Day of Atonement or Yom Kippur (the word atonement is mentioned about 130 times in the Old Testament, and it means substitute/forgiveness/to appease/to condone/ to reconcile).

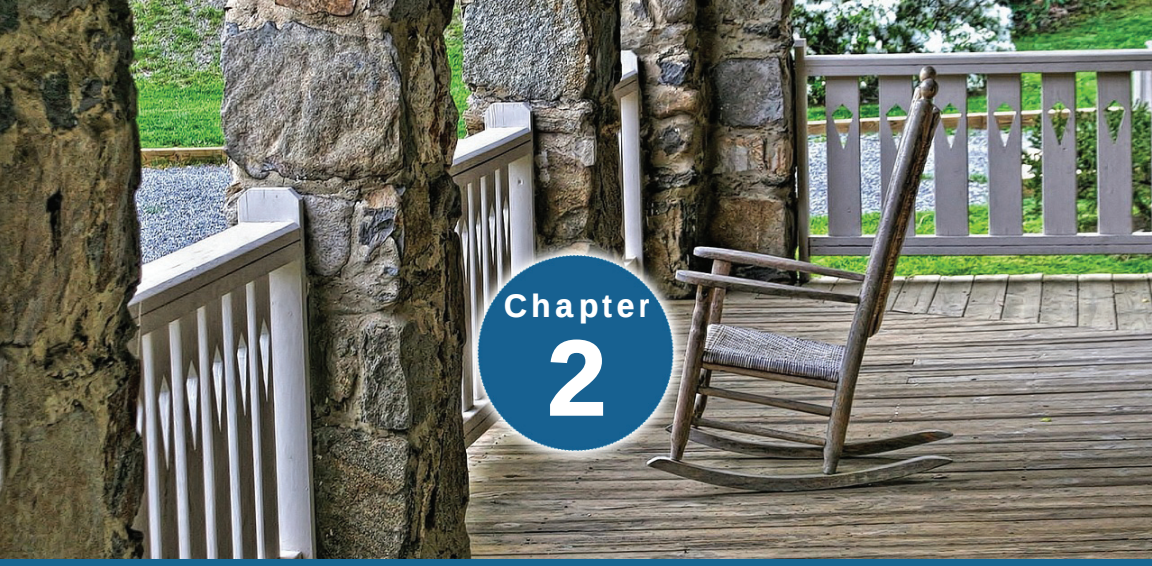
Two goats were brought to the High Priest on the day of Yom Kippur. The blood of the goat that was sacrificed would be sprinkled seven times on the Mercy Seat which was the top of the Ark of the Covenant.

The blood was then sprinkled seven times on the head of the live goat. This goat became known as the scapegoat (the number 'seven' in the Bible is mentioned hundreds of times and is the number of completion).

The Holies of Holies was a perfect cube that was 30 feet long, 30 feet wide, 30 feet high, and was overlaid with gold (1 Kings 6:19-20).

The New Jerusalem (Revelations 21) was also a perfect cube of 1400 miles or 2200 kilometers which equals 2 million square miles. Interestingly enough, it is also paved with gold.





UNDERSTANDING HOW IMPORTANT WE ARE TO THE LORD

Jesus Christ Himself prophesied that the brick and mortar Temple would be destroyed, and it was in 70 AD (Mark 13:1-2).

King Solomon, the wisest, richest man that ever lived, gives us some incredible, amazing principles on how we should live today as the TEMPLE OF GOD (Proverbs 3).

Proverbs 3 contains:

- 25 Commands
- 23 Blessings

- 10 Values of Happiness
- Words of Wisdom and Knowledge from God

The context is VERY IMPORTANT.

When Solomon wrote these words, which were directed by the Holy Spirit, the Jewish men of the day would place the Words of God in a pouch that they tied around their necks as they went to their daily prayer. Lesson to be learned: In other words, where their neck went God went.

THINK ABOUT THIS: Why would the Jewish men do this? Almighty God calls His Holy Word the apple of His eye. Apple means pupil. The pupil of the eye is what lets the light in.

"Here is the bottom line: your body is a temple and you have to treat it this way because that is how God has designed you."
– Ray Lewis

For I know the thoughts (purpose) that I think toward you, says the Lord. Thoughts of peace (shalom/happy, healthy, prosperity, friendly) and not of evil, and to give your future hope. When we do this, here is the promise of God: "then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me and I will listen to you" (Jeremiah 29:11-12).

As God's Temple, His biggest desire for us is to trust Him. I really encourage you to read and obey – Proverbs 3

Verses 1-2: 2 Commands, 3 Blessings
Commands:

1. Forget not God's Word (precept/statute). Read John 15:7.
2. Keep (preserve) my Commandments.

Blessings:

1. Length of Days (life worth living)
2. Long Life
3. Peace (shalom/harmony/tranquility/ prosperity)

Verses 3-4: 3 Commands, 2 Blessings
Commands:

1. Let not mercy and truth leave you (loving kindness).
2. Bind (tie) around your neck (Proverbs 6:21, Proverbs 7:1-3).
3. Write them on your heart; only the Holy Spirit can do this (Colossians 3:1-17).

Blessings:

1. Find favour with God.
2. Good understanding with God and Man

Verses 5 to 6: 3 Commands, 1 Blessing
Commands:

1. Trust in the Lord (confide/secure). Read Psalm 56 – Prayer of Trust.
2. Lean (rest) not on yourself.
3. In all your ways—not just some of your ways—acknowledge God (which means to declare/be diligent).

Blessing:

1. He will direct (to make right/prosperous/straight) your paths.

Verses 7 to 8: 3 Commands, 2 Blessings.
Commands:

1. Do not be wise (skillful or artful) in your own eyes.
2. Fear the Lord (to revere or to reverence).
3. Depart from evil (to put away or turn away).

Blessings:

1. Health to your navel (the navel is a symbol of nourishment, like that of the Mother to the unborn child).
2. Marrow to your bones (marrow keeps the bones moist and contains stem cells that carry oxygen to your body).

Verses 9-10: 2 Commands, 2 Blessings.
Commands:

1. Honour the Lord with your substance (this is a reference to material giving).
2. First fruits (the first part of any increase).

Blessings:

1. Your barns will be full (keep in mind that agriculture was the main industry of Solomon's day).
2. Production of wine will increase (in the days of Solomon, wine was a symbol of blessing and intimate love (Song of Solomon 1:2 "But love is better than wine"). Wine is used both in the positive and negative context.

Verses 11 to 12: 2 Commands, 1 Blessing
Commands:

1. Despise not God's chastening (do not shrink from God's instruction or discipline because He loves you (Job 5:17, Hebrews 12:56)).
2. Do not become weary (anxious or distressed) of His correction (reasoning, rebuke).

Blessing:

1. Correction from the Lord is a blessing because, again, He loves us as parents love their children.

Verses 13 to 18:
Seek true happiness because this is the way God intended us to live (Proverbs 8:35, Proverbs 16:20, 3 John verse 2).

Happy is the man or woman who:

- Finds wisdom
- Finds understanding
- Why?

- Wisdom and understand are better than:
  - Silver
  - Rubies
  - Gold
  - Any other thing
- Six blessings of wisdom and understanding:
  1. Length of days
  2. Riches and honour
  3. Pleasantness
  4. Peace
  5. Tree of Life (Eternal Life)
  6. Happiness

Verses 19-20:
Wisdom is the key to life when it is anchored in the Lord.

King Solomon requested wisdom more than anything else and God gave it to Him (1 Kings 3:1-15). The Lord gives us the same opportunity with the same question asked for wisdom (James 1:5-8).

Verses 21-24: 2 Commands, 6 Blessings of Security
Commands:

1. Do not depart from sound wisdom.
2. Keep discretion (intent and a plan) (Proverbs 1:4, 2:11, 5:2).

Blessings:

1. Life unto your soul.
2. Grace to your neck.

3. Walk in safety.
4. Shall not stumble.
5. Shall not be afraid to lie down.
6. Sleep will be sweet.

Verses 25-26: 2 Commands, 2 Blessings
Commands:

1. Do not be fearful.
2. Do not worry (worry is a sin—trusting God is the antidote to fear and worry) (Matthew 6:24-34).

Blessings:

1. The Lord is our confidence (hope).
2. The Lord will keep you (to watch over you).

Verses 27-35: 6 Commands, 4 Blessings
Commands:

1. Do not withhold from others if you can pay now.
2. Do not say no to a neighbour if you can help.
3. Do not contrive anything evil against anyone.
4. Do not strive (grapple or defend against another person without cause (Romans 12:18)).
5. Do not be envious (jealous) of others.
6. Amplified Bible: “The person who has departed from the Lord is detestable to the Lord, because God cannot tolerate sin, but His secret council is with those who follow Him. But remember, God is a God of love

and is always willing to forgive and will forgive our sins and cast them away as far as the East is from the West and never to be remembered again."

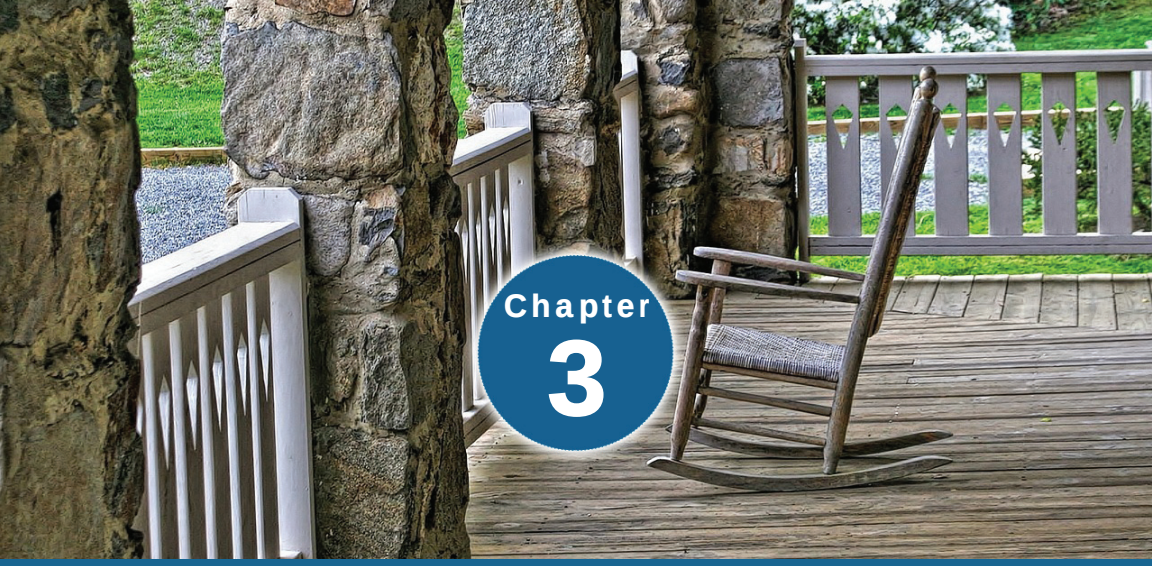
Read Psalm 25: A prayer for guidance and protection. Key verse: 14:4

Blessings:

1. God blesses the home of the just.
2. God gives grace to the lowly (James 4:6, 1 Peter 5:5).
3. The wise shall inherit glory.
4. His secrets are with the righteous.

These are an incredible group of commands and blessings that are given to us especially when we understand that our bodies are the temple of the Living God.





HOW THEN SHALL WE LIVE TODAY?

2020 has been declared the year of the Bible. This was a move supported by Pope Francis, Ravi Zacharias, Franklin Graham and over 20,000 churches in more than 100 countries.

The Bible is by far the world's bestseller. Over four billion copies have been sold, and it continues to be the Number 1 bestseller with approximately 100 MILLION sold ever year (The New Yorker). The Bible will change your life if you read it and obey it (1 Peter 1:23).

Why Does God Allow Bad Things to Happen to Good People?

As hard as it is to acknowledge, we must remember that there are no good people in the absolute sense of the word.

All of us are tainted by and infected with sin (Ecclesiastes 7:20, Romans 3:23, 1 John 1:8). As Jesus said, no one is good except God alone. All of us feel the effects of sin in one way or another. Sometimes it is our own personal sin, and other times it is the sin of others. We live in a fallen world, and we expect the effects of the fall. One of those effects is injustice and seemingly senseless suffering.

The Bible Clearly Identifies This Question and Gives Answers in 3 Ways:

1. **The Problem**
2. **The Promise**
3. **The Provision**

I call this God's University of Adversity. If we obey this teaching, we can graduate with a PHD.

"Behold, I will do something new, now it will spring forth; will you not be aware of it? I will even make a roadway in the wilderness, rivers in the desert."
– Isaiah 43:19

Without God, there are no roads in the wilderness. Without God there are no rivers in the desert.

The Problem

Why do we have problems and where do they come from?

1. Problems, for mankind, began with the disobedience of Adam and Eve in the garden and it is called SIN (Genesis 2).
2. God gave Adam and Eve five commands to follow:
    - Be Fruitful (Genesis 1:28)
    - Replenish (Genesis 1:28)
    - Exercise a Dominion (Genesis 1:28, Genesis 2:15)
    - Refrain from eating the fruit from the Tree of Good and Evil (Genesis 2:17)
    - Multiply (Genesis 1:28)
3. When Adam and Eve sinned, because God is a HOLY, SOVEREIGN, OMNIPRESENT GOD - which means He, as the Creator, has the right to do anything—He chose what He did because He cannot tolerate sin.
4. The sin of Adam and Eve introduced three major types of disobedience, and mankind is involved in these sins today:
    - Lust of the flesh
    - Lust of the eyes
    - Pride of life (Genesis 3:6, 1 John 2:15-17)

Quotes on Trials and Tribulations

"Trials teach us who we are. They dig up the soil and let us see what we are made of."
– Charles Spurgeon

"True faith is not going to get you out of a hard place, but to change your heart out of a hard place."
– David Wilkinson

"The Bible was not given for our information but for our transformation."
– Dwight L. Moody

"God does not expect the impossible from us. God wants us to expect the impossible from Him."
– Dwight L. Moody

"We all face storms in life. Some are more difficult than others, but we all go through trials and tribulations. That is why God gives us the gift of faith."
– Joyce Meyer

The Promise

The Vital Importance of a Biblical World view:

**"A world view is the most important thing that we know about a man or a woman."
– Richard Weaver**

**"A Biblical world view approach to life and learning has never been more needed than in today's Pluralistic/Postmodern culture. Christians today face hostility to their faith from one side and apathy from anything of importance on the other side. Sadly, the casualties are high."
– Chuck Edwards**

Part of God's promise is that in the world today we will have trials and tribulations (John 16:33, 2 Timothy 3:12, John 15:20, Psalms 34:17-19).

**"The Lord will test the righteous. The greater the test, the greater the calling of God on your life."
– Ravi Zacharias**

The Provision

Very important. The only way a person can experience the provision of God is to have a personal relationship with God. This opportunity is simply to accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior for the forgiveness of sins and life everlasting (John 3:14-21).

God's Way of Provision for Handling a Problem

James 1:2-8: This is a life-changing provision experience. Trust me, I know. This provision includes trials of all kinds, whether it be:

- Financial
- Business
- Health
- Marriage
- Family
- Personal

Verse 1:

James 1:2-8: **Strong Recommendation** – Read out loud as often as necessary as a prayer to the Lord.

How to Profit From Trials or How Shall We Then Live?

Verse 2:

COUNT (to lead the way/to have rule over/to be chief)
The Jewish-culture believer believed that the more trials you have the closer you are to God. Paul, in 2 Timothy 3:12, teaches that trials are part of a godly life.

JOY (Calm delight/cheerfulness/exceeding gladness)
The joy with which we endure trials in the present is a signal of hope for future relief.

FALL INTO (to fall into something that surrounds you/to light upon you)
Like the story of the Good Samaritan, you may not even have caused the trial. Read the Good Samaritan story (Luke 10:25-37). Remember, Jesus taught that the two greatest commandments were:

1. To love God with all of your heart/soul/mind. Remember your body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit who lives within you (1 Corinthians 3:16-17, 6:18-20).
2. To love (agape) others as you love yourself.

DIVERS (various in character)

TEMPTATIONS (adversity, trials with a beneficial purpose and effect)
The Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of trials and temptation (2 Peter 2:7-9). The Lord knows (which means to understand/divine knowledge, see Matthew 6:8).

Verse 3:
KNOWING THIS (to understand/to realize)

THE TRYING OF YOURSELF (trying means to test)

What is faith? "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). How important is faith? "Without faith it is impossible (impotent) to please God but He rewards those who diligently seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6). Faith is a gift that God gives us, but we have to use it to make it grow (Romans 12:3).

PATIENCE (abiding under)
Patience perfects the Christian character, so let patience have her perfect work. Patience is the ability to persevere through increasing levels of trials.

Verse 4:
PERFECT WORK

"But let endurance and steadfastness and patience have full play, and do a thorough work, so that you may be perfectly and fully developed lacking in nothing."
– The Amplified Bible

WANTING NOTHING – Jesus promised in Matthew 6:24-34 where He tells us to put God's Kingdom first and all will be given to us.

"Worry is a sin and can produce anxiety/fear/ disease and even mental illness."
– The Dake Annotated Reference Bible

"What happens when you worry? Your mind and body go into overdrive as you constantly focus on WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN."
– Web MD

Verse 5:
WISDOM/IF
There are about 1600 "ifs" in the Bible and the word usually means that someone has to make a decision. God asked King Solomon what he wanted, and Solomon's answer was found in 1 Kings 3:3-15:

"Lord, give your servant an understanding mind."

God asks us the same question with a promise and instructions:

- We are to ask (which means call up or to do something).
- Giveth: Giveth is a present participle which means continual or repeated action with no indication of timing. In other words, it's up to God.
- Liberally (unconditional supply)

Verse 6:

FAITH

Faith is our choice because if we do not ask in faith we are like a wave in the sea.

"Ask" is a present imperative which means a command to do something, including continuous or repeated action.

Matthew 7:7-8 tells us to keep on asking, keep on seeking and keep on knocking.

Verse 7:

If we do not follow the principles of verses 2-6, we will receive nothing from the Lord. WHY?

Verse 8:

Because we are double-minded (two-spirited), vacillating in our original purpose, and we are unstable (restless in our ways) (James 4:1-10). Loving the world means hating God.

Here is a checklist of qualities in your life that will assist you in assessing whether you are obeying and trusting in the Lord, especially through trials:

Positive	Negative
Courage	Pride
Boldness	Arrogance
Patience	Self-centeredness
Steadfastness	Self-righteousness
Perseverance	Temper
Humility	Controlling Spirit
Self-control	Know-it-all
A Caring Heart	Discouragement
Compassion	Gossip
Increased Faith	Blaming Others/Not Forgiving

When you are hanging by a thread, make sure it is the hem of His garment.

Remember, as the Temple of God, the Lord calls you to such things as:

- A Holy Priesthood
- A Chosen Generation
- A Holy Nation
- A Peculiar People (the meaning of peculiar is acquisition or possession)

Our response to this is to PRAISE THE LORD (1 Peter 2:1-11).

The Good Samaritan Story (Luke 10:25-37)

In Luke 10, a lawyer asked Jesus a question and He answered the question with a question (v. 26). Verses 27-29 tell us the story of a man travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho. This pathway of about 18 miles was known as "the bloody way." Jericho was home to about 12,000 priests and was a beautiful city filled with palm trees.

Jesus answers the question with a parable (verses 30-37).

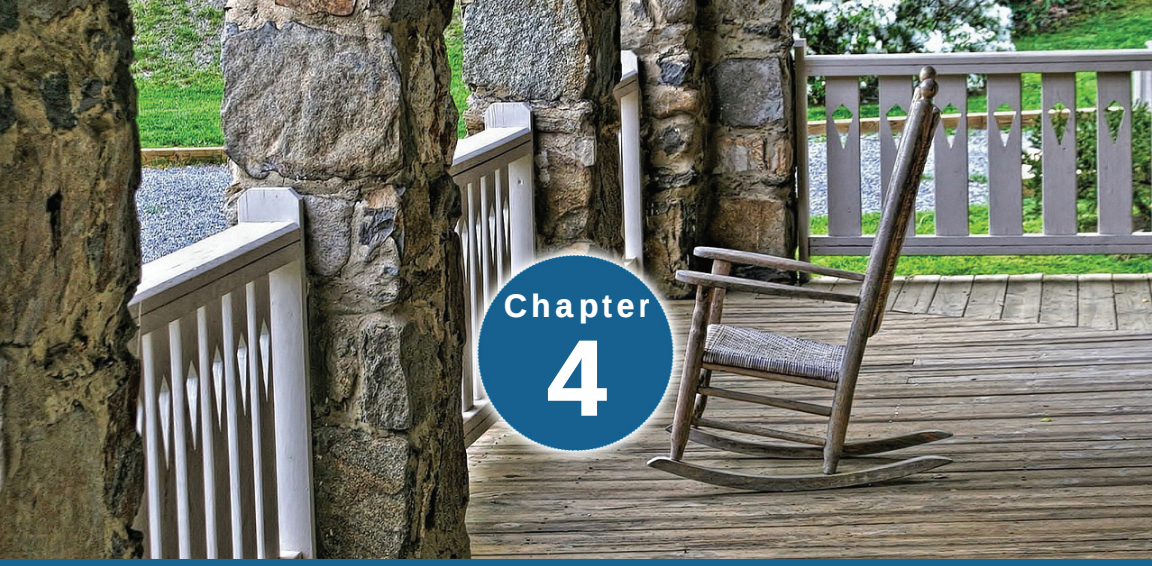
The Samaritans were a blend of all kinds of mixed races and the Jewish people of the day had very little respect for them.

When the man fell amongst thieves three types of people passed by:

1. A priest, whose main occupation was to offer sacrifices, and he had no compassion for the wounded man.
2. A Levite: Levites were descendants of Levi. They kept a distinct separation from the other eleven tribes, so he obviously had little compassion.
3. The Good Samaritan: The Good Samaritan shows us eight acts of mercy and compassion that we should show to others even if we disagree with them. Eight is a number of new beginnings in the Bible:
    1. Had compassion
    2. Bound up his wounds
    3. Poured in oil
    4. Poured in wine
    5. Set him on his own beast
    6. Brought him to an inn
    7. Took care of him
    8. Offered to pay for his care if anything more was needed

Jesus then sums up the parable by saying, “Go and do (likewise).” This is known as a present imperative which means a continuous or repeated action. As the Temple of God, this is how Jesus Christ instructed us to live.





PESTILENCE, PLAGUES, AND GLOBAL PANDEMICS

What does the Bible teach us about pestilence, plagues and global pandemics?

"While not every use of the words pestilence and plagues in the Bible refers to a terrible infectious disease, many of the references do. Throughout the Bible, we see repeated examples of God using diseases to accomplish His divine and sovereign purposes. There are also biblical prophecies that warn us that God intends to use terrible, infectious diseases to accomplish His divine and sovereign purposes in the future."
– Joel C. Rosenberg,
Founder and Chairman of the Joshua Fund

What are God's sovereign purposes for using such terrible diseases?

- Executing divine judgment on an individual, a nation, or many nations for chronic, unrepented sin.
- Warning other individuals and nations that they, too, could face divine judgment for chronic, unrepented sin.
- Saving an individual, nation, or many nations so that they will wake up from spiritual slumber or rebellion, repent of their sins, and turn in faith to a holy, personal, Biblical, healthy relation to God. Repeatedly in the Bible, God explains that in His mercy He will shake individuals and nations in a desire to get our attention and draw us to Him.

Conclusion

"Plagues are a way that God seeks to get our attention about our finite mortality as well as how we are giving attention to God," notes Dr. Darrell Bock, Theologian and Professor at Dallas Theological Seminary. They are an opportunity for reflection about how we live and a reminder we are not gods ourselves.

"The pandemic has humbled the world, but for the societies founded on Biblical traditions, pandemics need not make for the end. Great struggles can produce creative opportunities."
– Wall Street Journal, March 2020

(The Wall Street Journal also reported it was time for repentance and revival.)

Consider this: Dr. Mike Evans, an author and founder of the Jerusalem Prayer Team, said that David Wilkinson shared this prophecy with him during a meeting in 1986:

"I see a plague coming on the world, and the bars, churches and government will be shut down. The plague will hit New York City and shake it like it has never been shaken. The plague is going to force prayerless believers into radical prayer and into their Bibles, and repentance will be the cry from the man of God in the pulpit. Out of this will come a third GREAT Awakening that will sweep America and the world."

You can find more information by searching online for "Joel C. Rosenburg."

Quotes on Prayer

The most powerful prayer is to pray God's word because God's word will not be returned void.

Prayer is the means of sustaining your faith, which sometimes can grow weak.

"Prayer is powerful, it can heal. Prayer can give and can change lives."
– Pope Francis

"Prayer helps us find strength for today and hope for tomorrow."
– C. S. Lewis

"Prayer lays hold of God's plan for our lives."
– Elizabeth Elliot

"When you are down in the dark, listen and God will give you a very precious message."
– Oswald Chambers.

"In prayer worship, God implants Himself into us."
– C. S. Lewis

"When I wake up in the morning, I have work/work/work to do. So much work that I have to spend the first three hours in prayer."
– Martin Luther

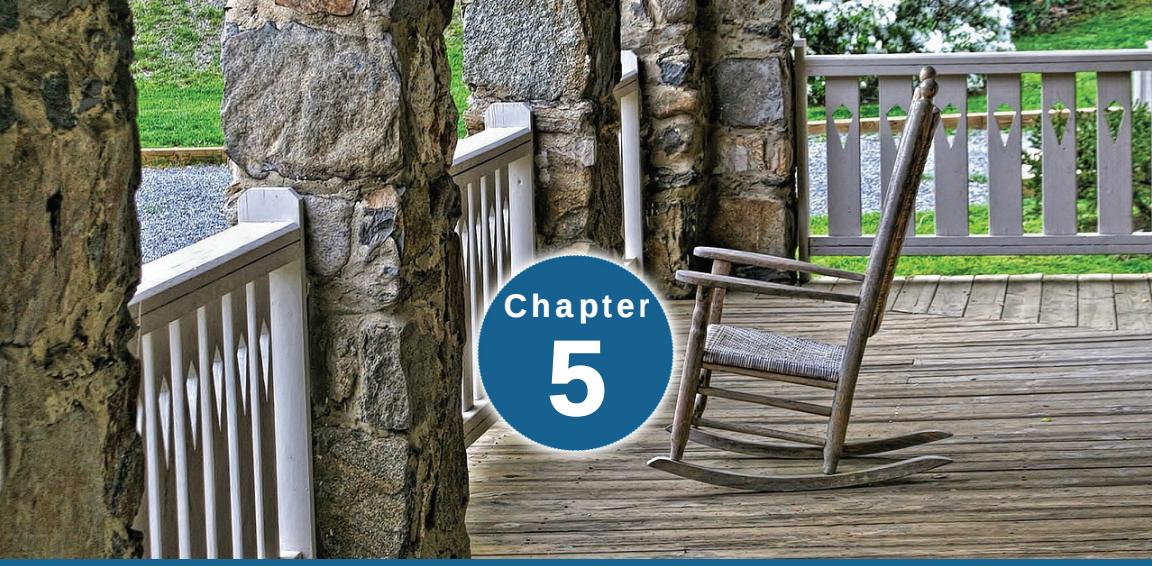
"To get nations and people back on their feet, we need to get them on their knees first."
– Billy Graham.

"I do not believe that one can earnestly seek and find the priceless treasures of God's Word and His calling on your life without an effective prayer life."
– Ravi Zacharias

Nothing is impossible when God is on your side – help is found in God's Word:

- Hope (Psalm 42:5)
- Waiting (Psalm 27:14)
- Anxiety (1 Peter 5:7)
- Courage (Deuteronomy 31:6)
- Peace (John 14:27)
- Helplessness (Psalm 34:17)
- Anger (Ephesians 4:26-27)
- Forgiveness (1 John 1:5-10, Matthew 6:14-15)
- Hurt (Psalm 147:3)
- Weariness (Matthew 7:28)
- Strength (Philippians 4:13)
- Fear (Joshua 1:9)





IT IS A TIME FOR SPIRITUAL FITNESS, PRAYER, AND THE POWER OF HOPE

Hope for believers is not an illusion. It is the assurance that good things are going to happen based upon the promises in God's Word. If your marriage is failing, if your business or finances are sinking, if your children are in trouble, if your health is at risk, there is hope in the LIVING GOD.

Take Time to Prepare for Prayer

Jesus is taking time today to prepare a place for us (John 14:1-3). Preparation for prayer is very important for God to hear our prayers.

Here are 8 important prayer principles:

1. Repent of all known sin (1 John 1:5-10). (there are 5 “ifs” here. If means our choice.)
2. God cannot hear us if we do not repent of sin (Psalm 66:18-20).
3. Forgive others otherwise God cannot forgive us (Matthew 7:14-15).
4. Do not worry. Worry is a sin (Matthew 6:24-34).
5. Like Solomon, ask God for wisdom (James 1:5-6), but ask in faith (Hebrews 11:6).
6. You have not because you ask not. Keep on asking (Matthew 7:7-8, John 15:7).
7. Always address your prayer to the Father (Matthew 6:9-15). Ask everything in the name of Jesus (John 14:13-14). Remember the Holy Spirit intercedes for us (the meaning of intercession is to meet with, to make a petition (Romans 8:25-28)).
8. For husbands only: Dwell with your wife with understanding and honour because if you do not, your prayers will be hindered (cut off) (1 Peter 3:7). Remember, your wife was created to be your helpmate which means DIVINE AID (Genesis 2:18).

The Holy Spirit intercedes for us to Jesus Christ who then intercedes for us to the Father (Romans 8:34, Hebrews 7:25). Remember to please, and not grieve, the Holy Spirit because you are the Temple of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:28-32).

Final Thoughts

1. God dwells in the praises of His people (Psalms 22:3).
2. David Wilkinson said, “The blood of Jesus Christ is the most powerful force in the universe.”
3. Apply the precious blood of Jesus to your prayer requests.
4. Consider taking communion as often as possible but, like prayer, take time to prepare (1 Corinthians 11:17-34).
5. Waiting for God is not laziness.
6. Waiting for God is not the abandonment of effort.
7. Waiting for God means activity under command.
8. Waiting means readiness for any new command that may come.
9. Waiting is the ability to do nothing till the command is given. If the eagles can do it so can we (Isaiah 40:31).

Learning to Wait on the Lord

We will not survive spiritually if we do not learn to wait (Psalm 130:5-6). WAIT WITH PATIENCE.

WAIT IN PRAYER. “Out of the depths, I have cried to you Lord. Lord hear my voice.” (Psalm 130:1-2)

WAIT ON PURPOSE. "My soul waits silently for God, alone. He is my rock and my salvation. He is my defence; I will not be shaken." (Psalm 62:5-6)

"This is what God is saying to us today: I am leading you step by step, through your life. Hold my hand in trust and dependence, letting me guide you through the day. Your future may look uncertain and feel flimsy, even precarious. This is how it should be. Secret things belong to the Lord and future things are secret things. When you try to figure out the future, you are grasping things that are mine. This, like other forms of worry, is an act of rebellion, doubting my promise to care for you.
I love you very much,
signed Jesus."

Stand In Faith Even When You Are Having the Hardest Time of Your Life

Isaiah 40:31: The prophet Isaiah gives us a great example of waiting:

"But those who wait on the Lord, shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings like eagles. They shall run and not be weary. They shall walk and not faint."

There are many amazing facts about eagles but here are just a few:

- They mate for life.
- They return to the same nest year after year.
- When it comes time for their children to leave the nest, they mount their children on their wings and then fly into the air and flip them off. If the youngsters can't fly, they catch them and take them back to the nest and try it again in a few days.
- Eagles have been known to fly as fast as over a hundred kilometers per hour and if there is a storm they fly into the storm and use the currents of air to accomplish their goals.

That's what makes this verse so motivating for us in our lives.



This is Amazing God Reveals to us how we are to react to a pandemic:

- Solomon's Temple Prayer
  (2 Chronicles 6:12-42)

- Verses 1 to 3 – God promises Solomon a place to worship.
- Verses 4-11 – Solomon blessed the people.

What is the power of the spiritual blessing? A Biblical blessing is a statement which involves the blessing of God upon the life of another person (Numbers 6:24-26).

Solomon's Temple Prayer

Solomon the King knelt down with arms lifted up to heaven in front of all his people. It is important to remember that when God asked Solomon what he wanted; **Solomon responded by asking for wisdom** (1 Kings 3:3-13). God has extended the same offer to us (James 1:5-6).

Solomon prayed for 12 things:

1. God's faithfulness – verses 14-16
2. God's continuous faithfulness – verses 16-17
3. God's omnipresence – verse 18
4. Plea for answer to prayer – verses 19-21
5. Plea for just judgement – verses 22-23
6. Plea for forgiveness of sin – verses 24-25
7. Forgiveness and rain from heaven – verses 26-27
8. Plea for God's help in a time of pestilence/ war and sickness – verses 28-31
9. Blessings on Gentiles who are seeking God – verses 22-23
10. Plea for God's help in war even if no sin had been committed – verses 34-35

11. Plea for help in war when sin had been committed – verses 36-39
12. Plea for God's continued presence and blessing – verses 40-42

2 Chronicles 7:1-11 – Result of Solomon's prayers: Divine acceptance and God's Glory entered the Temple.

2 Chronicles 7:12-22 – God appeared to Solomon a second time, 20 years after the dedication of the Temple (2 Chronicles 8:1).

2 Chronicles 7:13-15 – God obviously knew the people would not be obedient after Solomon's dedication prayer. This is God speaking to us today: In verse 13, God says "if" three times, which means it is His choice. There are 1,522 instances of the word "if" in the Bible.

- "If I stop the rain…"
- "If I command locust to devour the land…"
- "If I send pestilence…"

Today, there are billions of locusts destroying the food supply in parts of Africa and East Asia. Pestilence is a contagious, infectious disease greatly affecting us today in the form of COVID-19.

Verse 14 – To me, this is one of the most incredible verses in the Bible because it is directed to us today. "If [our choice] my people who are called by name will do four things….":

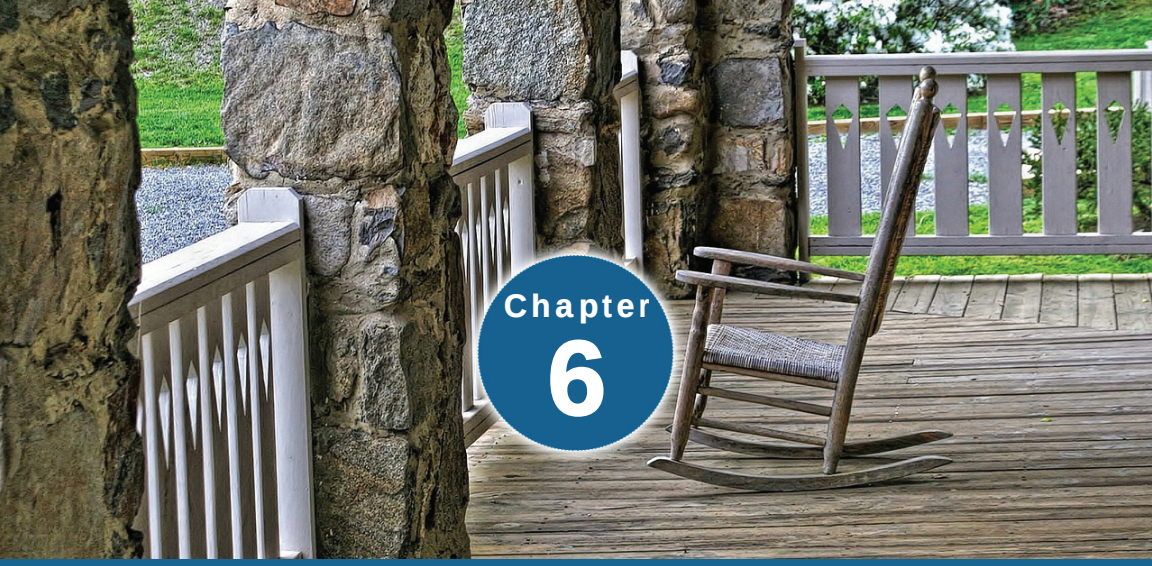
1. Humble themselves which means to bend the knee. It is used in 2 Chronicles 34:27. Spurgeon said voluntary humbleness is what God is looking for (that's what Solomon did).

2. Pray. Pray means to make supplication, to ask for. There are at least 12 preparation steps for prayer in order for God to even hear our prayer (details to follow). Two of the most important are repentance (1 John 1:5-10 (5 "ifs" in that chapter)) and forgiving others (Matthew 6:14-15).
3. Seek my face. Seek me to search out, to worship or to request (Psalm 80:7,19).
4. Turn from your wicked ways. Turn means return to the starting point or to relinquish. Solomon used the word turn three times in his prayer (2 Chronicles 6:26,37,42).

If We Do These 3 Things, Here is God's Promise to Us:

1. I will hear you from Heaven. (*Hear* means attention.)
2. I will forgive your sin as far as the East is from the West (Psalm 103:12).
3. Heal our land which means to mend like a physician, to repair thoroughly, DIVINE INTERVENTION. The word heal is also used in Isaiah 53:5 in the context of our salvation.





WE LEARN FROM HISTORY THAT EVERYTHING NEEDS A SOLID FOUNDATION

"Who will save us now that the monster COVID-19 has broken free? The pandemic has humbled the country and the world and has opened up millions of eyes to this risky universe once more."
– The Wall Street Journal

For societies founded on Biblical traditions, pandemics need not make for the end. This is a call for repentance and revival. Great struggles can produce great clarity.

In the Old Testament, it would seem that men of Spiritual resources may not only redeem catastrophe but turn the moment into a great creative opportunity.

We have now completed seven weeks of podcasts on what the world's bestseller, the Bible, has to say about pandemics or pestilence. We talk a lot about what the Bible has to say and how we should live, and in lesson 6 and 7 two words dominate:

1. Faith
2. Prayer

So, the question becomes, why?

I think we all realize that it is a privilege to live either in Canada or the USA. Let me share a bit of the Biblical foundation of both countries.

United States of America: April 30, 1789, was when George Washington became the first president. When the big day came, he called for prayer and when he placed his hand on the Bible, he added the words SO HELP ME GOD, which are now used around the world.

Later that year, he introduced Thanksgiving Day as a day of prayer.

The foundation of the USA later became even stronger. After being sworn in as president, George Washington invited all of Congress to walk with him to Trinity Church, now known as St. Paul's Church, for a two-hour prayer and worship service.

As Paul Harvey used to say, "now for the rest of the story:" St Paul's Church is located at ground zero in New York. After 9/11, the only building not completely

destroyed or damaged was St. Paul's Church where not even a window was broken.

So, you might ask why? The Church is surrounded by sycamore trees which apparently protected it from the damage. Sycamore trees are mentioned several times in the Bible, and they have a meaning of strength and protection. Now get this, on September 12, 2000, the Senate Majority Leader read from Isaiah 9:10.

One more fact: James Madison who wrote the US Constitution, included Isaiah 33:22 which states the three branches of the US government, which is known as a republic:

1. Courts
2. Congress
3. President

GOD BLESS CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Canada is a democracy which was formed under the British parliamentary system. The party that receives the most members of parliament forms the government. But, like the USA, the Fathers of Confederation chose at least six Bible verses as part of the foundation for the Constitution. **The most famous verse is PSALM 72:8.**

Psalm 72:8 is embedded above the main entrance to the parliament buildings in Ottawa and is also in the Coat of Arms.

Sir Leonard Tilly, one of our Founding Fathers, chose this verse because he liked the word "dominion," which means to reign. Canada's birthday used to be called Dominion Day.

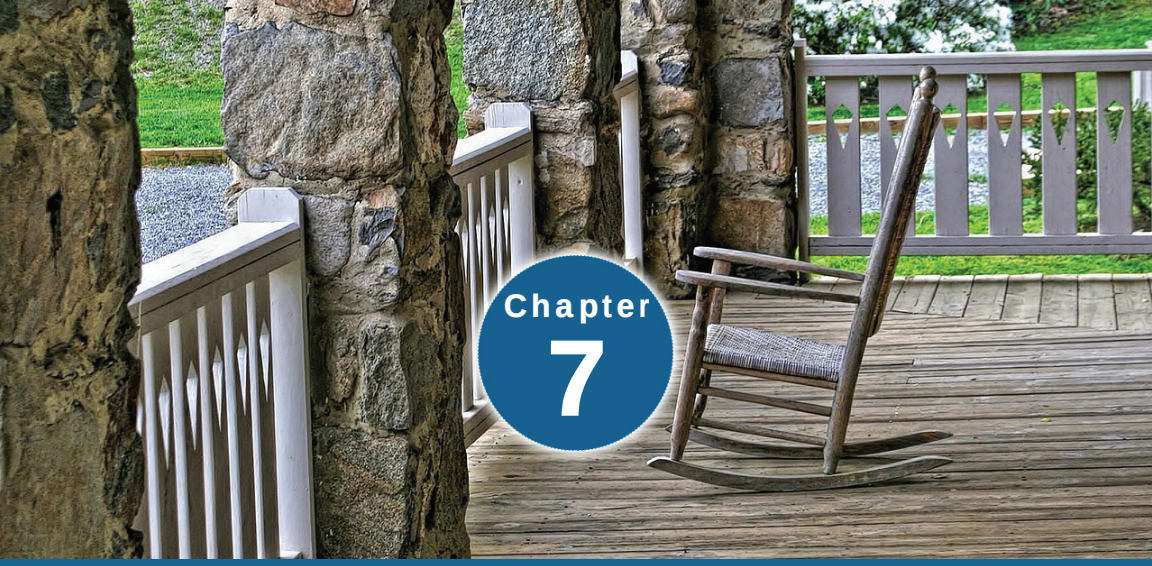
Sir John A. MacDonald, Canada's first Prime Minister, quoted the Bible in his acceptance speech. Other Bible verses embedded in different places in the parliament buildings are:

1. Psalm 72:1
2. Proverbs 29:18
3. Jeremiah 23:5
4. Psalm 139:8-10
5. Ephesians 6:13 – Incredible!

GOD BLESS CANADA.

CLOSING THOUGHT: Remember, we all have the right to choose and also the right not to choose. But remember we will all receive the consequences of our choices.





GOD HAS AN APPROVED VACCINE!

Did you know that God has a approved vaccine for COVID-19 and every other issue? God wants us to know how to apply the vaccine.

Do you have a desire to please Almighty God?

"A little faith will bring your soul to heaven; a great faith will bring heaven to your soul."
– Charles Spurgeon

"Have your heart right with Christ and He will visit you often."
– Charles Spurgeon

"Faith is the refusal to panic."
– Dr. Martyn Lloyd Jones

"There is hope for those who will hold firm to their faith in times of calamity."
– John Piper

"Faith without works is dead."
– James 2:14-26

How to Obtain Faith

- Faith is a gift given at your time of conversion as is Grace (Romans 12:3). We are given a measure, which is a limited portion. It can be as small as a mustard seed (Matt 17:20).
- How important is faith to God? Without faith it is impossible (impotent) to even please God (Hebrews 11:6).
- How does our faith increase? We must exercise our faith. Read the story of the centurion's servant in Matthew 8:5-13.

- Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God (rhema - revealed) Romans 10:17.

The Challenge of Change – *And We Cannot Dismiss Change*, by Peter Daniels

- Recognize that God is the provider and stabilizer in change.
- Keep Your Mind on the things you want and also on the things that you do not want.
- Be nice to people.
- Be patient.
- Give God the glory.
- Do not let your mind be determined by failure. Failure can be the stepping-stones to success.

Behaviour Follows Belief System: Story of George Müller, a Man of Faith

- He fed over 10,000 orphans.
- He began at a time when England could only look after 3600 orphans.
- Fifty years after his death, England was caring for over 100,000 orphans.

The Müller Story

- Built five large orphan houses.
- Never asked anybody but God for money and millions came in.

- Müller never took a salary.
- Never took a loan and was never in debt.
- No-one ever went hungry.
- Travelled to 42 different countries preaching the message of faith.
- The night before he died at 92, he led a prayer meeting.
- On the day of his funeral, tens of thousands of people lined the street.

Faith Quotes from George Müller

"God's way always leads to trials."

"When God places a burden on your heart, He also places His loving arms around and under you."

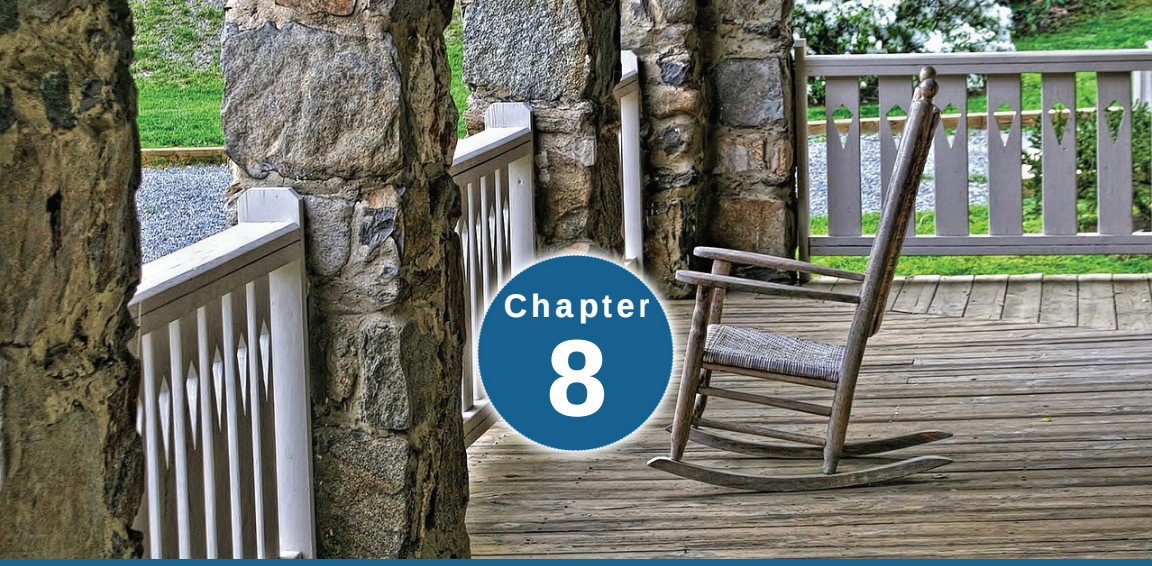
"The beginning of anxiety is the end of faith. The beginning of faith is the end of anxiety. Be happy in the Lord."

Kingdom Dynamics, by Michael R. Ellison

- Thy Kingdom Come, For Thine is the Kingdom, Power, and Glory Forever. There is a God-Kingdom on the Earth.

- There is a King of the Kingdom and that is Christ the King.
- If there is a King, there are servants of the King. Servanthood-leadership is developing interpersonal relationships and teamwork for the benefit of all and advancing the Kingdom.
- If there is a Kingdom and King, then all resources are owned by the King. He has unlimited resources in the infinite and finite world.
- Promise of the King – Seek first the Kingdom of God and all these things will be added unto you (Matthew 6:24-34).





HABAKKUK WAS A SPOKESMAN FOR GOD

Like Job, Habakkuk not only speaks about trouble, they lived through it. Habakkuk was a spokesman for God. The Holy Spirit instructed him to write about the trials he experienced in a vision in Habakkuk 2:1-4. Included in the vision is the word ‘salvation’ in Habakkuk 3:18. ‘Salvation’ is the Hebrew word from which the name of Jesus is derived in Matthew 1:23 – IMMANUEL (IMMANUEL means God with us, a name of Jesus Christ). It’s prophesied in Isaiah 7:14 and Isaiah 8:8. The Lord answered Habakkuk’s prayer as He answers us (Habakkuk 2:1-4).

More on the vital importance of faith: The book of Habakkuk is the most well preserved of the Old Testament dead sea scrolls. Habakkuk 2:1-4 is only one of two verses in the Old Testament that actually uses the word faith. The other one is in Deuteronomy 32:20. However, in the New Testament, many Old Testament figures like Noah/Abraham/Sarah are mentioned as people of faith (Hebrews 11). Faith is mentioned 232 times in the New Testament.

Now, this is really important: Habakkuk 2:4, "The just shall live by faith" is quoted three times in the New Testament
(Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11, Hebrews 10:37-39).

Habakkuk was living in a day very similar to ours, including a pandemic.

Chuck Smith on Habakkuk Days:

- It seemed everything was going wrong.
- Evil was triumphing over good.
- The judicial system had broken down.
- The courts had become a mockery.
- The guilty were not being punished.
- Prisoners were being released to continue their crimes.
- Respect had been lost for the law.
- Violence increased.

Habakkuk was very frustrated because he believed God was not answering his prayers. But GOD DID answer (Habakkuk 2:1).

Habakkuk was prepared to wait for God to answer. Like the eagle we also should be prepared to wait (Isaiah 40:31).



Here's What God Told Habakkuk

1. Write the vision. Five instructions on the importance of having a vision:
    - Write it down – God did.
    - Make it clear and plain – God did.
    - God is in control of our vision, but like God, we need an appointed timeline.
    - Your vision may take a while but wait for it – God did.
    - God will not fail you.
2. The just shall (not might, not maybe) live by faith. Paul quotes this principle in three verses:

- Romans 1:17 – God's righteousness is revealed by faith
- Galatians 3:11 – No-one is justified by law but by faith only
- Hebrews 10:37-39 – Without faith we draw back from God

3. Habakkuk 2:5-20: Despite the sins of man—the Lord still desires the earth to be filled with his glory (verse 14).
4. The Lord is in his Holy Temple. Let the earth be silenced (to hold our peace – to be careful with our words verse 20). God desires that our body (His Temple) be filled with his GLORY.
5. GOD will not fail you.
6. Without a vision the people will perish (Proverbs 29:18).

What Was Habakkuk's Response?

Habakkuk 3:1-16 – Habakkuk's prayer for revival – even when there was a pandemic (verse 5).

Habakkuk 3:17-19 – The just shall live by faith. Even though things may not be improved, Habakkuk was prepared to accept three instructions from the Lord:

1. Rest in the Lord
2. Stand still/wait
3. Fret not thyself

"May God lift our vision above our circumstances, that we might look upon Him, the Master of circumstances. He has infinite resources, more than sufficient to meet our needs."
– Chuck Smith

A Major Theme of Habakkuk is: Attempting to grow from a faith of perplexity and doubt to the height of absolute trust in God. This is what Daniel had to do in Daniel 8:15-19.

Eleven Reasons Why It's So Important to Have a Vision

What a Written Vision Can Accomplish for Yourself and Others.



1. Keep your purpose and vision before you every day. This will mobilize and motivate you and others.
2. A vision will help you stop looking at where you are and focus on where you are going.
3. "A written vision is the art of seeing things invisible to others." – Jonathan Swift
4. Create a written timeline when setting goals or a vision. A timeline will increase your motivation.
5. Visualize your dream every day. Seeing the end result will be inspiration and motivation.
6. A vision is best expressed with:
    - Passion
    - Enthusiasm
    - Communication
7. "Men and women who do not have a vision will surely return to the past." – Tommy Barnett
8. A vision must confront the culture of the day.
9. Vision must be lived and shared with love. Win them to yourself first.
10. Consider if you don't know what you want or where you are going – how will you know when you get there?
11. "Have a vision with hope for a better future." – Michael Ellison

John Maxwell often says a crisis will reveal three things about you:

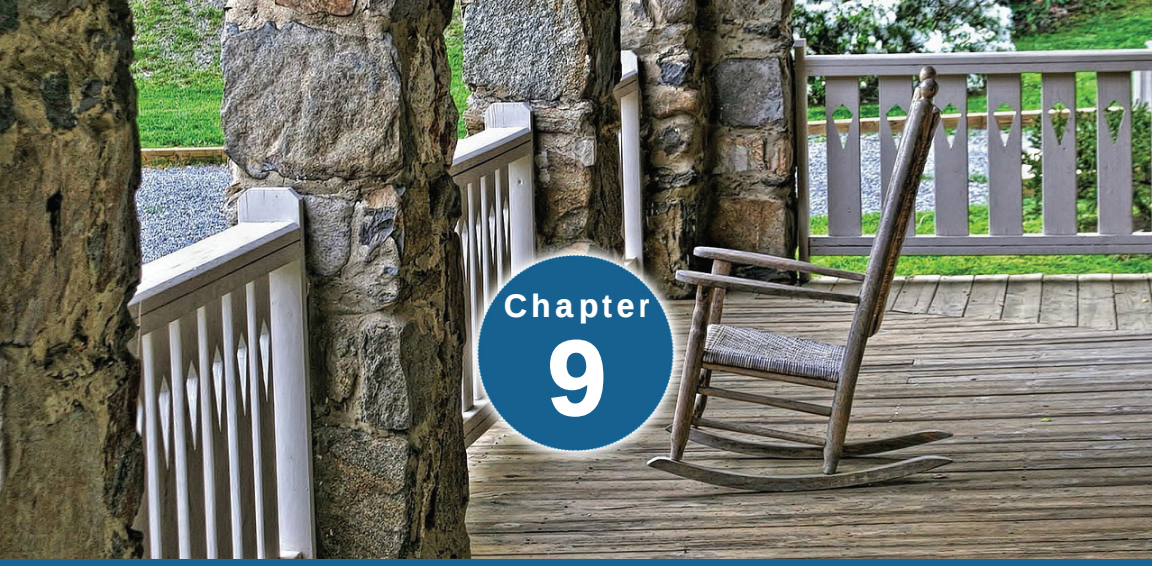
1. Who are you?
2. What do you value?
3. What do you believe?

Google “Jon Gordon” to learn how Jon reacted to these three statements (super information!).

Ray Stedman points from the Habakkuk Story:

- Do not react emotionally to a problem, like fear.
- Re-state to yourself the things you know about God.
- Do not try to solve the problem yourself.
- If you have not come to any conclusion – learn to trust God in faith like Habakkuk (1:12).





WRITING YOUR PERSONAL VISION

Neuroscience Explains Why We Need To Write Our Personal Vision – Forbes

What is vision? For me, it's the ability to imagine a future beyond your current reality and see a better future that does not yet exist.

Here is some interesting research on vision:

- 3% of people have a written vision. Less than 1% review or rewrite their vision.
- 10% think about a vision but do not write it down.

- 63% have no vision.
- 24% of people did not understand the question.

It's now time for some interactive work... The following exercise outlines a process for writing your vision. You can print this out (if you reading the eBook), or write in the book, or simply start on a fresh piece of paper.

Before you get started, think about **all** areas in your life, including spiritual, emotional, physical, and financial.



Vision Exercise

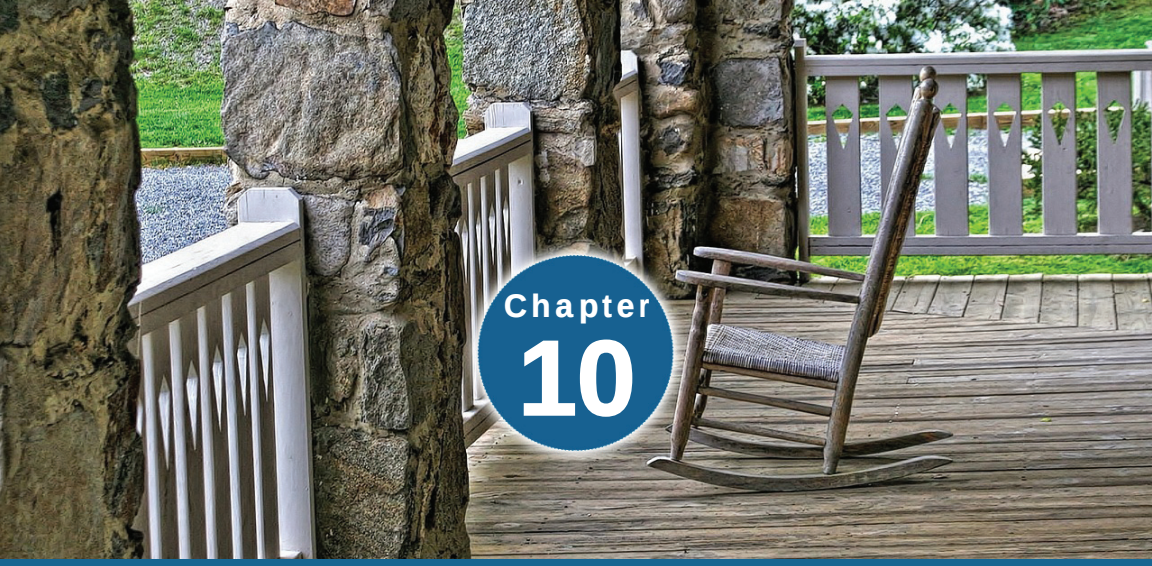
My Vision: _____ (your name)

1. Define your vision:

2. Offer a solution:

3. Present a vision:

Remember: We all have the right to choose or not to choose, but none of us will have the right to choose the consequences of our choices.



HUMAN REPENTANCE AND OBEDIENCE CAN CHANGE THE MIND OF GOD

1. NOAH'S GENERATION
God was sorry that He had created man, and He gave Noah's generation, which was estimated at a million+ people, 120 years to repent (Genesis 6:1-8).

Verses 6 to 7: God repented, which means: "changed His mind."

Verse 8: But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. We are given grace (Romans 12:3). Because Noah obeyed God his family was spared, but God followed through on destroying mankind because of sin.

2. MOSES AND THE GOLDEN CALF – EXODUS 32

God was angry with the people of Israel because of the worshipping of the golden calf, and God wanted to destroy Israel but repented (changed mind) because Moses persuaded God not to do it (Exodus 32:9-14).

3. AMOS THE PROPHET – AMOS 7

God wanted again to destroy Israel because of sin. But because of the obedience of Amos, His prophet, God repented (changed His mind) (Amos 7:3,6).

4. THE STORY OF JONAH

God decided to destroy Nineveh, which was the largest city in the world in that day with a population of 120,000, because it was a very wicked city but also a successful, wealthy banking city. Nineveh today is Mosul, Iraq with a population of 660,000 people. God called Jonah, who was a Jew, to go and preach repentance to Nineveh. This was very difficult for Jonah to do because Nineveh was a Gentile city and Jonah did not like Gentiles.

We all know the story of how Nineveh did repent but He had to persuade Jonah seven times to preach repentance to Nineveh.

"And God saw how Nineveh had repented and He repented (changed His mind) and did not destroy the city."
– Jonah 3:10

God is a God of mercy and love but desperately wants His people to repent and obey. Our responsibility to pray for our leaders is clearly explained in 1 Timothy 2:1-3.

The Power of Repentance and Obedience by Faith is Available to All

"Repentance and obedience mean change. It takes a humble person to change."
– Ezra Bensen

"Repentance and obedience mean: a return to God with a willingness to walk in God's way."
– C. S. Lewis

"Repentance is a renewed conviction of sin."
– Charles Finney

It is a Time for Spiritual Fitness, Prayer, and the Power of Hope

Hope for believers is not an illusion. It is the assurance that good things are going to happen based upon the promises in God's Word.

IF YOUR MARRIAGE IS FAILING, IF YOUR BUSINESS OR FINANCES ARE SINKING, IF YOUR CHILDREN ARE IN TROUBLE, IF YOUR HEALTH IS AT RISK, THERE IS HOPE IN THE LIVING GOD.

Take Time to Prepare for Prayer

There are approximately 1600 "ifs" in the Bible. An "if" means someone has to make a decision. Jesus is taking time today to prepare a place for us: John 14:1-3 (2 "ifs"). Preparation for prayer is very important so that God will hear our prayers.

Here are nine prayer principles to help you:

1. Repent of all known sin; 1 John 1:5-10 (there are 5 ifs here – our choice) (Psalm 51).
2. God cannot hear us if we do not repent of sin; Psalms 66:18-20 (1 "if").
3. Forgive others otherwise God cannot forgive us; Matthew 6:14-15 (2 "ifs").
4. Do not worry. Worry is a sin; Matthew 6:24-34.

5. Like Solomon, ask God for wisdom; James 1:5-6 (1 “if”), but ask in faith; Hebrews 11:6.
6. You have not because you ask not. Keep on asking; Matthew 7:7-12 (3 “ifs”), John 15:7 (1 “if”).
7. Always address your prayer to the Father; Matthew 6:9-15 (3 “ifs”). Ask everything in the name of Jesus: John 14:13-14. Remember the Holy Spirit intercedes for us (the meaning of intercession is to meet with, to make a petition; Romans 8:25-28 (1 “if”).
8. For husbands only: Dwell with your wife with understanding and honour her because if you do not your prayers will be hindered (cut off) (1 Peter 3:7). Remember, your wife was created to be your helpmeet which means DIVINE AID (Genesis 2:18).
9. The Holy Spirit intercedes for us to Jesus Christ who then intercedes for us to the Father (Romans 8:34, Hebrews 7:25). Remember to please the Holy Spirit and do not grieve the Holy Spirit because you are the Temple of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:28-32).

The significance of the word “if” is vital today (2 Chronicles 7:13 God – 3 “ifs” all in effect today). Our response - Verse 14 (1 “if” - 4 steps of obedience).

Final Thoughts On Prayer

- God dwells in the praises of His people; (Psalms 22:3).
- David Wilkinson said, “The blood of Jesus Christ is the most powerful force in the universe.”

- Apply the precious blood of Jesus to your prayer requests.
- Consider taking communion as often as possible but, like prayer, take time to prepare (1 Corinthians 11:17-34).
- Waiting for God is not laziness.
- Waiting for God is not the abandonment of effort.
- Waiting for God means activity under command.
- Waiting means readiness for any new command that may come.
- Waiting is the ability to do nothing till the command is given. If the eagles can do it so can we (Isaiah 40:31-19).

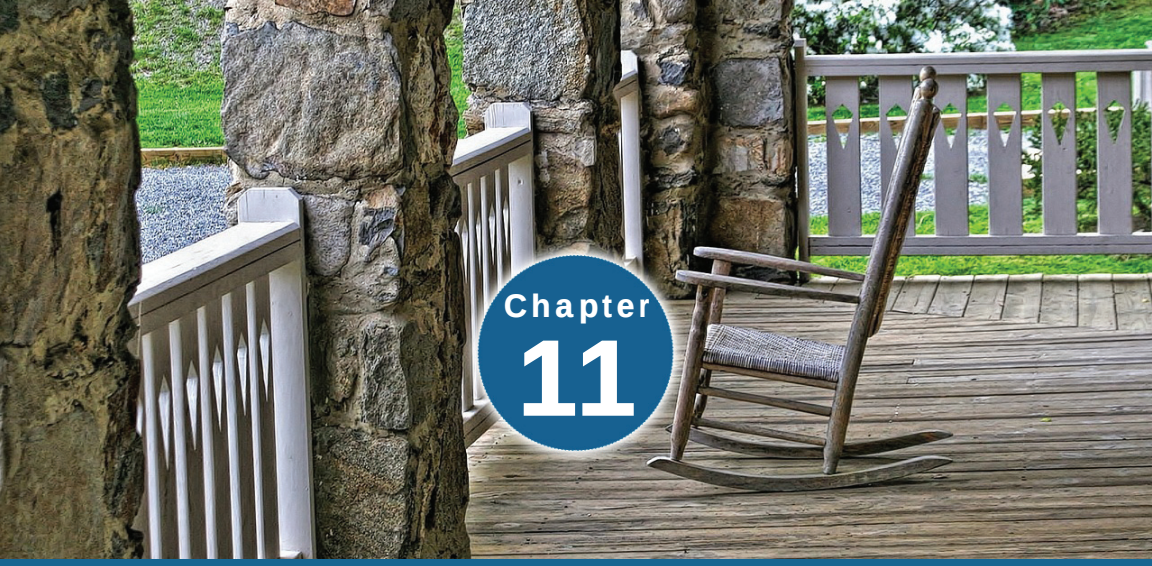
Conclusion

Why is it so important that we understand and treat our bodies as the Temple of God?

The answer is because God, the Holy Spirit, Lives Within Us (1 Corinthians 3:16-17 and 1 Corinthians 6:17-20).

Jesus Christ told his disciples that his brick and mortar temple would be destroyed (John 2:19-25). The Temple was destroyed in 70 AD.





IT MAY BE YOUR BODY BUT IT IS STILL GOD'S TEMPLE

This is the good news—your body is still God's Temple! Remember—the only way to please God is by faith.

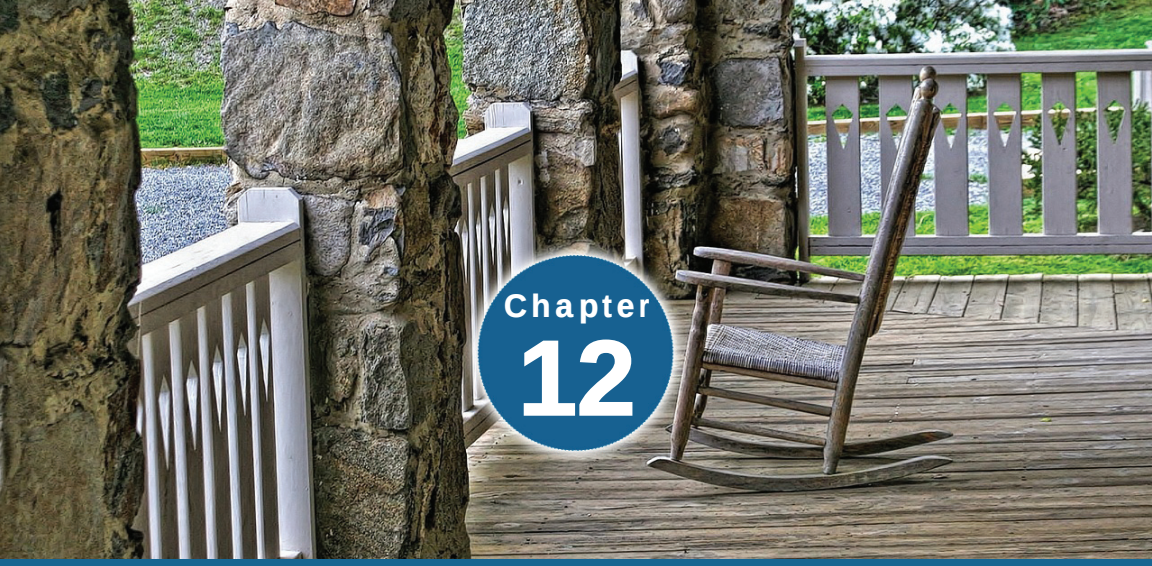
Hebrews 11:6 – But without faith, (conviction, to commit to) it is impossible (impotent) to please (to gratify) Him for he that cometh (cometh means worship) to God must believe (to trust) that He is a rewarder (one who pays wages) of them that diligently (to have zeal) seek Him (seek means have diligence).

Examples of Obedience and Faith

- Noah: Building the ark when it had never rained (Genesis 6:13-16) God's reward: Noah found grace and we are given grace (Romans 12:3). Because of Noah's faith and obedience, we sustain life on earth.
- David killed Goliath with one stone (1 Samuel 17:49-58). God's reward: David became King of Israel.
- Moses' parting of the Red Sea by holding out his hand, allowing approximately 2 million people to pass on dry land (Exodus 14:18-31). God's reward: God trusted Moses with the Ten Commandments (Exodus:19-20).
- Abraham was willing to kill his own son (Genesis 22). God's reward: foundation of a nation (Genesis 12:1-3) whose blessings are still ours today (Galatians 3:28-29).
- The lad who gave Jesus five barley loaves and two small fishes so that He could feed over 5,00 people (John 6:1-14). God's reward: I can only imagine the wonderment in the mind of that young lad.
- The healing of a centurion's son, who was a Gentile, by Jesus (Luke 7 1-11). God's reward: Jesus said this was the most faith He had ever found in all His life.

- Sometimes God's rewards come in an unexpected way (see picture of other page).





SHARING MY VISION

This is my personal vision and I would like to share it with you. I know a bit of this is repeated from chapter 5, but that is intentional.

In Chapter 9 we covered the subject of vision. Recall that vision is the ability to imagine a future beyond your current reality and see a better future that does not yet exist. In the Vision Exercise we revealed the three components in creating your vision: **define the vision**, **offer a solution**, and **present the vision**. So, for my complete vision, repeating some of the content from chapter 5 is required.

God Reveals to Us How We Are to React to a Pandemic

Solomon's Temple Prayer – 2 Chronicles 6:12-42:

- Verses 1-3 – God promises Solomon a place to worship.
- Verses 4-11 – Solomon blessed the people.

What is the power of the spiritual blessing? A Biblical Blessing is a statement which involves the blessing of God upon the life of another person (Numbers 6:24-26).

Solomon's Temple Prayer

Solomon the King knelt down with arms lifted up to heaven in front of all his people. It is important to remember what Solomon said when God asked him what he wanted.

Solomon's response:
He asked for wisdom (1 Kings 3:3-13). God has extended the same offer to us (James 1:5-6).

Solomon prayed for 12 things:

1. God's faithfulness – verses 14-16
2. God's continuous faithfulness – verses 16-17
3. God's omnipresence – verse18
4. Plea for answer to prayer – verses 19-21
5. Plea for just judgement – verses 22-23

6. Blessings on Gentiles who are seeking God – verses 22-23
7. Plea for forgiveness of sin – verses 24-25
8. Forgiveness and rain from heaven – verses 26-27
9. Plea for God's help in a time of pestilence/ war and sickness – verses 28-31
10. Plea for God's help in war even if no sin had been committed – verses 34-35.
11. Plea for help in war when sin had been committed – verses 36-39
12. Plea for God's continued presence and blessing – verses 40-42

2 Chronicles 7:1-11 – Result of Solomon's prayers: Divine acceptance and God's Glory entered the Temple.

2 Chronicles 7:12-22 – God appeared to Solomon a second time, 20 years after the dedication of the Temple; 2 Chronicles 8:1.

2 Chronicles 7:13-15 – God obviously knew that the people would not be obedient after Solomon's dedication prayer. This is God speaking to us today: In verse 13, God says "if" three times, which means it is His choice, and there are 1,522 instances of the word "if" in the Bible.

- "If I stop the rain…"
- "If I command locust to devour the land…"
- "If I send pestilence…"

Today, there are billions of locusts destroying the food supply in parts of Africa and East Asia. Pestilence is a

contagious, infectious disease greatly affecting us today with COVID-19.

Verse 14 – To me, this is one of the most incredible verses in the Bible because it is directed to us today. "If [our choice] my people who are called by name will do four things…"

1. Humble themselves which means to bend the knee. It is used in 2 Chronicles 34:27. Spurgeon said voluntary humbleness is what God is looking for (that's what Solomon did).
2. Pray. Pray means to make supplication, to ask for. There are at least 12 preparation steps for prayer in order for God to even hear our prayer. Details to follow. Two of the most important are repentance; 1 John 1:5-10 (5 "ifs" in that chapter) and forgiveness of others; Matthew 6:14-15.
3. Seek my face. Seek me to search out, to worship or to request (Psalm 80:7,19).
4. Turn from your wicked ways. Turn means return to the starting point or to relinquish. Solomon used the word turn three times in his prayer (2 Chronicles 6:26,37,42).

If We Do These 4 Things Here is God's Promise to Us:

- I will hear you from Heaven. *Hear* means attention.
- I will forgive your sin as far as the East is from the West (Psalm 103:12).

Heal our land which means to mend like a physician, to repair thoroughly, DIVINE INTERVENTION. The word heal is also used in Isaiah 53:5 in the context of our salvation.

"Dream a dream so big that if God is not in it, it will fail."
– Hudson Taylor

"You are never too old to dream a new dream."
– C. S. LEWIS

Here is My Dream



My Dream is to achieve or develop a worldwide movement that encourages people to understand and live like their body is The Temple of God.

God Dwells Within the Temple (1 Corinthians 3:16-17, 1 Corinthians 6:17-20). God's Temple is made up of Spirit/Spiritual, Soul/Emotional, Body/Physical (1 Thessalonians 5:23). AMAZING.

Josh McDowell reveals to us that the DNA in one cell in the human body holds the equivalent of roughly 800 books of information. A typical human body has about a hundred trillion cells, each of which has a DNA strand that could be uncoiled to about three meters in length. Thus, if the DNA in one adult human was strung together it would stretch from Earth to the Sun and back about 70 times.

Proofs of God's Love For You:

1. We are fearfully and wonderfully made (Jeremiah 29:11).

2. Even the hairs on our heads our numbered. The average person has about 100,000 hairs (Luke 12:7).
3. God even knew you and formed you in your mother's womb (Jeremiah 1:5).
4. Most important of all, God sent His Son Jesus Christ to die for us so that we may live eternally with Him (John 3:15-18).

Did You Know?
God has an approved vaccine for everything that ails us and we have the prescription in writing. The number one ingredient of this vaccine is called FAITH. Without FAITH it is impossible (impotent) to please Him (Hebrews 11:6).

Martin Luther changed the world by applying the ingredient of faith. The just shall live by faith (Habakkuk 2:4).

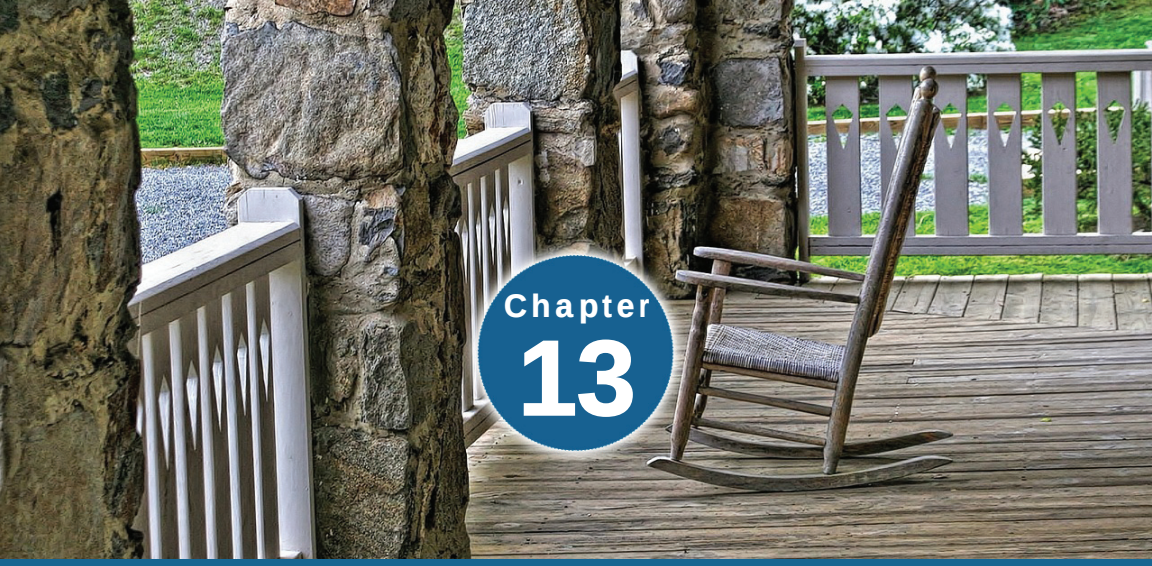
"Faith is a refusal to panic."
– Dr. Martyn Lloyd Jones

"Behold, I will do something new, now it will spring forth! Will you not be aware of it? I will even make a roadway in the wilderness, rivers in the desert."
– Isaiah 43:19.

Without God there are no roads in the wilderness. Without God there are no rivers in the desert.







CARING FOR THE BRICK AND MORTAR TEMPLE

This is an incredible Biblical story on how God reacted when His people cared for the brick and mortar temple.

The key point here is how much more important this principle is today given that we are now God's Temple.

The Story of King Hezekiah

Hezekiah became king at 25 after his disobedient father Ahaz, who hated God, died (2 Kings 16). King Hezekiah

(embracer) became an encourager despite the evil culture he had inherited.

Major Decisions Made by the King:

- Hezekiah was a God-fearing man (2 Chronicles 29:2). Application: God gives us the same choice today—choose you this day whom you will serve (Joshua 24:14-15).
- The first thing Hezekiah did was to repair the Temple of God (2 Chronicles 29:3-11). Application: The best way for us to begin to repair our bodies—God's Temple—is to repent from sin (1 John 1:5-10). There are five "ifs" which means our decision.
- Hezekiah encouraged his people to prepare for worship in the repaired temple with music and singing (2 Chronicles 29:12-31). Application: We are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1-2). Praise of God is a New Testament sacrifice which is to be offered continually, being the fruit of our lips—giving thanks to His Name (Hebrews 13-15).
- Revival broke out suddenly. People were so excited about the Lord that there were not sufficient priests to offer the sacrifices (2 Chronicles 29:31-36). Application: A study of revivals indicate that in most cases four things occurred:
    1. Repentance of sin
    2. A move of the Holy Spirit
    3. Prayer
    4. Powerful preaching of the Word of God

5. Hezekiah restored the Passover which had not been celebrated in about 200 years.

Dr. Martyn Lloyd Jones and Charles Spurgeon have probably been the two most powerful preachers that we are aware of. Dr. Jones preached so honestly and forcefully that the secular media in Wales made this statement: The Preaching of Dr. Jones Probably Saved Wales from Becoming the First Communist Country in Europe.

Three Steps of Preparation for Passover:

1. He purged idols from Jerusalem.
2. Sprinkled blood
3. Repented of sin (2 Chronicles 30:1-14). Application: We celebrate Communion/ Lord's Table/Eucharist not with the blood of lambs but because of the blood and body of Jesus Christ whose spirit now dwells within us as His Temple. We also need to prepare for Communion (1 Corinthians 11:26-29).

Hezekiah honoured and kept the Passover. Here is what God did:

1. Repentance of sin and the Lord forgave all.
2. God healed the people physically.
3. There was a great time of worship/praise and joy.
4. The Word of God was taught.
5. The people were blessed, and their prayers went right to heaven (2 Chronicles 30:15-27).

Application: when we do not prepare for communion biblically many are:

- Weak
- Sick
- Asleep (dead) (1 Corinthians 11:30)

Remember, by His stripes we are healed (Isaiah 53:4-6, Mathew 8:17, 1 Peter 2:24)

6. God restored financial abundance (2 Chronicles 31:14-15). Application: God wishes to bless us today with health and abundance (3 John verse 2).
7. The King encouraged His people to trust the Lord. Application: We are encouraged to trust the Lord (Proverbs 3:5-8).
8. The King led in prayer and built up the walls around Jerusalem in defense against his enemy, Sennacherib, and the King was assured that Isaiah the prophet would defend Jerusalem. The angel of the Lord, in one night, wiped out the entire army of Sennacherib, totalling 185,000 soldiers (2 Kings 19:20-37). Application: God will protect us (Isaiah 41:10, 2 Timothy 4:18). Faith without works is dead (James 2:14-26).

The King became very ill and was about to die. He prayed for healing. God heard his prayer and he lived another 15 years (2 Kings 20:1-11).

Application: Remember Christ died for our healing (Isaiah 53:4-6) and we are to pray for the sick and anoint with oil (James 5:13-18).

Conclusion

King Hezekiah humbled himself before God and confessed the pride of sin in his life (2 Chronicles 32:26).

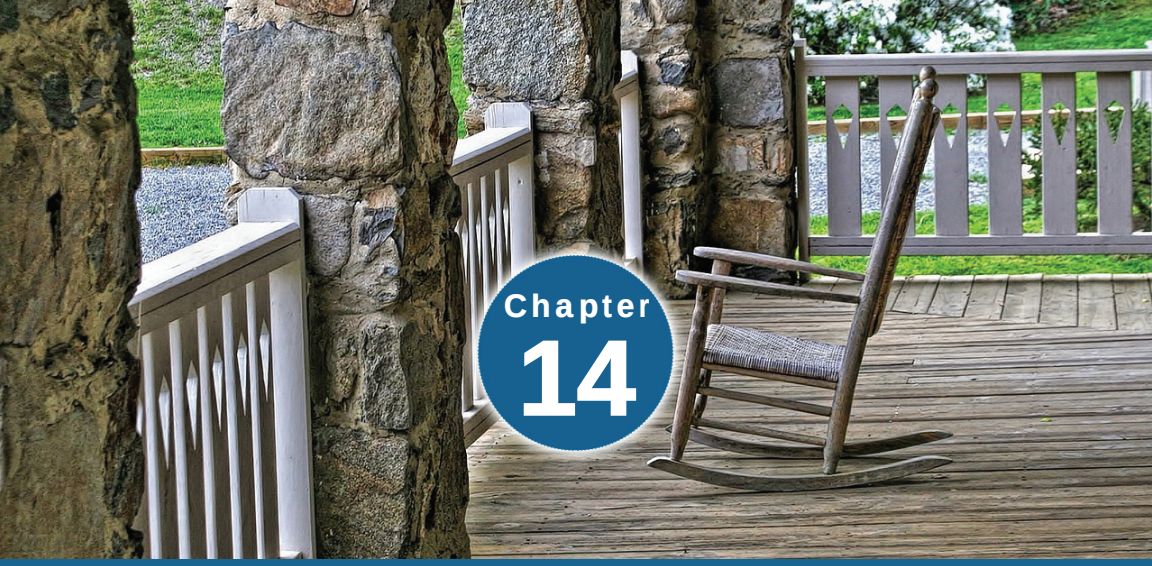
Application:
We must do the same, and, like Hezekiah did, begin with repairing our bodies like they are God's Temple:

- Physically
- Emotionally
- Spiritually

Join our community! We are creating a worldwide faith and prayer movement to ask God to heal our land and perform miracles in our lives, regardless of the situation.

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WHAT GOD WANTS YOU TO KNOW

One of the Most Important Chapters in the Bible

Luke chapter 21 is worth studying!

Why? These are the personal words of Jesus Christ himself about His predictions of the present and future.

Summary:

- Verses 1-4 – The widow's two mites.
- Verses 5-6 – Jesus predicts the destruction of the Temple.
- Verses 7-19 – The signs of the times in which we live and the future end of the age.
- Verses 20-24 – The destruction of the Temple and why this is so important to us today.
- Verses 25-28 – The second coming of Jesus Christ.
- Verses 29-33 – The parable of the fig tree and how this applies to us today.
- Verses 34-38 – What should our attitude be until the return of Jesus Christ? This is really important to understand because we want to be with Him for his Third Coming.

The second time Christ is coming for His saints.
The third time He comes with His saints.

After this teaching, Jesus celebrated the Passover (Luke 22:1-2). We celebrate until He comes with Communion (1 Corinthians 11:17-34).

Luke 21

Verses 1-4

The Temple had thirteen metal containers in which to receive offerings. The larger the coin, the more noise

it would make. The widow's mite was the smallest of coins (2 Corinthians 6:10). The rich gave out of their abundance (2 Corinthians 8:12-15).

Verses 5-6

Jesus said that the Temple would be destroyed. Remember, Solomon's Temple took seven years to build and cost about 300 million dollars. It was 11 stories high and could house about 10,000 people (the world's first mega church).

Jerusalem and the Temple was destroyed in 70 AD by the Romans. It is said that the blood of thousands of people who were killed flowed down the stairs of the Temple.

Verses 7-11 – The Signs of the Times and the End of the Age

1. The appearing of false prophets: Jesus warned us to be aware in Mathew 7:15-20. Paul warns us in Ephesians 5:6 and 1 Timothy 4:1-5.
2. We will hear of wars and rumours of wars. There are more than 40 wars taking place today in 2020.
3. Earthquakes: In 2019 there were 1,617 earthquakes with a magnitude of five points or more on the Richter scale. There were thousands more smaller earthquakes.

   The largest earthquake the world has ever seen has not taken place as yet. The last two plagues to come are explained in Revelations 16:17-21 where we are told two things:

   - Hailstones will come, a hundred pounds or more.

- An earthquake will destroy islands and mountains (Isaiah 54:10).

4. Famines: "Today the world stands on the brink of unprecedented famine" – Oxfam International
5. Pestilence (plague or pandemic/deadly infection). The Bible speaks of a pestilence 127 times and God uses many of them to bring people and nations to repentance (Joel Rosenberg, page 17).
6. We are told there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

The Bible does not indicate what the fearful sights could be, however, today as we see all the recent fires, floods, storms, terror, and violence, consider this: Paul tells us that in the End Times perilous (stressful/dangerous/threatening) times will come. Paul lists 18 signs, and all are very prevalent today (2 Timothy 3:1-5). "Love of Self Is A Basic Sin from Which All Others Flow" – William Barkley.

In Mathew 24:5-8, Jesus tells us that all these things are the beginning of sorrows (birth pains). But then Jesus says, *"The end is not yet,"* and in Luke 21:9 we are told not to be terrified (not to be frightened).

Verse 12

Times of Persecution Will Come. Not only are they coming, but they are here today. People today are being slaughtered by the tens of thousands for their faith according to Open Borders. Johnny Moore recently visited Nigeria, which is the richest county in Africa with about 200 million people and millions of natural

resources, especially gas and oil. He reports from a personal visit with unimaginable stories that out of every ten Christians murdered today, seven are in Nigeria.

Persecution (which means to suffer) does not necessarily mean death (Acts 22:7-8: Paul persecuted Jesus, 2 Timothy 3:10-12: All will suffer persecution).

Verse 13

But these persecutions will give great opportunity to testify. Paul's afflictions promoted the gospel (Philippians 1:12-18).

Verses 14-15

Do not meditate (premeditate) on what you will say when persecuted because the Holy Spirit will give you words and wisdom on what to say (Acts 6:10 and Luke 12:11-12).

Verses 16-19

Jesus warned the disciples that they would be hated and betrayed, even by families, for their faith. The only disciple not murdered was the Apostle John.

God's Vision to Daniel about End Times is Very Fascinating:

The time of the end (Daniel 12:1-4): The Holy Spirit tells Daniel to shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the end of time; many shall run two and fro, and knowledge shall be increased. Travel today: we have gone from walking to horseback-riding to horse and buggy to trains to automobiles to planes and, finally, outer space. Knowledge over the years used to double maybe every hundred years or so, then every fifty years, then every 25 years. Today, research shows

that knowledge is doubling every 12 months and is on its way to doubling every month and, eventually, every 12 hours because of the internet.

Verses 20-24

The destruction of the Temple was foretold by Jesus and occurred during the Jewish-Roman war of 70 AD. The siege of the city began on April 14, 70 AD, which was three days before the beginning of Passover. The siege lasted for about five months and ended in August 70 AD. Josephus claimed that approximately 1.1 million Jewish people were slaughtered with much blood flowing down the steps of the Temple. He also claimed that about 97,000 Jewish people were put into slavery.

Israel was then trampled by the Gentiles until May 14, 1948, when, in one day, it was reestablished as the Jewish homeland (Isaiah 66:8).

Verses 25-28 The Second Coming of Jesus Christ

Jesus said there will be signs in the sun/moon/stars/ with seas waiting.

Consider today that all of these are occurring worldwide.

What Should Our Attitude Be?

Look up/Lift our heads because Jesus is coming soon.

- Matthew 24:27-31
- 2 Peter 3:10-12
- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- 1 Corinthians 15:51-54

Verses 29-33 The Parable of the Fig Tree

Why would Jesus speak of this parable?

The first tree mentioned in the Bible was the tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil (Genesis 2:16-17). God gave man a choice.

The second tree mentioned: The Fig Tree which Adam and Eve used to cover their nakedness (Genesis 3:7). The fig tree takes three years to bear fruit. Jesus taught for three years and look at the fruit He bore! The story of the sycamore tree is absolutely phenomenal.

Jesus goes on to say that a generation will by no means pass away till all things are fulfilled. I believe this refers to the generation when we see all these biblical prophecies being fulfilled, which is certainly today.

Verses 34-38

We are Warned to Watch for His Coming

Verse 34

Do not live your life surfeiting (to pack with baggage, with wild living). Because the Lord wants us to be aware of His soon coming.

Verse 35

The result of not watching for the Lord's return is that it is like a snare (a noose). The word snare is used to mean "of the devil" in 2 Timothy 2:26 and 1 Timothy 3:7.

Verse 36 Preparation for His Coming

To watch (to be sleepless/but to be intent on what will happen)—used in Ephesians 16 and Hebrews 13:17.

In fact, Luke tells us in Luke 19:13 to occupy (which means to do business or trade) till I come.

Verses 37-38

This is very interesting and meaningful for us today. Jesus taught in the Temple in Solomon's Porch (John 10:23) as did Peter and John (Acts 3:11). Jesus then went out to the Mount of Olives.

Importance of the Mount of Olives

- Jesus Christ ascended into Heaven from the Mount of Olives (Acts 1:6-12).
- As the angel said, Jesus Christ will return a second time and we know this as the Rapture (which means to be caught up) (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, 1 Corinthians 15:51-58).
- The angel said that He would return to the Mount of Olives but this time the Mount will split in two (Zachariah 14:1-4). They have discovered a fault line today running right through the Mount of Olives.
- The first time He returns it is for His saints. The second time at the end of the Tribulation period He comes with His saints.
- After this teaching, Jesus celebrated the Passover and we are given the same opportunity to celebrate the work of Jesus and His coming with Communion (1 Corinthians 11:17-34).

Conclusion

Are We Living in the End Times?
Ninety Percent of Pastors Say We Are

What should be our action and attitude today? To develop a Biblical Worldview which should be based on the inspired Word of God. We live in a world of increasing globalization with many world views to consider.

Research indicates that only between 6 to 10% of Christians have a Biblical Worldview. – The Cultural Research Center.

Why should you consider a Biblical world view? The Bible is by far the world's bestseller with sales well over 4 billion and approximately 100 million every year. Today, Bible sales are exploding. There must be a reason for this!

There are two ways to read the Bible:

1. The Greek word is Logas, which means "the written word."
2. Rhema, which means revealed to you personally.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Verse 16: All scripture (not some of it) is given by the inspiration of God. The Holy Spirit used 40 authors who

were all Jewish except for Doctor Luke who wrote Luke and Acts. The Word of God is profitable (helpful and serviceable) for:

- Doctrine which means teaching/information/learning.
- Reproof which means conviction/evidence/proving.
- Correction which means reformation/restoration/improvement of life and character.
- Instruction/education.

Why?

- That the man or woman of God may be made perfect, which means complete.
- That you may be thoroughly equipped to do every good work.

There are about 1000 prophecies in the Bible:

- Remember the Bible is approximately 30% prophetic.
- About 500 prophecies have been fulfilled.
- Of the 500, about 300 concern the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

"There are no prophecies yet to be fulfilled before the return of Jesus Christ."
– Dr. Ed Hinson, Author of the book *Target Israel* and End Times prophecy scholar.

Remember, God Made You and Loves You Very Much

- We are fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14).
- God knew you and formed you in your mother's womb (Jeremiah 1:5).
- God even knows the number of hairs on your head (Mathew 10:30). The average person has about 100,000 hairs on their head.





AND FINALLY...

As I wrote this book, the verses, the quotes, the lines of Scripture, it occurred to me that though they are not always top of mind, being reminded of them and their meaning, and of my faith and its relevancy, is always a blessing.

Rejuvenating one's faith journey is as energizing now as it's always been. And in these trying times, faith becomes the ground we walk on.

The point is that you can rest assured that our own journey, though often private, is never one taken alone.

Guidance and support is always just a scripture passage away—or a text such as this one. Or, read or heard (via podcasts) on a website such as ours:

SolomonsPorchTeaching.com

This all serves to bring understanding to what's going on today and of the future, through the lens of biblical principles.

This will not be my only book—many more of these life manuals are already in the works. In conjunction with SolomonsPorchTeaching.com and the podcasts (that you can subscribe to) therein, I'm establishing a community of like-minded, faith-driven people, to serve as a space where teaching is heard, and healing takes place.



What is the message of the day in which we live? Jesus is coming soon.

Bible prophecy is being fulfilled today (Daniel 12:1-4)

God told Daniel that a great time of trouble would be coming and to close the book until two things occurred:

1. People would run to and fro—travel. We have gone from walking to horse and buggy to trains to ships to automobiles to airplanes and now space.
2. Knowledge shall increase. Human knowledge doubled about every century until 1900. By the end of WWII, it doubled every 25 years. Today it doubles about every twelve months and soon it will double every month and eventually every twelve hours. This comes from IBM.

You now know:

- The Bible is approximately one-third prophetic.
- There is a special blessing for those who READ/HEAR/KEEP the words of prophecy. Revelations 1:3

Finally, I'll leave you with this. God has the message of the hour which is fulfilling Biblical prophecy. I have some projects already in motion to continue my vision and what the Bible shares with us all! There is so much more to explore...

- The miracle that you are as God`s Temple.
- What is the day of the Lord?
- There are over 1,000 prophecies in the Word of God. How many have been fulfilled?
- Jesus Christ is coming back a second time and then a third time. Do you know the difference?
- Jerusalem is mentioned about 800 times and Israel about 3,000 times in the Bible. Why?
- Did you know that God lays out the borders of Israel?
- 10 prophecies concerning modern-day Israel. Amazing.
- What was the sign of Abraham`s sacrifice?
- What role does Israel play in End Times? Fascinating.
- Why should we support Israel?
- What are six prophecies of Israel that have been fulfilled?
- What are four of the miracles of Israel today?
- Why did God choose Israel?
- Who are the countries that attack Israel in End Times?
- Is China mentioned in the Bible?
- God mentions that there are two things that are the Apple of His Eye. What are they?
- What did God tell Habakkuk to do in the midst of a pandemic? Hint: Six words that change the course of history.

- Did you know that human repentance and obedience can cause God to change His mind?
- What is the Battle of Armageddon?
- What is the Tribulation Period?
- What is the Thousand Year Reign and who is there?
- What is the new Jerusalem like? Above human description.
- What does it mean that we will have glorified bodies?
- There are two judgments coming. What are they?
- There are five crowns that will be rewarded to faithful believers. What are they and will you get one?
- A verse-by-verse study of one of the most important chapters in the Bible concerning End Times (Luke 21).

Until next time, be sure to connect with me and checkout the growing number of podcasts on our website...



ABOUT BARRY BORTHISTLE

Barry Borthistle has led six different retail and direct sales companies to multi-million-dollar sales levels both as owner and corporate leader. He is the Co-founder of TriVita Inc., a global wellness company.

As a great motivator and leadership teacher, Barry has been a student of the Word of God his whole life. In these challenging times, his search for the truths in God's Words provides a welcome faith foundation for believers, helping to apply God's Truths to daily life.

As a former pastor and current growth expert for individuals and organizations, he understands how to disciple people in the Bible, bringing real-world issues into perspective through the lens of scripture's biblical principles.

He is married with five children, fifteen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He resides in British Columbia, Canada.

The following provides further insight and a snapshot of what Barry has done:

Business Background:

- Former president of a 200-million-dollar nutritional company, Enrich International
- Fifteen years climbing the corporate executive ladder with The Bay, Sears and Canadian Tire
- Thirty years self-employed; owned or began

several small businesses in the retail sector and in the direct selling industry

- Co-founder and former President of The TriVita Way International, 1999-2007
- Six years as a pastor, Calvary Chapel
- Currently, Presidential Director, TriVita Inc.

Awards:

- The Price-Waterhouse Recognition for New Start-up companies, 1996
- The prestigious Winston Churchill Award, 1997
- Featured in North America's "Who's Who in Business," 1998, 2004
- Leading Health Professionals of the World, 2006
- Entrepreneurial Leadership Award, 2008, Trinity Western University, Langley, British Columbia
- Co-founder Award, TriVita, 2012



My Notes





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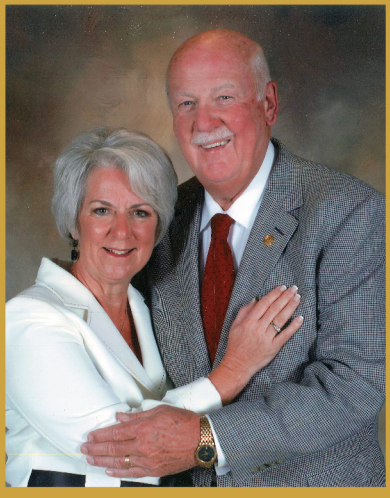
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Your Body is God's Temple

Our physical selves, our emotional core—our soul, and our spiritual centre are in constant need of loving care. *Your Body is God's Temple* serves to remind us that feeding our selves the nourishment it needs while rejuvenating one's faith journey is as energizing now as it's always been.

As a former pastor and current growth expert for individuals and organizations, Barry Borthistle understands how to bring real-world issues into perspective through the lens of scripture's biblical principles.

In these challenging times, his search for the truths in God's Words provides a welcome faith foundation for believers, providing the careful reader support and guidance in their quest for answers.



Barry C. Borthistle, successful entrepreneur, motivator, leadership teacher, has been a student of the Word of God his whole life.

In these challenging times, his search for truths in God's Words provides a welcome faith foundation for believers, helping to apply God's Truths to daily life.

As a former pastor, he understands how to disciple people in the bible, bringing real-world issues into perspective through the lens of scripture's Biblical Principles.

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