



Hunger For Truth

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Proverbs 7:2 – Matthew 5:6 – John 8:32 – II Timothy 3:16-17 – Hebrews 4:2

“Let us Hunger For Truth”

Greetings

Hello and welcome to another issue of Hunger For Truth. This issue includes Part 3 of “Five More D’s” by Brother Andrew Lacroix, the continuation of the study on the word 'alone' in the Bible, pictures of the new apartment and much more.

On a MA note, I want to praise God for answered prayer. I was able to receive a day position at my place of employment which started in late July. Thank you to all who prayed for this. This will open doors for more opportunities to serve at my church. The schedule change will not be easy to transition into since I was used to a 4pm-1am or later shift and will now be working 7am-4pm! Please pray that His will be done.

Please note, “Reader's Corner” has been discontinued due to lack of response.

It is my desire that Hunger For Truth edifies, blesses and encourages you in your walk with the Lord. Back issues of Hunger For Truth are viewable and printable at www.studytoanswer.net.

Thank you all for taking the time to read this and for your prayers for me. I greatly appreciate your comments and I praise God for each and every one of you.

Five More D's (Part 3) (By: Andrew Lacroix)

In part one of this study, we looked at the character of Demas and determined that he *departed* from the work of God (2 Tim. 4:10). In part two, we looked at the Bible character Demetrius and while the debate can be about whether or not the two we contrasted are the same, the one in Acts 19 portrayed a *diminishing* effect on the work of God, while the 3 John one shows a *demonstration* of the work of God.

Many people have probably never heard one message from 3 John. However, you get two in this five part devotional. I'd like us to consider the Bible character Diotrephes: “I wrote unto the church, but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not. Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbade them that would, and casteth them out of the church” (3 John 9-10). Diotrephes wanted to *destroy* the work of God.

Diotrephes was in Gaius' church, not far from where John was in Ephesus. He and Demetrius were doing most of the workload under the leadership of Gaius. Yet here was a problem: Diotrephes' ego. His name, interestingly enough, means “nourished by Zeus”. It is a pagan name, and he chose to keep it rather than take a Christian name. Maybe this implied something. He got power and then put it to his head, disagreeing with Gaius and Demetrius on doctrine and fellowship among the brethren. Those who disagreed with Diotrephes were excommunicated. He ignored John's teaching. In fact, John even penned a letter (v.9) that Diotrephes must have intercepted, perused it, and then when he saw it was about him, got even more belligerent and only fueled his bitterness more so. So, not only did Diotrephes disagree with solid doctrine; he also engaged in discouraging chatter, and he also displaced and displeased other brethren.

This is not the example of a true God-appointed leader. This is more along the lines of a *proud pastor wannabe*. Diotrephes had probably given the boot to a number of people who probably then went to John's church or elsewhere. Maybe he started out good and soured quickly, or made a profession but it never sank in, we're unsure. He lost any humility he may have had and became proud. God cannot use proud men (cf. James 4:6).

Diotrephes had three problems: 1) He wanted *definitive* authority of this ministry. He was supposed to be under Gaius, but acted quite the opposite. He challenged "the beloved" (v.1, 2, 5, 11) Gaius on a number of issues. Diotrephes: "loveth to have the preeminence among them" (v.9). The letter John sent to Gaius more than likely never got to Gaius. It was probably destroyed at the hands of a bitter backstabber. 2) He *drove* others away from the work. Not only did he not receive those that were coming to him, he also disagreed with the hospitable Christians (of whom he should have been one of) and he acted to put out those whom did show love. Hospitality needs to be shown by Christians. Hebrews speaks to this: "Let brotherly love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some have entertained angels unawares" (13:1-2). Abraham and Lot both were unaware of just who they were hospitable to (Genesis 18 and 19) and you just never know who might be asking to stay at your place tonight! Could you quite possibly host the next great missionary? I pray we all can. Be hospitable and encourage the work of God. 3) He *deliberately* ruined his once good testimony and made a bad name for himself. Secular people build names for themselves and then their sin(s) finds them out (Num. 32:23) and now they are ruined forever. Such names that come to mind are Lawrence Taylor, Joe Paterno, John Edwards, O.J. Simpson, etc. Now you can associate the name Diotrephes with a deliberate destroyer of the work of God.

John quickly got off the subject of Diotrephes after verse 11 and focused on the positive testimony of Demetrius and a soon-promised visit. Determine not to be a Diotrephes. Submit yourself to your God appointed leader. Remember: your rewards are at stake. Don't make the under-shepherd grieve when he gives account for you (cf. Heb. 13:17).

"Alone" (Part 7) (By: Craig Glickman)

This is the continuation of a long, yet informative study on every appearance of the word "alone" in the Bible. This word appears 106 times in the King James Version. For sake of space, I will show only the reference but I encourage you to take your Bible and read the passages.

Isaiah 14:31 – This passage is prophecies about Palestina (vs. 29). Here Isaiah prophecies the defeat of Philistia in Palestine (vs. 30). Judah should not accept the offer of messengers of Philistia for an alliance, but must trust the Lord instead (vs. 32). In verse 31, I believe it is stating that Philistia will not be alone in it's appointed time of judgment.

Isaiah 37:16 -This great passage shows the awesome holiness and power of God who is God alone! He is Lord of Hosts! He is the God of Israel! He dwells between the cherubims! He is the God of all the kingdoms of the earth and hath made heaven and earth. The Bible clearly teaches in so many passages with the word 'alone' that Jehovah is God alone and there is no God but Jehovah!

Isaiah 44:24 – This passage is talking about how Cyrus will restore Jerusalem. This passage is similar to the Isaiah 37:16 passage and many more. Only God alone can, did and does stretch forth the heavens by Himself. This passage tells us He is our Redeemer, He formed you and I from the womb, and He made all things!

Isaiah 49:21 – This passage relates to the restoration of Israel and coming Messiah. (*)We read '*...seeing I have lost my children*'; most likely by captivity and the sword, by the tyranny and cruelty of the man of sin. We read '*...and am desolate*'; or alone, as if without a husband, or any to take care of her. This likely represents the church in the wilderness, during the reign of antichrist, (Revelation

12:14), while she seems to be forsaken of the Lord her husband, though she is not. Later in the verse we read, '**...behold, I was left alone**'; seemingly without husband or children, in a desolate and wilderness state. Finally, we read '**...these, where had they been?**'; most likely in the ruins of Adam's fall; in a state of darkness; in the graves of sin; in a pit wherein is no water; in the hands of Satan, and among wicked men; even in Babylon itself, but now called out; (Revelation 18:4) (*)- *Excerpts from commentary by J.G.*

Isaiah 51:2 – In this passage the Lord is speaking to the faithful remnant of Israel His chosen nation and reminds them of where they came from and where they are now (vs. 1). He speaks of Abraham alone being called of God (Gen. 12:1) and God blessed (Gen. 24:35) and increased him. Thru the seed of Abraham Messiah would come as Sarah his wife bore Isaac their son. Abraham would be the father of many nations and kings. The name Abraham means 'father of a multitude' (Gen. 17).

Emotions in The Bible (By: Craig Glickman)

There are many verses and passages in the Bible that relate to emotions and feelings of man and our Lord Himself in trials, suffering, affliction, and of course peace and joy. The following is an ongoing study of passages that have convicted, comforted, edified, encouraged or blessed me through hearing messages, devotions and studies over the years. I hope this is a blessing and help to you and I, and that the Lord may be honored and glorified in this series of studies on emotions in the Bible. Each issue, Lord willing, will have a verse or passage in the Bible covered. I am excited and privileged to do this. Praise God! I intend to break each passage down into the following: **Passage, Emotion(s), Cause, Effect, What does the passage say?, What does the passage say to you and I?, What should you and I do about it?, How do you and I stay accountable?**

Passage: Micah 7:1-13

Emotion(s): Hope, Victory over sin

Cause: The counsel of despair

Effect: Micah seeks God and trusts in His salvation

What does the passage say?: To start, we need to look back at verses 1-7. In verse 1, Micah says, "Woe is me!". Micah is lamenting over the corruption of the society in which he lived. Violence, dishonesty and immorality were rampant in Israel. Few people were really godly (vs. 2), and family love had nearly disappeared (vs. 6).

Now look at verse 7. In the midst of a morally sick society, Micah puts his faith in God and His promises. He knew that God would sustain him, execute justice one day against all evil, and cause righteousness to reign (vs. 9).

Next, look at verses 8-13. Micah says, "I shall arise" (vs. 8). The righteous remnant of Judah was facing dark days ahead because of God's judgment for the nation's sins. However, Micah trumpeted words of faith on their behalf and looked beyond the temporary triumph of their enemies to the glorious day of their restoration by God.

What does the passage say to you and I?: If we are truly committed to the Lord and His ways, we will also mourn over the evil that is so prevalent around us. We will intensify our intercession and pray for the intervention of the God of our salvation (vs. 7-9). God calls believers in Christ to live "in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation" and to "shine as lights in the world" (Phil. 2:15). We are to fulfill the great commission and share the gospel of Jesus Christ to all mankind!

What should you and I do about it?: Micah's comment "I shall arise" (vs. 8) is an affirmation of

faith comparable to Job's (Job 19:25-27). We need to live by faith and serve the Lord day by day and moment by moment.

How do you and I stay accountable?: Keep your eyes on God as Micah did and walk by faith and not by sight.

Quotes

- "We have the cure for eternal damnation, that cure is Christ!"
- "If Satan can't destroy your soul, he'll do anything to destroy your testimony!"
- "If what you do will not help you be a better Christian, don't do it!"

:) Children For Christ :)

Memory Verse: Proverbs 15:29 - *The LORD is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous.*

PRAYER TRUE OR FALSE (Answers are below)

1. The Lord is close to the wicked and hears their prayers. ____ TRUE ____ FALSE
2. The Lord hears the prayer of the righteous. ____ TRUE ____ FALSE
3. As believers we should pray daily and often. ____ TRUE ____ FALSE
4. It is important to pray everyday for family, friends and relatives who are not saved that they might be saved. ____ TRUE ____ FALSE
5. God does not care if we forget to pray. ____ TRUE ____ FALSE
6. The Bible says we should pray without ceasing (pray often). ____ TRUE ____ FALSE
7. If we don't confess our sins when we pray the Lord will not hear us. ____ TRUE ____ FALSE
8. Prayer, Bible study, and witnessing is not important to God. ____ TRUE ____ FALSE
9. We don't need to thank the Lord in prayer for our food, etc. that He graciously provides. ____ TRUE ____ FALSE
10. We can pray anytime and anywhere. ____ TRUE ____ FALSE

Answers: 1. False 2. True 3. True 4. True 5. False 6. True 7. True 8. False 9. False 10. True

Praises

- Praise God for His almighty power!
- I praise God His protection and provision over the past nine months here in MA!

Prayer Requests

- Salvation of Mike, Debbie, Tom, Gary, Kim, Adam and A.J.
- Wisdom and strength in the new position at the HFT editor's job
- Salvation of my sister Wendy, nephew Jacob and Aunt's Sybil and Bernice.
- Outreach of Heritage Baptist Church (We have distributed over 2000 'Marked' New Testaments and gospel tracts to Norwood and surrounding towns!)
- Needs of the body of Heritage Baptist Church

- Missionaries across the globe
- Unspoken request for HFT editor

Pictures of the Apartment:

As promised, here are just a few pictures of the very nice 3 bedroom apartment the Lord blessed the HFT editor and two brothers in the Lord with back in April. Please note that some of these pictures are before moving in. The facilities also have a fitness center, business center and much more.



The Kitchen area with laundry behind the door



Outside living room window



Outside one of the bedroom windows



One of the 3 bedrooms with ample closet space



A portion of the very large living room area



The outside of one of the buildings

Hunger For Truth is a bi-monthly e-newsletter publication edited by Craig Glickman who is a member of Heritage Baptist Church of Norwood, MA where the Pastor is Steve Hathaway.

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Thank you for reading this. I praise God for all my dear brothers and sisters in Christ and I greatly appreciate your prayers. May each and every one of you be richly blessed as we serve our precious Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

***His Servant,
Craig Glickman
Prov. 3:5-6***

