



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 dear reader and welcome to another issue of Hunger For Truth. I trust it will be a blessing to you. This issue includes part 4 of Brother Andrew Lacroix's study 'Five More D's', part 8 of the study on the word 'alone' and a great devotional entitled “The Stench of Sin”. I am sorry, 'Emotions in the Bible' will be preempted this issue but will return in the September 1st issue.

On a MA update, as I type this, the transition to days for the HFT editor's job has suffered a small setback. I am now back on the 4pm-1am shift until replacement(s) can be found and then I will be going to days Lord willing. Please pray for His perfect will to be done.

On a praise note, God has providentially intervened regarding the job as I was recently able to witness to a co-worker after giving him a ride home. This would not have happened if I was on day shift! Praise the Lord! Please pray for the salvation of Jose and that he would come to church.

Please note that back issues of Hunger For Truth are viewable and printable at www.studytoanswer.net.

It is my desire that Hunger For Truth edifies, blesses and encourages you in your walk with the Lord. 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 4) (By: Andrew Lacroix)

We have looked at Demas, Demetrius, and Diotrefes thus far in our study of lesser known Bible characters whose names began with the letter “D”. Here in part four I'd like to look at a lady who would exemplify and model the Christian life quite well. Her name was Dorcas. Little is told about her, save the tale end of Acts 9. Little is told of her testimony, but what we do know ought to challenge us: “Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas; this woman was full of good works and alms deeds which she did” (Acts 9:36). Those at Joppa had to be impressed by her zeal to give everything she had. Dorcas was used to *draw* others to God's great work.

Luke wrote about Dorcas that she was full of good works (v. 36). This probably means that in the early days of the church at Joppa, she had gotten saved and developed, through much studying and prayer, a godly testimony. She probably housed, fed, and ministered to others in the local church there.

However, her life took a turn for the worse in verse 37. She had gotten sick unto death, and it wasn't long before she went home to be with the Lord. Certain people from the church there sought the apostle Peter, in the nearby town of Lydda. Two men begged of Peter to come quickly. When Peter came, they showed him all that she had made, an evidence of the blessing she was in the ministry and in the lives of others.

We come to verse forty. Here Peter goes, prays, and God enables him to raise her up. When she is presented to those dear saints at Joppa alive, the knowledge of the act is spread like wildfire throughout the town, and many called upon the Lord (v. 42).

I draw a couple of things from the text (v. 36-42). 1) If you want the Lord to use you, be prepared. You may have to suffer. Sure, it'd be great to be used healthy, but you may have to endure hardness (cf. 2 Timothy 2:3) or go through a bout or two of sickness or perhaps even cancer to be used even more than you may be now. Don't allow bitterness to settle in and close the door on the impact you'd be able to have. Dorcas was probably even in pain for a time before her death in v. 37. Christian, are you willing to suffer pain to be used more mightily than you already are? Consider it. 2) Before Peter raised her up, note verse 39. When Peter comes, the disciples and widows showed him all the clothing and coats (tunics) she had made. She was making a difference. She probably clothed the poor who attended the church at Joppa and also sold clothing as well. She was known throughout the town. It was said of Abel: "...he being dead yet speaketh" (Hebrews 11:4). If you died, would your life still speak volumes after your body is in the grave? Dorcas' life most certainly did. Would those in your local church, dear Christian, be able to show the good you did while you were alive? Are there souls in that church or others who'd be able to testify of your impact God allowed you to have in their lives?

Many believed on the Lord through this act of resurrection. Every time in the NT when a resurrection occurred, the impact was known throughout, and many were drawn to Christ and His offer of salvation. The resurrection of Jairus' daughter (Luke 8:41-56) impacted her whole family. In Matthew's recollection, "the fame thereof went abroad into all that land" (9:26). The raising of Lazarus (John 11:17-45) brought many to believe on Christ. Those at Troas "were not a little comforted" at the renewal of Eutychus (Acts 20:6-12). Anytime there was a resurrection, it was known. Of course, how dare I neglect the One resurrection that affects EVERY life. A lot negatively rejected what has been freely given and that is truly sad. Many though, have believed, and we look forward to the day we will be whisked away, resurrected in glory, forever with the Saviour who set us free.

Anyone who is willing can be used, from the little child who brings his/her parents to the altar to be saved to the old person on their death bed witnessing to their family one last time and in between, no matter how little or much they did in their lives can be greatly used. Just simply yield to the Lord. Do what you can with what the Lord has blessed you with. A little boy who had just a little bread and a little fish gave what he had, and God used it to feed multitudes (Matthew 14:15-21).

The hymn writer sounds out what impact we are able to have: "Little is much when God is in it, labor not for wealth or fame, there's a crown and you can win it, if you'll go in Jesus' name."

"Alone" (Part #8) (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 63:3 – In this passage God is saying that He alone will wage war against the nations and defeat them. He will trample them as people would trample grapes in a winepress (Joel 3:13, Rev. 14:17-20; 19:15). Are you prepared to meet thy God? (Amos 4:12)

Jeremiah 15:17 – This is during one of many times of great trial for 'the weeping prophet' Jeremiah. This is a very difficult and interesting passage. To start, in verse 10, Jeremiah says "woe is me". He complained to the Lord that he was being cursed by all the people of the land. In verses 11-14 the Lord responded by telling Jeremiah that when the judgment came, his enemies would plead with him for help (21:1-7; 37:1-10, 17-20; 38:14-18). Next, we need to look at verses 15-16. It says in verse 16 "Thy words...joy and rejoicing of mine heart". Jeremiah loved the word of the Lord; it was a joy and a delight to his heart. Do you and I desire His word like Jeremiah did? But in our passage, he remained separated or alone from the sinful actions of the wicked "...because of thy (God's) hand"! Because of this separation and the people's rejection of the truth of God's word Jeremiah experienced discouragement, depression, isolation and loneliness. Did he remain separated willingly? Probably not,

as in verse 17 he says God has filled him with indignation (*anger aroused by something unjust, unworthy or mean*)! He is blaming God for his condition and circumstances! In verse 18 we see that he accused God of not being faithful! In verses 19-21 God tells him to repent of such words and went on to give him a promise and a renewal of his call. We must trust God to give us grace and strength and help us through a trial or trials for He has a purpose and a plan for each and every one of us. Even though we don't see any hope in sight, we must trust God's word (vs. 16) and go thru a trial with eyes of faith in God who leadeth us (Psalm 23). (*See Lamentations 3:27-33 below*)

Jeremiah 49:31 – This passage relates to the prophecy against Kedar and the kingdoms of Hazor. It is a prophecy against Arab tribes. The people of Kedar were descendants of Ishmael, Abraham's son by Hagar (Gen. 25:13; Is. 21:13,16). This nation the people were to go to (Ezek. 38:11) was a nation that was at ease and had no gates or bars and the people there dwelt alone. Most likely, 'alone' means they dwelt in safety, contentment and peace (Num. 23:9; Deut. 33:28; Mic. 7:14).

Lamentations 3:27-33 – This passage relates to the Jeremiah 15 passage we studied previously. This is a passage of lamenting and hope. Let's start by looking back at verse 21-26. Jeremiah wants the people to know that all is not lost. They can have hope because the Lord's anger lasts only a brief time, but His lovingkindness never ceases (v. 22). God had not rejected Judah as His covenant people, and He still had a purpose for them. Secondly, the Lord is good and merciful to those who wait upon Him in humility and repentance (vv. 24-27). Thirdly, the Lord desires to have compassion on sufferers when His chastisement has accomplished its purpose (vv. 28-33). Now look at verses 27-33. 'Alone' in verse 28 likely relates to separation as in the Jeremiah 15 passage. God sometimes sends afflictions to those who have rebelled against Him in order to accomplish a beneficial and purifying work in their lives. Those undergoing such trials should confess their sin and trust the Lord for forgiveness and restoration.

Daniel 10:7-8 – This passage relates to Daniel's vision of what was most likely an angel (vs. 4-6). Daniel alone saw the angel for those with him trembled in fear and fled to hide themselves. In fear and lack of faith in God, they forsook Daniel and fled leaving Daniel alone. This was a trying time for Daniel. He was in mourning and did not eat for three full weeks (vs. 1-3)! To understand this passage, we need to start by looking at verses 5,13. The messenger spoke of being hindered by the Prince of Persia (i.e., a demon) and of needing the help of Michael. In verses 7-11 the glory and awe of the vision drained Daniel's strength. The hand of the angel touched and helped him to his hands and knees. The angel called him “a man greatly beloved” (vs. 11) and told him “fear not” (vs. 12). God loves the whole world (John 3:16), but responds in a special way to the love and faithfulness of people who, like Daniel, are faithfully trusting in and serving Him. In verse 13 while Daniel was probably praying and fasting, a spiritual battle of great magnitude was occurring. The Prince of Persia prevented Daniel from receiving God's message from the angel! Because of this conflict, he had to wait 21 days for the revelation. This 'Prince of Persia' was not a human king, but a demon from Satan's kingdom! He was defeated only when Michael, Israel's prince (v. 21), came to help the angel. Though satanic forces wished to hinder the reception of this vision about Israel, Israel's angelic prince (12:1) proved stronger (Rev. 12:7-12). This passage gives us a glimpse of the unseen battles going on in the spiritual realm on our behalf! Note that God had responded to Daniel's prayer, but the answer was delayed for 21 days by satanic forces! Satan always desires to hinder our prayers and get us to stop praying (2 Cor. 2:11), we must persevere in earnest and diligent prayer (Luke 18:1-8). May we as the great old hymn says “Dare to be a Daniel. Dare to stand alone. Dare to have purpose firm. Dare to make it known.”

The Stench of Sin (By: Craig Glickman) (7/25/12)

TEXT: Amos 4:9-11

I don't know about you, but I don't believe anybody enjoys a foul stench or odor! You would not say, "I love the smell of a dead skunk!" Or, "I really like the smell coming from a garbage can!" NO! You would cover your nose and say, "that smell is awful!" How many of you have walked into a bathroom and had to cover your nose? Obviously, we all have! Strong odors will cause us to cover our nose and do all we can to avoid or get away from the horrible stench!

Well, in our passage, God talks about the stench of sin! Why is it we don't avoid sin like we do foul odors? When I smell a foul odor I have to cover my nose or pull my shirt over my nose. I can't wait to get away from that horrible smell! Why don't we see sin as a thrice-holy God sees it? Why don't we flee from it as we do a foul odor? Sin is more foul than all the worst odors combined! Sin is an awful stench in the nostrils of God! Praise God that for my sin...and yours, Christ died on the cross.

Our passage relates to Israel's failure to return to God and how God allowed various trials including a foul stench (vs. 10) in their lives to draw them to Himself and yet they would not return unto Him!

Today I want to look at four points about the stench of sin.

1. The stench of sin is foul
 - A. Verse 10 – God hates the filthy foul stench of sin! Sin is an abomination to Him.
 - B. Sin is anything we do that is against the will of God; disobeying His word.
 - C. Sin is a reproach (a cause or occasion of blame or disgrace) to any people (Prov. 14:34) (Righteousness)
2. The stench of sin is foolish
 - A. Flies – Ecc. 10:1-3- In this passage, just as dead flies decaying spoiled a batch of perfume, sin will destroy our lives. (Flies represent filth, foul, disgusting)
 - B. The foolishness of sin hurts others. - Prov. 1:7, 17:25, 29:11
 - C. Fools mock or make a joke of/about sin – Prov. 14:9
 - D. The foolishness of sin destroys lives. - 1 Tim. 6:9, Rom. 1:20-22
3. The stench of sin is fatal
 - A. Prepare to meet thy God – vs. 12 (For failure to repent of their sin and return to God the children of Israel would face the ultimate judgment of God at the hands of the Assyrians.)
 - B. Hell – Psalm 9:16-18, Matt. 10:28
 - C. Eternal Damnation – Matt 23:32-34, Romans 13:1-3
4. The stench of sin can be freshened (spiritual air freshener)(i.e. Lysol, Glade, Renuzit [renewed])
 - A. Are you prepared to meet God? Where will you spend eternity?
 - B. Do you see sin as God sees it? (It stinks! It is awful! We need to hate and avoid it!)
 - C. Jesus saves! You can be renewed, refreshed and have eternal life and victory over the power of sin by repenting of your sin and putting your faith in Christ alone. (Romans Road)
 - D. Believers still sin but have victory over the power of sin. We need to continually be refreshed when we sin (1 John 1:9).

Quotes

- “When we view the blessings with which our country has been favored, those which we now enjoy, and the means which we possess of handing them down unimpaired to our latest posterity, our attention is irresistibly drawn to the source from whence they flow. Let us then, unite in offering our most grateful acknowledgments for these blessings to the Divine Author of All Good.” – *President James Monroe (5th President of the United States)*
- “God sends the storms or trials in our lives for a divine purpose. We need to willingly trust Him to guide us through the storm.”

:) Children For Christ :)

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

Match these Heroes of the Faith from Hebrews 11 (*Please draw a line to the correct answer*)

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 1. Enoch | A. Offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain |
| 2. Abel | B. Obeyed God not knowing where he was going |
| 3. Abraham | C. Blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come |
| 4. Sarah | D. Being moved with fear he prepared an ark |
| 5. Isaac | E. Received strength to bare a child later in life |
| 6. Noah | F. Hid Moses for three months |
| 7. Moses' Parents | G. The walls of Jericho fell down after seven days |
| 8. Joshua | H. Received the spies with peace |
| 9. Jacob | I. Blessed both the sons of Joseph |
| 10. Rahab | J. He refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter |
| 11. Joseph | K. He did not see death |
| 12. Moses | L. Gave commandment concerning his bones |

Praises

- I praise God for His perfect timing in all our lives. Praise God He is never ever late and he never forgets! Amen!
- Praise God that for those who know Him, one is never ever alone.

Prayer Requests

- Salvation of Jose, Mike, Debbie, Tom, Gary, Adam, Kim and A.J.
- Transition to a day shift for the HFT editor's job in the Lord's perfect timing
- Traveling mercies for the HFT editor and a friend who will be traveling to PA over labor day weekend to visit family and friends.
- 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

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***

