



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 a new devotional from Brother Andrew Lacroix entitled “Prepare to Meet Thy God”. You will also find part 12 on the study of the word 'alone' and another great study 'emotions in the Bible'. Also, I am planning a future study on the word 'account' in the Bible.

Also, I covet your prayers regarding several unspoken requests (one is related to the HFT editor's job). These are needs that only God can meet and I am fully trusting in and depending on Him.

On a MA update, Five days from this issue date marks my one year anniversary here in MA. I am thankful to be here and serving at Heritage Baptist Church of Norwood, MA. Lord willing and by His grace and strength I plan to continue reaching lost souls and discipling others here, somewhere else in New England or wherever the Lord may lead me.

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.

Prepare to Meet Thy God (By: Andrew Lacroix)

Text: Amos 4:11-13

Apparently the nation of Israel forgets quite often. We have seen them forget Who brought them out of bondage, Who gave them manna and water, and Who gave them the Promised Land. Attempting to bring a warning from God is the former farmer, one called of God, the prophet Amos. Here Amos has the responsibility of bringing a cold nation back into a real relationship with Jehovah. In our text we see that God had to overthrow Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 19) for their wickedness and that God was ready to do the same to the nation of Israel.

However, they were plucked from the fire for now. If you were in a burning building and unable to escape, what would you do? Run through the flames? NO! Pray that someone would rescue you! These were people that God had set aside, but they were unwilling to return to Him. They chose to run through the flames. As a final warning, Israel is told to: “prepare to meet thy God” (v. 12). Are

you prepared to meet thy God?

Let's be real. This is not the non-judgmental God portrayed in "Christian" literature today or the Allah who demands death. This is the Jehovah of Holy Writ. There are two meetings I would like to bring up regarding what the Bible says about the time we will meet God. Remember that your meeting with God is inevitable.

1. The Bema Seat. This is the "prepare to meet thy God" for all Christians, who at ONE time in their life made the conscious decision to repent of their sins and turn to Jesus Christ alone to save them. The Christian, therefore, will give account for how we did or did not use all the counsel of God while we lived as His redeemed children. This will include such, but not limited to, church attendance, faithfulness in giving, intercession, testimony, soul-warning and soul-winning, and other such items. I point your attention to three passages which speak to this meeting: I Corinthians 3:11-15; II Corinthians 5:9-10; and Romans 14:10-12. The I Corinthians passage deals with the Christians' works, which will be tried before God at this meeting. If our works stand the test of fire, they were indeed done through the Holy Spirit and we will be rewarded with Heavenly opportunities. If the works are burned, we will suffer loss, yet our eternity is secure. II Corinthians speaks to receiving what we have done here, good or bad. What we have sowed we will most certainly reap, if not here on earth, then we will in Heaven. The Romans passage talks about the account of our lives we will give to Christ. Christian, are you prepared to meet thy God? Have you lived your life ready to give account for it? Will your works be fireproof or flammable material?

2. The Great White Throne. All who have rejected God's plan of salvation, in essence, doing nothing, will endure the Tribulation and end up here. They will be judged according to their works (Revelation 20:11-15), told why they will spend eternity in the lake of fire, and thus will receive their judgment. These may or may not be good people. They may have faith in false doctrine. They may attend church weekly. They may give of their time, talent, and or treasure. They may think there is no accountability, that you may do as you please anyway. Sadly, these are not prepared to meet thy God. They have rejected the plan of salvation and rejected all of the earth as Creation and decided there was nothing else to life, that they would cease to exist, and that was all. That is not all. Also at this judgment, the level of severity they will endure torment will be based on their works. This tells men: "every idle word that men shall speak they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." (Matthew 12:36-37)

Today, are you prepared to meet thy God? Have you trusted Christ as Saviour? If not, why wait? Be prepared NOW to meet Him. He is waiting with open arms to receive you, repentant sinner. Christian, He is waiting to forgive you of all your sins and help you live for Him. You will meet God. How will you choose to meet Him, at the Bema Seat or you risking the lake of fire for another pleasure of sin?

"Take Courage" (From Sept./Oct. Issue of Baptist Bread)

TEXT: II Chron. 15:7-8

Admitting God's Word into one's life produces courage. Evidence that courage has actually worked in one's life is CHANGE!

Since righteousness will never be popular in an unrighteous world, the believer will always need courage to do right. Let's do a Bible study on things courageous people do:

- 1) They go against popular trends (II Chron. 14:11)
- 2) They accept God's Word above all (15:8)

- 3) They oppose obvious evil around them (15:8)
- 4) They promote public worship of God (14:4 & 15:8)
- 5) They release their hold on material things (15:9-11)
- 6) They commit themselves to the Lord (15:12-13)
- 7) They publicly praise God for His blessings (15:14-15)
- 8) They put truth over family relationships (15:16)
- 9) They remain battle-ready at all times (14:8ff)

I want to be known as a “courageous believer.” How about you? Does each of the principles listed describe how you live as a believer? To develop courage: stay in God's Word, stay near courageous people, stay open to instruction, stay in contact with Heaven and stay focused on eternity, not things of earth.

Pray daily that God will make you a person who takes courage! – *Guy G.*

Editor's Note: I was convicted by this devotional. I realized how hard it is to be a “courageous believer” and fully obey these principles from God's Word in these wicked last days. Please pray that you and I will be “courageous believers.”

“Clay” *(A poem from Sept./Oct. Issue of Baptist Bread) (Anonymous)*

TEXT: Romans 9:21a, Jeremiah 18:6b

I took a piece of plastic clay
 And I idly fashioned it one day.
 And in my fingers pressed it still,
 it moved and yielded to my will.
 I came again when days were past,
 And the bit of clay was hard at last.
 The form I gave it, still it bore,
 But I could change the form no more.

Given a piece of living clay
 I touched it gently day by day.
 And molded with my power and art,
 A young child's soft and yielding heart.
 Then I came again when years were gone,
 It was a man, a man I looked upon.
 That early impress still he wore
 And I could change that form no more!

Stay still the hand of the Potter,
 Lie low 'neath His wonderful touch.
 He shareth and moldeth in mercy
 The clay that He loveth so much.

Editor's Note: Wow, what a powerful poem! This poem was very convicting as well. How often you

and I harden our hearts. We need to stay moldable. The clay does not and can not tell the Potter what to do! I praise God that empty and broken we can come back to Him and a vessel of honor I am today for it is all because Jesus did not and never will throw the clay away!

“Alone” (Part #12) (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.

Luke 4:4 - In this passage Jesus quotes the OT saying that everything important in life depends on God and His will (John 4:34) (...man shall not live by bread alone). To strive for success, happiness, or material things apart from God's way and purpose will lead to bitter disappointment and end in failure. Jesus emphasizes this truth when He teaches we must seek first the kingdom of God (i.e., God's rule, activity, and power in our lives); only then will other necessary things be given according to His will and way (Matt. 5:6, 6:33).

Luke 4:34 – This is the passage where the unclean spirit is cast out. The unclean spirit recognizes Jesus as Messiah, as God and understands His holiness and says “let us alone” or “away”. The unclean spirit feared the Lord Jesus and wanted nothing to do with Him. Jesus rebukes the spirit and it is cast out (vs. 35).

Luke 5:21 -This is the passage where the paralytic was let down thru the ceiling because of the crowd and was then healed. He saw their faith and forgave their sins (vs. 20) and the scribes and Pharisees failed to see He was God and said He spoke blasphemy. They said “who can forgive sins, but God alone?” This passage proves Jesus power, Jesus is Messiah, God incarnate and that only He can forgive sins when we repent and put our faith in Him as this man did.

Luke 6:4 – In verses 1-11 of this passage it speaks of the Pharisees who accuse Jesus of breaking the sabbath. The study of the sabbath and the Lord's Day may be for another issue, but in keeping with this study, in verse 4 Christ rebukes them as he speaks of David who went into the house of God and did take and eat the showbread, and gave also to them that were with him; which it is not lawful to eat but for the priests alone? (Lev. 24:9). This was to teach them that Jesus is Lord also of the sabbath (vs. 5).

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: James 4:6-10

Emotion(s): affliction, mourning, weeping, laughter, joy, heaviness

Cause: Drawing nigh to God in humility

Effect: The Lord will lift you up

What does the passage say?: It says we need to be humble for God resists prideful, proud people but gives grace to those who humble themselves before Him (vs. 6). We need to be surrendered to God in faith and obedience and resist Satan and he will flee (vs. 7). We need to draw near to Him with our heart and mind and surrender ourselves to and love Him with our whole spirit, mind and body. We should not be double minded (our eyes on the things of the world and on God) (1 Cor. 10:31, Col. 3:17). Verse 9 shows how to humble ourselves (swallow our pride) and the result in verse 10 is that the Lord will lift us up and encourage us.

What does the passage say to you and I?: God hates pride (not depending on God, seeking to exalted in our own minds and to seek honor and the esteem of others) and this must be impressed on our hearts and minds. Pride causes God to not hear our prayers and breaks a believer's fellowship with Him. God promises to draw nigh to all those who turn from sin, purify their hearts, and call upon Him in true repentance. God's nearness will bring His presence, grace, blessings, and love. Our affliction, mourning, heaviness and weeping can be turned into true joy and laughter as we humble ourselves in the sight of the Lord, repent of sin, forsake sin and strive to live a Spirit filled, Spirit led life.

What should you and I do about it?: Be sure your joy and happiness is the joy of the Lord? (1 Cor. 10:31, Col. 3:17). Can you do what brings you joy and happiness for and to the glory of God? If not, seek His face and His kingdom in all that you do (Matt. 6:33).

How do you and I stay accountable?: Matthew 5:4 says "Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted." Comfort can come for those who are in mourning, weeping and affliction. As the hymn says, "Hold on my child, joy comes in the morning, for the darkest hour means dawn is just in sight." Humble yourself in the sight of the Lord, draw nigh to God in humility and He will lift you up.

Quotes

- "People create their own idea of God (who He is) and their own religion and what they want out of religion. They don't want the truth of God's word alone."
- "People pick and choose what they want from a church (programs, etc.) rather than simply coming to church to worship the Lord and hear solid Bible preaching to grow in their walk with Him."
- "People pick and choose what they want to believe and accept out of the Bible rather than living by its every word, rightly dividing the word of truth and allowing the Spirit of God to guide them into all truth."
- "People want religion and not repentance."
- "People who are true Christians are NOT part of a cult or religion. They have a personal walk with and live by faith in their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and His word!"
- "Make sure that what is truth to you is also truth to God!"

:) Children For Christ :)

CREATION

Memory Verse: Genesis 1:1 “In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth.”

FIRST: Take your Bible and read these verses: Genesis 1:1, Genesis 1:3, Psalm 19:1, Psalm 33:6, Isaiah 37:16, Isaiah 45:12, Jeremiah 32:17, Colossians 1:16, Revelation 4:11

NOW ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS BASED ON THE ABOVE VERSES:

1. When did God create the heavens and the earth? _____
2. God said: “Let there be _____: and there was _____.”
3. What declares the glory of God? _____
4. How were the heavens made? _____
5. Where does God dwell? A. Between the cherubims B. On earth C. In the sea
6. Who made the earth and created man upon it? _____
7. Read Jeremiah 32:17 and finish this sentence: God made heaven and earth by his great _____ and stretched out _____ for nothing is too hard for God.
8. Fill-in-the-blank: “For by _____ were all things _____, that are in heaven, and that are in _____, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were _____ by him, and for him:”
9. Who alone is worthy to receive glory and honour and power? _____ Why? _____
_____ (Rev. 4:11)

Praises

- I praise God for strength He gives me to get through every day.
- Praise God for your local Bible believing, Bible preaching local church.

Prayer Requests

- Salvation of Mike, Debbie, Tom, Gary, Jose, Kim, Adam and A.J.
- The Lord's will regarding the HFT editor's job (day position, current position, or a new job)
- Salvation of my sister Wendy and friend Ben, nephew Jacob and aunt's Sybil and Bernice.
- Outreach of Heritage Baptist Church (We have distributed over 3000 'Marked' New Testaments and gospel tracts to Norwood and surrounding towns!)
- Needs of the body of Heritage Baptist Church
- Missionaries across the globe
- The Lord to lead the HFT editor to the one wife and help meet He has for him.
- 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***

