

Bits and Pieces

A collage of scriptures nuggets and sayings:

“a Righteous man may have many troubles but the Lord delivers him from them all” Psalm 34

“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from Heaven, and will forgive their sin and will heal their land”

2 Chron 7:14

“Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits, who forgiveth all thine iniquities, who healeth all thy diseases”

Psalm 103:2-3

Each Christian is a temple of the Holy Spirit, a person in whom Christ actually dwells.

But how often we sit next to other believers. Eat with them, sing with them, yet fail to see that we have been in the presence of Christ Himself

not mine

Why not go out on a limb? Isn't that where the fruit is?

not mine

There are 2 types of giving. Giving that glorifies God and giving that doesn't.

Do it in secret, where only God sees.

“Blab it and grab it” is based on the Truth. Don't be deterred by this mockery.

I am *not* saying that I go along with the 'over the top' use of the Word to promote it.

Do you need a new car? Can you ask for it and use the scriptures?

How else are you going to receive it from God, your loving Father?

You don't have because you don't ask God..... James 4:2 but check 3

Is it wrong to ask? No! that is the key!!...with thanksgiving (gratefulness), let your requests be known to God.

Remember He already knows. But God has chosen not to force anything on you.

He has given you choice. Even the choice to receive Salvation or not. He needs your permission.

Mark 11:23 says you can **command** a mountain to throw itself into the sea (with **Belief/Faith** and **no doubt**)

I think a car is more practical.

Mark 16:15-18 Signs followed the preaching of the Word. (not the individual)

Rom 10:10 *“For with your heart you believe and are justified, and with your mouth you confess and are saved”*

This is the key. This is how you get saved. This is how you receive anything from God.

You believe (faith or trust) His Word. You confess (proclaim or ask) based on that Word.

Then what? If there is a doing bit....do it. This is where the miracles are.

Jesus told the lepers to go show themselves to the Priests. As they went they were healed.

But usually Thanksgiving. How long? Until you have it. Remind Him of His promises.

His Word does not return to Him void. He stands by His Word to perform it.

The shield of Faith (trust in your relationship with God your Father who gives you His Word)

Lets play with this. What is the shield, of Faith? eg What is the shield of Kevin? Not Kevin

While you have Faith in Gods promises, your request is safe. But why does the shield fail?

Faith has a shield too.....Patience. Don't doubt...it is a liar, an enemy.

But what does it say? The word is near you, even in your mouth, and in your heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

Your Destiny is in your mouth. As Hagin says “Confession comes before Possession”.

What men learn from history, is that men do not learn from history

not mine

No experiment is ever a complete failure. It can always be used as a bad example

not mine

Many Christians do not reach the heights that God has for them, in their walk with Him, because they are afraid to let go of the security of their own determination and things they know and understand.

They want to have their hands on the steering wheel of their life, reluctant to trust God with their future, their destiny. They want to learn to swim, but they won't let go of the side of the pool. You can't do both.

Is Jesus our Lord, our Master, our Future, our goal?

Is God the one in whom we put our trust? Have we given Him our life, our tomorrow?

How many of us hop in our row boats and push out into God's 'River of Life', His will for us, (supernatural) but don't untie the rope that holds our boat (our life) to the River's edge (the natural)?

Are we deceiving ourselves when we say "I walk by Faith"?

How can our Heavenly Father take us where He is going, include us in what He is doing, when we won't let go?

Where the possible and the abilities end, the Supernatural begins, the impossible, the miraculous.

Remove the ties to the securities and limitations of the 'natural' realm, and give the reigns of your life into His able hands.

Push out from the water's edge and your confidence in it and move out into the middle, the main flow of His will for your life. Be surrounded by Him, feel His Strength, His Power, the Peace. Be carried along as and where He takes you, with power and ease, the fastest route.

Do not crawl along the edge, for there are many hindrances, hazards, and snags.

Fear, double-mindedness, luke-warmness and compromise, fallen trees, reeds, marshes, sand banks and rocks.

The flow is slow at the edge and **you** will need to do the rowing to get anywhere.

You will do it in your own strength.

You will take wrong turns along tributaries of life that go nowhere except dead-ends and stagnant swamps.

You WILL tire and give up.

In the middle of the river you don't need to row. Do it in His strength, not your own. His will, not your own.

Today's mighty oak is yesterday's little nut that held its ground.

not mine

There is no limit to the good a person can do, if they don't care who gets the credit

not mine

I was pondering those things of the past that I would rather have not done and prefer to forget.

As our enemy did his slide show of photos of the past I said out loud "Lord, I wish I hadn't done that".

The clear and immediate reply was "Did what?!"

Yes, the Lord has no record of the forgiven things of our past, although our enemy, frequently, has no qualms to remind us.

When our God forgives and says that He will "take those things far from Him as far as the east is from the west"
He means it!

Mark 4:

23 *If anyone has ears to hear, **let him hear.***"

24 *"Consider carefully what you hear," "With the **measure you use**, it will be measured to you--and even more.*

25 *Whoever has **will be given more**; whoever does not have, even what he has **will be taken from him.***"

This is regarding parables, but not a parable. This is a summary break in-between Jesus speaking the parables to His disciples. It is about 'hearing' 'taking heed' "measure you mete" "given more" or "taken".

Read it again. A bit 'out there'. What is He saying to His disciples (us)?

Lets go back a few verses.

Mark 4:9 *And he said unto them, "If anyone has ears to hear, **let him hear.**"*

11 "The **secret of the kingdom** of God has been given to you. But to those on the outside everything is said in parables

12 so that, "they may be ever seeing but **never perceiving**, and ever hearing but **never understanding**; otherwise they **might turn and be forgiven!**"

13 Then Jesus said to them, "Don't you understand this parable? **How then will you understand any parable?**

Firstly He says that non-Christians should find salvation before they gain understanding.

heard that before? No. But that is what is says. There is an order and preparation to how and when the Holy Spirit brings us to that place. Then our eyes are opened. Ever wonder about the parable where the "wedding guest" is not properly dressed and is kicked out? Remember, our eternity in God, doesn't start at the Wedding. It starts after the Day of Atonement (Judgement day) which is 7 earth yrs then 1000 more (day of rest).

Don't get me wrong, it starts after we receive Jesus. But legally after Judgement.

We are accused, let out on bail, then attend the courtroom, and the case is thrown out, we are free.

Now, to give it away from the start.....for us, the above scripture is all about understanding.

Knowing what the Word says is not enough, but "**take heed what you hear**".

If you don't understand the parable of the Sower, you will lack understanding of the others.

All about the Kingdom.

The Kingdom isn't starting in the future. The Kingdom isn't in some far away place. The Kingdom has always been here and is where God is...everywhere (Omnipresent)

Just like after you finish school and go out into your adult life. The adult life has always been there.

But you can enter the Supernatural Kingdom and be an active Citizen in it NOW.

The Supernatural laws work better there unhindered.

I know,you vaguely get it. I'm with you.

Sow and reap. Give and receive. Measure. Proportion. Soil (state of the 'heart'). Natural or Supernatural.

Kingdom or the "world".

There is more in this than meets the eye , even without reading the parables. For both of us.

But to leave you with it, when this first jumped out at me, I wrote:

"As your understanding increases, your position, or ability to receive increases".

From knowledge, you can then gain Understanding (revelation) and then from understanding you can gain Wisdom (on what to do with it) and this comes free.

Another ps. I havn't checked the concordance but: 'ear to hear'?

Rom 10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Hearing not reading.

So when ever you read the Word of God out loud, you prophesy, and His Word (with Faith) does not return void, and Faith eventually comes. You know Ask, and keep on asking... Hear, and keep on hearing.....

"no-one listens to poor people" Eccl 9:13

"Money answers everything" Eccl 10:19

"Remember the Lord- He gives you power (not skill) to obtain wealth that He may establish His covenant"

Deut 8:17

"For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. 1 Tim 6:10

Money is not good or bad. It takes on your personality.

Money that we earn has a greater dimension than the life we laid down (sold).

It pays for things we can't do. We can be a plumber, electrician, pilot...anything.

It also can do many things at once.

Getting wealth enables us to be anything and do anything (and have anything).

So lets not be religious. Wealth in the hands of Christians has great influence for the Kingdom.

By selling your life, you are able to pay your bills and hopefully more.

So when you give this money you are really giving your life...a living sacrifice.

“Excel in the grace of giving. A test of the sincerity of your Love” 2 Cor 8:7

“Though Jesus Christ was rich, yet for our sakes He became poor, that thru His poverty, we might become rich” 2 Cor 8:9-13

“for if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from Him anything we ask, because we obey His commands and do what pleases Him” 1 John 3:22

“Do good and share, for with such sacrifices God is pleased” Heb 13:16

“...Faith without works is dead” James 2:17-26

“...without Love, you gain nothing” 1 Cor 13:2-3

Word Picture: (from training notes)

There was a mother who had 2 young daughters.

he mother announced that she was going to make cakes, and asked her daughters whether they wanted to help her.

One wanted to play outside but the other wanted to help. So her mother got her a chair to stand on and started to organise the utensils & ingredients.

As the mother prepared the ingredients, she gave her daughter simple things to do, while she did the rest.

Sifting flour, placing the cups on the trays and filling the mixture into them.

When the cakes came out of the oven the daughter said ‘look at the cakes I made’.

Which daughter did the mother love best?

Both the same.

But who gets to lick the spoon?

Thanksgiving/Praise: to speak out, to shout out, to sing your gratitude to Jesus and to the Father for what **they have given to you and done for you. ie who He is to you.**

“Jesus you are my Champion. Thankyou for dying for my sin so that I could be reconciled to our Father.....” *NOT* singing about Praise... or “I will praise you”

Worship: to speak out, to shout out, to sing your appreciation for **who He is** (whether you walk in it or not) for He is Worthy to be praised. “Father you are the only living true God, Almighty God, the Alpha the Omega.....ever present, all seeing....you are Jehovah Jireh, The Provider, you are El Shaddai, Our God more than enough.....”

This is enthroning praise. If you build it they will come. *Sorry*, just an example here.

If you enthrone Him He will come and we will be in His presence. He wants to be with us, it is up to us.

In 2 Chronicles 16:9 we are told: **For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him.** Then, in John 4:23 we find: **But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.**

The very reason that God created Man....that's us, was that we might CHOOSE (all by ourself) to Worship Him.

Hope there is something to encourage you amongst this.

Kevin Cramp