

HOW BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO
DOES NOT WALK IN THE COUNSEL
OF THE WICKED, NOR STAND IN THE
PATH OF SINNERS, NOR SIT IN THE SEAT
OF SCOFFERS! BUT HIS DELIGHT IS IN THE
LAW OF THE LORD, AND IN HIS LAW HE
MEDITATES DAY AND NIGHT.

LET THE WORD OF CHRIST RICHLY
DWELL WITHIN YOU, WITH ALL WISDOM
TEACHING AND ADMONISHING ONE ANOTHER
WITH PSALMS AND HYMNS AND SPIRITUAL SONGS,
SINGING WITH THANKFULNESS IN YOUR HEARTS TO GOD.
COL 3:16

ABIDE

③ HOW I LOVE YOUR LAW!

IT IS MY MEDITATION ALL THE DAY.

ALL SCRIPTURE
IS INSPIRED BY GOD...

PSALM 119:97

IF YOU ABIDE IN MY WORD,

THEN YOU ARE TRULY
DISCIPLES OF MINE, AND YOU
WILL KNOW THE TRUTH, AND THE
TRUTH WILL MAKE YOU FREE. JOHN 8:31, 32

...THE SACRED WRITINGS
WHICH ARE ABLE TO GIVE YOU
THE WISDOM THAT LEADS TO
SALVATION THROUGH FAITH
WHICH IS IN CHRIST JESUS.
II TIMOTHY 3:15

JESUS SAID TO THEM,
"DID YOU NEVER READ
IN THE SCRIPTURES,
'THE STONE WHICH THE
BUILDERS REJECTED,
THIS BECAME THE CHIEF
CORNERSTONE.'
MATT 21:42

THIS BOOK OF THE LAW SHALL NOT DEPART FROM
YOUR MOUTH, BUT YOU SHALL MEDITATE ON IT DAY
AND NIGHT, SO THAT YOU MAY BE CAREFUL TO DO
ACCORDING TO ALL THAT IS WRITTEN IN IT; FOR THEN
YOU WILL MAKE YOUR WAY PROSPEROUS, AND THEN YOU
WILL HAVE SUCCESS.
JOSHUA 1:8

THE WORD OF GOD IS LIVING AND ACTIVE
AND SHARPER THAN ANY TWO-EDGED
SWORD... AND ABLE TO JUDGE THE
THOUGHTS AND INTENTIONS OF THE HEART.

HEBREWS 4:12

AND HE WILL BE LIKE A TREE FIRMLY PLANTED BY STREAMS OF
WATER, WHICH YIELDS ITS FRUIT IN ITS SEASON,
AND ITS LEAF DOES NOT WITHER;
AND IN WHATEVER HE DOES, HE PROSPERS.

WELCOME!

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP TIME TODAY, WE ARE SETTING ASIDE THIS DAY TO ENJOY GOD'S WORD AND GIVE HIM PRAISE FOR BEING A GOD OF REVELATION... AND ONE WHO WROTE IT DOWN!

WE ARE PEOPLE OF THE BOOK. WHEN REVIVAL CAME TO ISRAEL IN NEHEMIAH'S DAY THEY CALLED ON EZRA TO COME AND TEACH THEM. WE READ IN NEHEMIAH 8,

"ALL THE PEOPLE GATHERED AS ONE MAN...
AND THEY ASKED EZRA THE SCRIBE TO
BRING THE BOOK..."

WHEN THE APOSTLE PAUL WROTE TIMOTHY AT EPHESUS (WHERE THE YOUNGER TIMOTHY WAS PASTORING) HE GAVE HIM INSPIRED INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING MANY DIFFERENT AREAS OF PASTORAL CONCERN. AMONG THESE VALUABLE INSTRUCTIONS HE SPECIFICALLY SAID,

"UNTIL I COME, GIVE ATTENTION TO THE
PUBLIC READING OF SCRIPTURE, TO
EXHORTATION AND TEACHING."

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST WOULD OFTEN ASK,
"HAVE YOU NOT READ?"
AND THEN PROCEED TO OPEN UP AND EXPLAIN
THE SCRIPTURE.

MY HOPE AND PRAYER IS THAT OUR TIME OF WORSHIP TODAY WILL ENCOURAGE AND MOTIVATE YOU TO READ, MEDITATE UPON, MULL OVER, MEMORIZE AND CONTINUE IN THE SACRED WRITINGS. TO PUT IT IN JESUS' WORDS,

"ABIDE IN ME, AND MY WORDS ABIDE
IN YOU."

MAY WE HAVE "EARS TO HEAR" FROM OUR GLORIOUS
AND GRACIOUS LORD JESUS CHRIST,



ORDER OF SERVICE

- CALL TO WORSHIP PSALM 19:7-10
- WORSHIP IN SONG
- TESTIMONIAL SONID ABRAHAM
- SCRIPTURE READING PSALM 124
- OFFERING
- SERMON DEUTERONOMY 17:17-20
- RESPONSE IN SONG

SELECTED WORDS FROM THE WORD ABOUT THE WORD

THE LAW OF THE LORD IS PERFECT, RESTORING THE SOUL;
THE TESTIMONY OF THE LORD IS SURE, MAKING WISE
THE SIMPLE.
THE PRECEPTS OF THE LORD ARE RIGHT, REJOICING THE HEART;
THE COMMANDMENT OF THE LORD IS PURE, ENLIGHTENING
THE EYES.
THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS CLEAN, ENDURING FOREVER;
THE JUDGMENTS OF THE LORD ARE TRUE, THEY ARE
RIGHTEOUS ALTOGETHER.
THEY ARE MORE DESIRABLE THAN GOLD, YES, THAN
MUCH FINE GOLD;
SWEETER ALSO THAN HONEY AND THE DRIPPINGS OF
THE HONEYCOMB.

PSALM 19:7-10

YOU HAVE BEEN BORN AGAIN NOT OF SEED WHICH IS
PERISHABLE BUT IMPERISHABLE, THAT IS, THROUGH THE
LIVING AND ABIDING WORD OF GOD. FOR,
ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS,
AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE FLOWER OF GRASS
THE GRASS WITHERS, THE FLOWER FALLS OFF,
BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD ABIDES FOREVER.
I PETER 1:23, 24 (QUOTING ISAIAH 40)

IS NOT MY WORD LIKE FIRE? DECLARES THE LORD,
AND LIKE A HAMMER WHICH SHATTERS A ROCK?
- JEREMIAH 23:29

THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT, WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD.
EPHESIANS 6:17

FOREVER, O LORD,
YOUR WORD IS SETTLED IN HEAVEN.
PSALM 119:89

OPEN MY EYES, THAT I MAY BEHOLD
WONDER THINGS FROM YOUR LAW.
PSALM 119:18

PSALM 124

A SONG OF ASCENTS, OF DAVID

HAD IT NOT BEEN THE LORD WHO WAS ON OUR SIDE,
LET ISRAEL NOW SAY,
HAD IT NOT BEEN THE LORD WHO WAS ON OUR SIDE,
WHEN MEN ROSE UP AGAINST US;
THEN THEY WOULD HAVE SWALLOWED US ALIVE,
WHEN THEIR ANGER WAS KINDLED AGAINST US;
THEN THE WATERS WOULD HAVE ENGULFED US,
THE STREAM WOULD HAVE SWEPT OVER OUR SOUL;
THEN THE RAGING WATERS WOULD HAVE SWEPT
OVER OUR SOUL.

BLESSED BE THE LORD
WHO HAS NOT GIVEN US TO BE TORN BY THEIR TEETH.
OUR SOUL HAS ESCAPED AS A BIRD OUT OF THE SNARE
OF THE TRAPPER;
THE SNARE IS BROKEN AND WE HAVE ESCAPED.
OUR HELP IS IN THE NAME OF THE LORD,
WHO MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH

○ HOW I LOVE THY LAW!

IT IS MY MEDITATION ALL THE DAY.

LAST FRIDAY AS I PUT DOWN MY PENCIL AT THE CONCLUSION OF COPYING OUT PSALM 150, I FOUND MYSELF REJOICING IN GOD'S WORD ONCE MORE. IT WAS A MEMORABLE DAY FOR ME BECAUSE IT MARKED THE CONCLUSION OF COPYING OUT THE BIBLE. I HAD PURPOSELY SAVED PSALM 150 FOR MY CONCLUDING PAGE, BECAUSE IT SEEMS SUCH A FITTING CLOSURE TO THE BOOK OF WORSHIP AND THIS PROJECT OF COPYING OUT THE SCRIPTURE HAS DEFINITELY BEEN A LABOR OF LOVE AND WORSHIP.

THIRTY SOME YEARS AGO, AS A YOUNG COLLEGE STUDENT I WAS JUST BEGINNING TO DISCOVER THE JOYS OF SERIOUS BIBLE STUDY. I HAD GIVEN MYSELF TO REPEATED READINGS OF THE BOOK OF ROMANS AND IT WAS YIELDING UP SUCH EXCITING TRUTH FROM GOD THAT I WAS ALMOST OVERWHELMED. I WAS SO EXCITED ABOUT FIRST-HAND PERSONAL INTERACTION WITH ROMANS THAT I DECIDED TO COPY IT OUT BY HAND. AS I DID SO I LEARNED SO MUCH, SAW THINGS I HADN'T SEEN BEFORE, UNDERSTOOD CONNECTIONS BETWEEN VERSES AND JUST GENERALLY FOUND IT A VERY HELPFUL AND BENEFICIAL EXERCISE.

AFTER THAT EXPERIENCE, I TENDED TO MAKE COPYING OUT SCRIPTURE A PART OF MY DEVOTIONAL HABIT. WHEN I TOOK UP ANOTHER BOOK OF THE BIBLE, I WOULD, AFTER READING IT MANY TIMES, MAKE A HAND WRITTEN COPY. THIS SOMEWHAT MECHANICAL DISCIPLINE WOULD SLOW ME DOWN AND GIVE ME TIME TO MULL OVER AND MEDITATE UPON WHAT GOD WAS SAYING.

SOMETIME AFTER EXPERIENCING THE BENEFIT OF THIS SIMPLE EXERCISE, I READ IN DEUTERONOMY WHERE GOD HAD ACTUALLY PRESCRIBED THIS METHOD OF INTERACTION WITH HIS WORD FOR THE KINGS OF ISRAEL. I WAS PLEASANTLY SURPRISED TO READ THAT, "WHEN HE SITS ON THE THRONE OF HIS KINGDOM, HE SHALL WRITE FOR HIMSELF A COPY OF THIS LAW ON A SCROLL," DEUTERONOMY 17:18. GOD WENT ON TO EXPLAIN SOME OF THE BENEFITS OF THIS THAT INCLUDED:

- LEARNING TO FEAR THE LORD
- BECOMING MORE CAREFUL TO OBEY THE LORD
- BEING PROTECTED FROM PRIDE
- KEEPING ONE FROM WANDERING AWAY FROM THE LORD, "TURNING ASIDE . . . TO THE RIGHT OR THE LEFT."

READING THIS IN GOD'S WORD (DEUTERONOMY 17:18-20) NOT ONLY CONFIRMED THE VALUE OF THIS EXERCISE THAT I HAD ALREADY BEEN ENJOYING, BUT IT ALSO MOTIVATED ME TO PERHAPS SOMEDAY COMPLETE THE ENTIRE NEW TESTAMENT. YEARS LATER I DID JUST THAT. I STARTED OVER AND USED A CONSISTENT FORMAT AND TRIED TO KEEP MY COPY NEAT ENOUGH TO BE READABLE. WHEN I COMPLETED THE NEW TESTAMENT, I WAS MOTIVATED TO BEGIN THE OLD. I BEGAN IN GENESIS 1 AND ABOUT FIVE YEARS LATER, ONE WEEK AGO, FINISHED WITH GREAT JOY IN MY HEART AS I PENNED THE CONCLUDING WORDS TO THAT LAST PSALM.

"LET EVERYTHING THAT HAS BREATH PRAISE THE LORD.
PRAISE THE LORD."

I CAN ONLY SAY AMEN! THE JOY IN MY HEART WAS BORN, NOT SO MUCH FROM FINISHING THE PROJECT, BUT BECAUSE OF THE JOY, THE PERSONAL JOY IN THE PROCESS. IN FACT, A CERTAIN MELANCHOLY CAME OVER ME AS THE PROJECT DREW TO A CLOSE. I WAS SAD THAT IT WAS OVER! BUT THAT MORNING I WAS REMINDED THAT I STILL HAVE PLENTY OF PAPER AND THERE IS NOTHING TO STOP ME FROM CONTINUING TO COPY PORTIONS OR ALL OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES IN THE FUTURE.

THAT MORNING I TURNED TO THE NINETEENTH PSALM AND SPENT THE REMAINDER OF MY DEVOTIONAL TIME PRAISING THE LORD FOR THE PERFECTION, BEAUTY AND VALUE OF HIS WORD. INDEED, "THE LAW OF THE LORD IS PERFECT" AND IT DOES "RESTORE THE SOUL."

GOD HAS GIVEN US A GOLD MINE IN THE HOLY SCRIPTURE. HE PROMISES GREAT BLESSINGS TO HIS CHILDREN WHO ABIDE IN IT. IN FACT, THERE IS NO HABIT MORE CENTRAL TO EXPERIENCING GOD'S BLESSING AND PERSONALLY GETTING TO KNOW HIM THAN SPENDING TIME ON A REGULAR AND CONSISTENT BASIS IN HIS WORD. IF YOU HAVE NEVER TRIED HAND COPYING HIS WORD, WHY NOT GIVE IT A TRY. YOU MAY FIND, AS I HAVE, THAT IT IS A VERY VALUABLE WAY TO "MEDITATE DAY AND NIGHT" AND "DELIGHT IN THE LAW OF THE LORD."

Scott Gilchrist

SCOTT GILCHRIST
MAY 2004

"NOW IT SHALL COME ABOUT WHEN HE SITS ON THE THRONE OF HIS KINGDOM, HE SHALL WRITE FOR HIMSELF A COPY OF THIS LAW ON A SCROLL IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LEVITICAL PRIESTS.

"AND IT SHALL BE WITH HIM, AND HE SHALL READ IT ALL THE DAYS OF HIS LIFE, THAT HE MAY LEARN TO FEAR THE LORD HIS GOD, BY CAREFULLY OBSERVING ALL THE WORDS OF THIS LAW AND THESE STATUTES,

THAT HIS HEART MAY NOT BE LIFTED UP ABOVE HIS COUNTRYMEN AND THAT HE MAY NOT TURN ASIDE FROM THE COMMANDMENT, TO THE RIGHT OR THE LEFT; IN ORDER THAT HE AND HIS SONS MAY CONTINUE LONG IN HIS KINGDOM IN THE MIDST OF ISRAEL."

DEUTERONOMY 17:18-20

30 DAY CHALLENGE

EACH OF THE 30 SCRIPTURES BELOW TAKE
TEN MINUTES OR LESS TO COPY OUT.

WHY NOT COMMIT TO SPENDING TEN
MINUTES EACH DAY LISTENING TO GOD'S
VOICE AS YOU SIMPLY COPY THESE TEXTS
OUT OF YOUR BIBLE.

DON'T HURRY... ABIDE... ENJOY!

EACH DAY... FOR 30 DAYS... PRAY LIKE
THE PSALMIST "OPEN MY EYES... PSALM 119:18
..... THEN COPY & ENJOY.

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|---|---|
| ☐ PSALM 1 | ☐ JOHN 3:14-21 |
| ☐ ROMANS 3:21-28 | ☐ ACTS 20:24-28 |
| ☐ COLOSSIANS 3:12-17 | ☐ PSALM 119:97-104 |
| ☐ LAMENTATIONS 3:19-32 | ☐ DEUTERONOMY 17:14-20 |
| ☐ I JOHN 1:5 - 2:2 | ☐ II CORINTHIANS 5:14-21 |
| ☐ JOHN 15:1-8 | ☐ REVELATION 5:9-14 |
| ☐ JOB 38:1-11 | ☐ I CORINTHIANS 1:18-25 |
| ☐ MATTHEW 7:1-8 | ☐ ACTS 4:8-13 |
| ☐ JAMES 1:19-27 | ☐ LUKE 18:1-8 |
| ☐ ISAIAH 53:1-6 | ☐ PSALM 19:1-6 |
| ☐ ISAIAH 53:7-12 | ☐ PSALM 19:7-14 |
| ☐ ROMANS 5:1-11 | ☐ I PETER 4:10-16 |
| ☐ PROVERBS 3:1-12 | ☐ HEBREWS 10:17-25 |
| ☐ LUKE 15:1-10 | ☐ PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11 |
| ☐ GENESIS 1:1-8 | ☐ REVELATION 22:16-21 |