

Monday, 11 May 2015

Genesis 2:15-17 (1)

*The LORD God **took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.** And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."*

Three short, little verses, but encapsulating Part 1 of the Story of Man (Part 2 was announced at the entry of an empty tomb in Jerusalem many centuries later.) And we find within it some very important points regarding our ongoing examination of faith/belief/trust/obey/commit.

Interesting--we are the original Greens, we are charged with working and KEEPING God's masterpiece, the Creation. We are called to supervise the Godly usage and application of the resources; applying them in ways that glorify God and advance His Kingdom.

.Lord, guide me as I go through my day, it is so easy to get distracted and take the convenient path. Help me to consider everything I put my hand to in terms of the impact upon Your beautiful masterpiece.

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Tuesday, 12 May 2015

Genesis 2:15-17 (2)

*The LORD God **took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."***

Another interesting point--the LORD looks to our needs first and it is not an 'Oh, by the way' it is a command. From it, we come to understand that all creation is for our benefit. Well, almost all as we see in the next phrase. But the immense riches of God's handiwork are for our substance and pleasure. Not just eat, but enjoy, feast, devour. There is enough, a sufficiency if we use it wisely. The Reverend Malthus did not understand or was willing to have faith/belief/trust/obey/commit in what he read (refer to en. 15:6). The LORD, God, the Almighty says, "There is enough"

Lord, keep me from grumbling that Your provisions are not enough. Guide me into an understanding that You always have and always will meet my needs sumptuously. O, that my mouth would be filled with thanksgiving and praise at every bite, with every step, with every moment as I labor in Your Vineyard.

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Wednesday, 13 May 2015

Genesis 2:15-17 (3)

*The LORD God **took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and***

*keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, **but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.**"*

Sometimes my mother, usually the model of patience, would finally get exasperated with my repeated demands for an explanation and say, "Because I said so!" The first of a series of "Thou shalt nots" is here but God in His kindness gives the explanation. It was for our good, the fruit of that tree is deadly, the most virulent poison in all of Creation. It brought Death to mankind.

From this point on, God rarely explains, it is as He thinks we should have learned our lesson, "Disobedience to His Word is not good for us, it is deadly." We refuse to learn, we are incapable of learning and God, through His Grace, provide Part 2.

Lord, thank You for providing the cure for my disobedience through Your grace and mercy. Thank You for the Gift of the Holy Spirit to lead me into a life of obedience.

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Thursday, 14 May 2015

Genesis 15:5-6

*And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.*

We see in the next chapter, Gen. 16:1-2, that Abram stumbled, he wavered in his commitment but God did not invalidate His Covenant. We see that Sarah stumbled and wavered but God did not invalidate His Covenant (Gen 21:1, Heb.11-8-11). The Lord knows He has a flock of stumbling, bumbling and wavering sheep, but He forgives when we repent; He calls us lovingly home, back into His grace.

Lord, thank You that You continue to transform me, one step at a time, but each time drawing me closer to that full restoration in Your image.

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Friday, 15 May 2015

Genesis 22:15-18

*And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, **because you have obeyed my voice.**"*

You have obeyed my voice! I can somewhat imagine the quandary facing Abraham. "Sacrifice my son, my only son, the one You promised would have more descendants than the stars in the sky? No way, LORD, You

promised,, we have a Covenant. This is my son, my only son. What am I going to say to Sarah when I get home?" What was going through his mind all the way from Beersheba to Mount Moriah? BUT HE OBEYED and it was counted to him as righteousness and in him, in Isaac, all the nations of the earth have been blessed. Blessed because one man obeyed..

Will my obedience result in the same? It is not something that the Lord has promised to me, but He has directed me to trust Him. Even when faced with a dilemma that is daunting and totally beyond my wildest imagination for a beneficial solution.

Give me strength. Lord, help me in my unbelief.

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Saturday, 16 May 2015

*Exodus 4:29-31*

*Then Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the people of Israel. Aaron spoke all the words that the LORD had spoken to Moses and did the signs in the sight of the people. **And the people believed;** and when they heard that the LORD had visited the people of Israel and that he had seen their affliction, **they bowed their heads and worshiped.***

Another result of belief. When that heart transformation takes place, when I finally believe in the deepest part of my being, my instinctive response will be to worship the LORD, God, the Almighty. Yes, the old man may be dead, but does not know it, still making trouble as we see later on with the Israelites in the wilderness. But, step by step. I am drawn into the Kingdom, feet back on the path and praising the Lord for His grace and mercy.

Lord, accept my feeble praise, accept my sometimes almost inaudible worship. Guide me in the way I should go.

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Lord's Day, 17 May 2015

*Psalms 119:81*

*My soul longs for your salvation; I hope in your word.*

Longing to be completed, transformed into Your image, seeking to draw closer to You through the Word.

# VOICES TOGETHER

*Daily Meditations from the Psalms*



*May 11-17, 2015*

Voices Together is extracted from my daily meditations and is shared in the hope that others will be encouraged to turn to the Psalms as a rich source of guidance for prayer and meditation.

It is published daily on the website of the Fellowship of Ailbe, [www.ailbe.org](http://www.ailbe.org); along with material by other writers to encourage and assist in our walks as disciples of Jesus Christ.

These messages can also be received as daily emails or in a monthly printed version by sending a request to:

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