

Monday, 19 June 2017 John 10:30-37

I and the Father are one.” The Jews picked up stones again to stone him. Jesus answered them, “I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you going to stone me?” The Jews answered him, “It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God.” Jesus answered them, “Is it not written in your Law, ‘I said, you are gods’? If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken—do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God’? If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me;

Is it any wonder that James was able to write so effectively and succinctly on the relationship between faith (belief) and results in James 2:14-26? He saw and heard the teaching of the Son of God on the subject.

Today—do my actions confirm or deny my words? The world has every right to snicker and accuse me of being hypocritical. And I need to hang my head in shame for I have used my Lord's name in vain. I must not call myself a Christian, a follower of Christ unless I am willing to obey the Word of God.

Tuesday, 20 June 2017 John 10:38

but if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father.”

It amazes me that those who trumpet that they are saved by grace not works, manage to jump over this clear teaching that it is our works that validate our salvation. If A=B then B=A, the simplest of all logical statements.

Wednesday, 21 June 2017 John 10:40-42

He went away again across the Jordan to the place where

John had been baptizing at first, and there he remained. And many came to him. And they said, “John did no sign, but everything that John said about this man was true.” And many believed in him there.

We, as later day Johns, are not necessarily called to provide signs and wonders, but it is absolutely imperative that every word we speak about the Lord Jesus Christ be true. It is necessary that each of us “do our best to present ourselves to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.” 2 Timothy 2:15

Thursday, 22 June 2017 John 11:14-16

Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus has died, and for your sake, I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

The most striking sentence to me is the last. Would Thomas have said this on the day he met Jesus? Probably not. Early in my life, after rebirth, I took this as a very fatalistic statement—a might as well go with him, nothing else for us to do. But now I see it as a statement of faith and commitment. Thomas is ready to die for His Lord and Master and eventually did.

Friday, 23 June 2017 John 11:24-26

Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

Jesus asks each one of us, "Do you believe in Me?" He's asking if I want that precious, tight, personal relationship with the Living God and His Son; this is the time to commit and trust, to accept Him as my Lord and Savior and begin to seek to hide His Word in my heart, Ps 119:11

Saturday, 24 June 2017 John 11:27

She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

Yes, Martha, yes. She grabbed a hold of the faith ring; that ring of faith to belief to trust to commitment to obedience to faith to...and entered into a full time calling as a Messenger of the Good News.

Lord's Day, 25 June 2017 Psalm 119:49

Remember your word to your servant, in which you have made me hope.

It is Your Word that is the basis for my hope, the awareness of the completeness of the work accomplished on the Cross that provides the certainty that I am Yours and have been called into the Kingdom of God, to be one of the many Sons of God forever and ever. Lord, that I will always walk in obedience to Your Word.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Scriptures



June 19-25, 2017

Prayer of the week, based on Paul's prayer in: Colossians 4:2-4

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.

LORD, we pray for our [Congregation] that we would become men and women who are devoted to prayer. Devoted to prayer for the advancement of the Kingdom, for our ministries, for our families, for all in our Personal Mission Field.

We pray that we would become those who pray without ceasing that our message would be true to You, that it would declare that awesome and incomprehensible mystery that Your love for Your creation would bring You to the Cross for our redemption.

We pray that our proclamation of the message of grace and mercy would be clearly heard and understood by all to whom we are called to minister.
Amen

Creational Theology hint for the week—Think of the miracle of a seed. Betty planted a row of sugar snaps, one of our favorite edible pod beans. A 10' row with approximately 80 to 100 seeds. Out of that will spring many edible pods, numbering in the several hundreds and providing the main vegetable for many, many meals, perhaps well into the winter. A few seeds and God's largess is rich and bountiful.

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