


... I WILL PREPARE HIM AN HABITATION

Exodus 15:2

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No.1



Have you prepared an habitation for the Lord today? This is a book of random short devotionals, thoughts and Scriptures that have spoken to my own heart. It is my desire that they may be a blessing to you as well.

Joshua 1:8

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

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Proverbs 24

After moving in to our new home that the Lord allowed my husband to build with his own hands and a little help from others, I was thanking the Lord for giving it to us. How good He is! I realize that it is just a house, an earthy dwelling place, yet it is special because it is the Lord's provision for us. I ask Him to protect it and all its' belongings, but most of all I ask Him to help us keep building our house through wisdom (God's Word) and understanding and knowledge. May every room be filled with God's presence. May Christ only be glorified and may it be obvious to all who enter here that Christ alone is the special guest and the honored one in our home.

Proverbs 24:3-4 Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

Is your house being built through wisdom? Wisdom comes from God's Word. And as God gives you understanding through the wisdom of His Word, your house will be established. Is the knowledge of God filling all the rooms of your house? What precious and pleasant riches we may miss out on from day to day. Build your house on the Lord Jesus Christ and the blessings will come down!

I Samuel 23

- Saul sought David every day, but God delivered David from Saul every day.
- Just as Saul sought David every day, we need to seek God every day. Set aside that special time for Him alone and let Him speak to you through His Word.
- Realize that God **will deliver** us from my enemies every day.
- He will fight our battles no matter how tough they may be. No battle is too much for the Lord. Remember the battle is HIS!
- As well as seeing the Lord in His Word, don't forget to spend quality prayer time with Him.

1 Samuel 23:14 And David abode in the wilderness in strong holds, and remained in a mountain in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but God delivered him not into his hand.

Acts 12

My husband was blessed to be a part of a ministry for over 14 years. He was on the maintenance staff of a Christian College. How we loved this place; it was a joy to be around Christian people every day and to catch the enthusiasm of the young people. It was a joy to be able to serve by being the “fix it” man. But the Lord had fulfilled this part of our lives and it was now time to move on. It was a hard decision. But we had peace in our hearts knowing this is what the Lord wanted at this stage in our lives.

Acts 12:25 And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem, when they had fulfilled their ministry, and took with them John, whose surname was Mark.

- God will let you know when He has a new place for you.
- God will provide as you place your trust in Him and obey.
- Let Him first of all fulfill the ministry to which He has called you now and when He tells you to move on.
- Just trust and obey.

Psalm 25

- David was teachable; He wanted the Lord's way. He wanted direction and guidance from the Lord. His prayer was Lord, show me your way and teach me your path.
- Obedience must take place in my life if I am to stay on the path that He has shown me.
- Have you stunted your growth through disobedience by trying to make your own way?
- Obedience is your part – the results of that obedience are up to God. His promises are sure. He will show you the way.
- Allow God to teach you day by day, step by step. Pray daily the Psalm that is written below.

Psalms 25:4 Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths.

Ruth 1

In verse 21 Naomi said to call her bitter because the Lord hath dealt bitterly with her.

- Sometimes we are so focused on the bad, that we don't see the good.
- She said she went out full and came back empty.
- She may have felt as though she lost everything, but she needed to see the value of one soul.
- She had won her daughter-in-law.
- Ruth had chosen her God as her own! What a blessing and how that led to many more blessings, one huge one of that being Jesus Christ was in her line.
- We never know the value of just one soul.
- May we learn to keep our focus on the good and not the bad.

Ruth 1:21 I went out full, and the LORD hath brought me home again empty: why then call ye me Naomi, seeing the LORD hath testified against me, and the Almighty hath afflicted me?

Ruth 4:14 And the women said unto Naomi, Blessed be the LORD, which hath not left thee this day without a kinsman, that his name may be famous in Israel.

I Samuel 17

In verse 45, as David was facing the giant; he was positive in spite of this huge obstacle in his life. He said,

“Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.”

- David's surety was for God's glory not his own.
- We must be careful that when we see to overcome the enemies in our life that it is for the glory of God – not our own.

1Samuel 17:46-47 This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands.

- David faced the enemy in the Lord's strength.
- We too can face the enemies in our life in the strength of the Lord; it is a day by day battle; He will cause our enemies to flee!

Daniel 2

In Verse 20-23 Daniel gives God the glory! It is important to give God the glory in all aspects of life!

Daniel 2:20-23 Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him. I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast now made known unto us the king's matter.

Here are some of the ways that Daniel gave God the glory:

- **Wisdom and might are His 2:20**
- **He changes times and seasons 2:21**
- **He removes kings and sets them up 2:21**
- **He give wisdom to the wise and knowledge and understanding 2:21**
- **He reveals the deep secret things 2:21**
- **He knows what is in the darkness 2:21**
- **Light dwells with Him 2:21**
- **He gave Daniel wisdom and might 2:23**
- **He revealed the king's matters 2:23**

1 Chronicles 5:18-26

In verse 20 it says “...**and they were helped...**” Why?

- Because they cried to God in the battle, and He was entreated of them.
- Because they put their trust in Him.
- Praise God, I can cry out to Him in the battles of life and He will take care of me if I trust in Him.
- However, I need to take heed lest I fall - **1Corinthians 10:12**
Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.
- Almost as soon as they turned to God, they turned away and God punished them.

Psalm 37

Psalms 37:3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

- Trust and obedience come first and then the blessings

Psalms 37:4 Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

- As my delight is continually in the LORD, then He will place the right desires in my heart – What a blessing!

Psalms 37:5-6 Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass. And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.

- Commit each of my ways, my doings, my plans, my course of life to the LORD. Commit them daily.
- As I commit my plans, then He will direct my course and my plans and If I allow Him control and walk in the spirit, He will bring it to pass. He will also protect your character, and deliver you from the oppression of the wicked, in the most open and public way.

Psalms 37:7-16 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass . . .

- Rest, wait, don't fret, don't get angry at those who do wicked, don't do evil,the Lord will take vengeance. Remember:

Psalms 37:16 A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked...

(cont.)

Psalms 37:17-20 For the arms of the wicked shall be broken: but the LORD upholdeth the righteous.

- The Lord upholds the righteous!
- The Lord knows how long our days are upon this earth and we have an inheritance that is forever!

Psalms 37:2-22 The wicked borroweth, and payeth not again: but the righteous sheweth mercy, and giveth...

- The righteous will show mercy and give.
- We'll be blessed of Him, while the wicked will be cut off.

Psalms 37:23-24 The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand.

- The Lord will order the steps of a good man and that man will delight in the way God has ordered. (see verses 5-6)
- If that man falls or fails, he'll be able to get back up again, knowing that the Lord is there to uphold him.

Psalms 37:25-26 I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. He is ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed is blessed.

- He will provide all our needs and His mercy is great, never ending. Blessings abound over and above!

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Psalms 37:30-31 The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom, and his tongue talketh of judgment. The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.

- **A righteous man speaks wisdom; God's Word in his heart will cause his steps not to slide.**
- **Hiding God's Word in my heart will keep me from sin.**

Psalms 37:32-39... But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble...

- **The Lord is my strength in time of trouble!**
- **He will deliver from the enemy.**
- **Trust and Obey for there is no other way!**
- **He delivers and gives perfect peace.**

2 Chronicles 20

This is an amazing story of Jehoshaphat. He sought the Lord and the Lord fought his battles. But he ended up joining a wicked king and the Lord punished him.

- **The enemy came; the king feared God, sought Him, and proclaimed a fast. (v. 3-5)**
- **God was praised for who He is, what He did and does (v. 6-7)**
- **He cried out for help in time of affliction (v.9)**
- **All Judah stood before the Lord; the king set this example. We need godly leaders! (v.13)**
- **Instruction came from God; stand still-God will fight the battle! (v. 17)**
- **They believed and worshiped! They fell to the ground and then stood and praised God with a loud voice (v.18- 19)**
- **They continued praising and God caused the enemy to smite one another (v. 22)**
- **God gave the great spoil; He meets our need over and above in ways we would never expect! (v. 25)**
- **Fear of God was on all countries when they heard what god did! (v. 29)**

Sadly, King Jehoshaphat joined himself with wicked leaders and God punished him (v35-37)

May we as God's children obey till He takes us home to Glory!

2 Chronicles 21-22

In Chapter 21, David was provoked by Satan to number the people

- David was determined to have his own way.
- He was provoked by Satan and he yielded to the temptation.
- Yes, he was provoked by Satan, but Satan did NOT make him do it. He chose to do it.
- We must always remember **1 Corinthians 10:13** *There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.*
- David was encouraged by Joab not to number the people. He was also told he would be a “cause of trespass” to Israel. (v.3) Listen to godly advice and remember that your sin will always affect others, not just yourself.
- Nevertheless, he chose to sin. The King's word prevailed. Remember God is the Almighty King and His word should always prevail. If David had allowed God's Word to prevail, he would have avoided God's judgment.(v.4)
- God was displeased with David's sin and all Israel suffered because of it. Remember your sin affect many more than you realize. Even innocent people may be affected. (v.7)

(cont)

- David did repent. He admitted his sin and realized his foolishness, but he still had to suffer the consequences. (v. 9-10)
- David was allowed to choose his punishment. Life is full of choices and decisions. Even here he needed wisdom to choose which punishment was best. We can give our children a choice in discipline, and then pray that it is severe enough to make them realize and admit sin and not want to do it again.
- David realized it would be better to fall into the hands of God and not the hand of man. (v.13) It is a fearful thing to fall into the hand of God, but
- Praise the Lord, it is of His mercies that we are not consumed! ***Lamentations 3:22 It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.***
- God was merciful. He stayed His hand (v.15)
- David realized God's holiness and mercy and fell on his face. He realize it was his sin that caused the judgment. (v.17) Remember to ask God to search your heart and see if there be any wicked way in you. Confess your sin, repent, and worship. Set up an altar unto the Lord. Have something that will be a reminder that you have confessed and forsaken that sin.

(cont)

- When David asked Ornan for a place to buy in order to worship the Lord, Ornan was willing to give it to him. He was willing to give all for the Lord's work. (v.23)
- David insisted on paying full price. David was willing to pay the cost for the Lord's work. (v.24)
- David once again feared the Lord (v.30)
- ***Psalms 111:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.***
- In chapter 22 David made preparation before his death. (v.5)
- David realized and reminded his son that he would prosper if he fulfilled the statutes and judgments of God (v.13)
- We need to be doing God's will (v.16) and we need to always set out hearts and souls to seek the Lord our God. (v.19)

Luke 24

Luke 24:31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.

- How long does it take for my eyes to be opened to the truths of God's Word?
- How well do I know the Lord? These disciples thought they knew the Lord, but it was a while before they realized who He was. Does He walk and talk with me and while doing so am I totally blind to who He is and what He wants me to do?
- As soon as I close my Bible, does He vanish from me? Has he vanished from my thoughts, my meditations, my obedience to Him? Ashamedly all too often this may be true.

**Open my eyes, that I may see
Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key
That shall unclasp and set me free.**

**Open my ears, that I may hear
Voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
Everything false will disappear.**

**Open my mouth, and let me bear,
Gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart and let me prepare
Love with Thy children thus to share.**

***Refrain: Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready my God, Thy will to see,
Open my eyes, illumine me,
Spirit divine!***

Words & Music: http://www.cyberhymnal.org/bio/s/c/scott_chf.htm

2 Chronicles 5:13-14

- In these verses the trumpeters and singers were as one. They made one sound, a sound to be heard in: Praising and Thanking the Lord.
- They lifted up their voice with trumpets, cymbals, and instruments of music

They praised the Lord saying:

- He is good
- His mercy endureth forever

What happened?

- The house was filled with a cloud (God's presence)
- The priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud
- The glory of the Lord had filled the house of God

How awesome! Have I praised and thanked the LORD so that His glory fills my soul; that is silences me to humble myself in worship before my Almighty God? Who am I that God is even mindful of me? Yet His thought toward me are more than ever can be numbered!

Psalm 119:1-8; 41-56

A Blessed and Happy Person:

- The undefiled who walk in the law of the Lord – In God's sight I am undefiled if I have trusted Christ as Savior; that is the greatest blessing!
- I am continually blessed if as His child I obey His Word
- The person who keeps God's testimonies
- The person who seeks God with his whole heart
- The person who does not sin – I have a choice to do right or not to do right. Doing right always brings blessing and happiness
- Once again, the person who walks in His ways (Ephesians 2:10 – Once we are saved, we should be God's workmanship- we were created to walk in His ways!)

1 Kings 17

Elijah

- He obeyed! He went to the brook Cherith and God fed him through the ravens. God will care for us if we are obedient. Thought: He cares for us even in our disobedience. How merciful He is! v1-8
- When God moved Elijah to the widow's house, He had already spoken to her and commanded her to sustain Elijah. She did not have to think twice about fixing for Elijah first. When God commands, we should obey and trust. V9
- Even after obedience, the woman was tried through the death of her son. Her faith was strengthened through the answer of Elijah's prayer. We can strengthen and encourage others by praying and giving God's Word to them in their times of trials and/or infirmities.
- God can put it in the heart of an unbeliever to be obedient to His Word. Maybe this woman was actually converted when her son was raised to life through answer to Elijah's prayer. **1 Kings 17:24 And the woman said to Elijah, Now by this I know that thou art a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in thy mouth is truth.**

1 Kings 8

2 Kings 8:2 And the woman arose, and did after the saying of the man of God: and she went with her household, and sojourned in the land of the Philistines seven years.

2 Kings 8:5-6 And it came to pass, as he was telling the king how he had restored a dead body to life, that, behold, the woman, whose son he had restored to life, cried to the king for her house and for her land. And Gehazi said, My lord, O king, this is the woman, and this is her son, whom Elisha restored to life. And when the king asked the woman, she told him. So the king appointed unto her a certain officer, saying, Restore all that was hers, and all the fruits of the field since the day that she left the land, even until now.

Obedience Brings Blessings:

- The woman whose son Elisha restored to life obeyed and lived elsewhere during the famine as the man of God told her to do. She obeyed. She returned after the famine to ask the King for her house and land.
- God had already directed the King to have Gehazi tell all the great things Elisha had done. When he was told this was the woman whose son Elisha restored to life, he readily gave her her belongings. What if she had not obeyed?

2 Kings 20

God is the Author of Life and Death

- God heard and answered Hezekiah's prayer for recovery and prolonged life. God alone is the author of life and death. He will allow us to stay here as long as He has a purpose for us. V1-6
- God may make us reap the results of our foolishness. It was foolish for Hezekiah to trust a godless king. The consequences were long term! V12-21
- Time on earth is short and is but a vapor. We need to focus on doing all to the glory of God, (1Cor 10:31) letting Him order our steps day by day in order to keep from doing foolish things. (Ps. 37:23)
- When God is finished with us here on earth, then “to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. (2 Cor. 5:8)
Hallelujah!

2 Corinthians 9

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

Giving

- Should our giving just include our finances? Absolutely not! Our giving should not just be our money, but anything that the Lord has given me. This would include our:
 - time
 - talent
 - treasures
- Let us sow bountifully and the Lord will allow us to reap bountifully.
- He will give the grace we need in every area. Trust in Him, commit each work to him and allow Him to direct your thoughts and actions.

2 Samuel 24

2 Samuel 24:10-14 *And David's heart smote him after that he had numbered the people. And David said unto the LORD, I have sinned greatly in that I have done: and now, I beseech thee, O LORD, take away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly. For when David was up in the morning, the word of the LORD came unto the prophet Gad, David's seer, saying, Go and say unto David, Thus saith the LORD, I offer thee three things; choose thee one of them, that I may do it unto thee. So Gad came to David, and told him, and said unto him, Shall seven years of famine come unto thee in thy land? or wilt thou flee three months before thine enemies, while they pursue thee? or that there be three days' pestilence in thy land? now advise, and see what answer I shall return to him that sent me. And David said unto Gad, I am in a great strait: let us fall now into the hand of the LORD; for his mercies are great: and let me not fall into the hand of man.*

- Even when David realized his sin and repented, he still had to suffer the consequences. Our repentance does not necessarily mean no consequences.
- Yes, God will forgive, but I still may need teaching and reminders to keep my heart right with Him
- God's mercies are so great! If not for His mercy we would all be consumed.
- We must realize how much our sin can and does affect others.

Exodus 4

Through Clouds and Sunshine

Exodus 40:34-38 Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter into the tent of the congregation, because the cloud abode thereon, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And when the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys: But if the cloud were not taken up, then they journeyed not till the day that it was taken up. For the cloud of the LORD was upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was on it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.

- When the cloud stayed over the children of Israel, they did not go anywhere. They stayed right where they were.
- Sometimes our way may be “cloudy” and we are not sure which direction we should go. Then stay put. Maybe that is what the Lord wants for you right now. Learn to wait and trust Him.
- When the cloud was taken up, the Israelites journeyed on their way.
- When the Lord is ready he will lift our clouds and lighten our way. Stay in His Word and He will make your path plain and clear.
Psalms 32:8 I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye. ***Psalms 119:105*** Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Psalm 3

Psalms 3:1-8 <<A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son.>> LORD, how are they increased that trouble me! many are they that rise up against me. Many there be which say of my soul, There is no help for him in God. Selah. But thou, O LORD, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head. I cried unto the LORD with my voice, and he heard me out of his holy hill. Selah. I laid me down and slept; I awaked; for the LORD sustained me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people, that have set themselves against me round about. Arise, O LORD; save me, O my God: for thou hast smitten all mine enemies upon the cheek bone; thou hast broken the teeth of the ungodly. Salvation belongeth unto the LORD: thy blessing is upon thy people. Selah.

The Lord Is:

- a shield for me
- my glory
- the lifter up of my head

The Lord:

- hears me
- sustains me
- blesses me

Psalm 33

- God's Word is right v4
- His Work is done in truth v4
- The earth is full of His goodness v5
- He spoke and made the heavens and the earth v6-9
- He brings the counsel of the heathen to naught and His counsel stand for ever. V10-11
- Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord v12
- God's eye is upon them that fear Him. V18
- We can wait on the Lord for He is our help and shield. V20
- My heart will rejoice if I trust in is Holy name. V21
- My hope in Him brings me His mercy! V2

Leviticus 18 , Psalm 12, & Psalm 42

Leviticus 18:4 Ye shall do my judgments, and keep mine ordinances, to walk therein: I am the LORD your God.

- Do I call God my Lord? Then I need to do all His bidding. I need to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit every day.

Psalms 12:6-7 The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.

- God's Word will abide for ever!
- He will preserve them for ever!

Psalms 42:8 Yet the LORD will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life.

- God is always loving and kind
- He does not forget our trials. He can and will give us a song in the night. Fanny Crosby, the blind poet knew that for she wrote:

My song shall be of Jesus;
His mercy crowns my days,
He fills my cup with blessings,
And tunes my heart to praise;
My song shall be of Jesus,
The precious Lamb of God;
Who gave Himself my ransom,
And bought me with His blood
My song shall be of Jesus;
When, sitting at His feet,
I call to mind His goodness,
In meditation sweet;

My song shall be of Jesus,
Whatever ill betide;
I'll sing the grace that saves me,
And keeps me at His side.
My song shall be of Jesus,
While pressing on my way
To reach the blissful region
Of pure and perfect day.
And when my soul shall enter
The gate of Eden fair,
A song of praise to Jesus
I'll sing forever there.

Matthew 5-7

Matthew 5:13 *Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.*

- Has my salt lost its' savor? Maybe it is time to get some new salt and use it as much as possible.

Matthew 5:16 *Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*

- Is my light shining? Do all men see it or do I tend to hide it?

Matthew 6:6 *But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.*

- Does my prayer closet need decluttering? How often do I even use this closet? I need to get rid of the junk there and begin using it daily. As I meet the Lord daily in secret, He will reward me openly.
- The Lord Himself knows everything that I need before I even ask, yet He still wants me to come to Him and ask. **6:8**

Matthew 6:21 *For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*

- Are my priorities in the right order? As I make my "daily list", do I ask the Lord to guide me so that my ways are His ways and so that I am laying up treasure in heaven?

Matthew 6:33-34 *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.*

- As we read chapter 6:25-34, I am thankful for an overabundance of food and clothing, but have I really sought the kingdom of God first? Yet He blesses more than I could ever ask. My cup runs over in so many ways. Think of how the Lord has blessed you and count your blessings!

Matthew 7:7 *Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:*

- Have you gone to the Lord boldly today, to the throne of grace, to the creator, almighty God? Our unchangeable God hears us! You can ask and He will give! You can seek and you will find! And you can knock and He will open the right doors!
- We as sinners, want to give good things to our children, but oh how much more our heavenly Father wants to give good things to us!
- Because He has done and continues to do so much for me, this should be a reminder to me to do others what I would have them do to me. **Matthew 7:12** *Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.*

2 Chronicles 29

2 Chronicles 29:5 And said unto them, Hear me, ye Levites, sanctify now yourselves, and sanctify the house of the LORD God of your fathers, and carry forth the filthiness out of the holy place.

- Hezekiah told the Levites
 - Sanctify yourselves
 - Sanctify the House of the Lord
 - Carry forth the filthiness out of the holy place

As we think about the church today and its closeness to the world, how it needs a good cleansing. How the people need to be sanctified. The filthiness needs to be carried out of the church!

My body is also called the temple of the Holy Spirit: ***1 Corinthians 6:19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?***

- Do I keep my body clean?
- Have I carried forth the filthiness out of my heart and kept His temple holy?
- I need to do this on a daily basis

(cont)

2 Chronicles 29:11 *My sons, be not now negligent: for the LORD hath chosen you to stand before him, to serve him, and that ye should minister unto him, and burn incense.*

- Let us not be negligent in our service for the Lord.
- If God has chosen you to serve Him, remember what a privilege that is! Let us be faithful to Him.
- The fact is that God has chosen all of us. It is our choice to accept or reject Him.

2 Chronicles 29:15 *And they gathered their brethren, and sanctified themselves, and came, according to the commandment of the king, by the words of the LORD, to cleanse the house of the LORD.*

- When was the last time a brother was encouraged by me to stay right or get right with the Lord?
- This was done according to the commandment of the king. The King of kings commands me to be holy for He is holy!

2 Chronicles 29:27-30 *And Hezekiah commanded to offer the burnt offering upon the altar. And when the burnt offering began, the song of the LORD began also with the trumpets, and with the instruments ordained by David king of Israel. And all the congregation worshipped, and the singers sang, and the trumpeters sounded: and all this continued until the burnt offering was finished. And when they had made an end of offering, the king and all that were present with him bowed themselves, and worshipped. Moreover Hezekiah the king and the princes commanded the Levites to sing praise unto the LORD with the words of David, and of Asaph the seer. And they sang praises with gladness, and they bowed their heads and worshipped.*

(cont)

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- Cleansing caused singing and rejoicing and in return cause worship.
- All this made the people humble themselves before the LORD

2 Chronicles 29:31 Then Hezekiah answered and said, Now ye have consecrated yourselves unto the LORD, come near and bring sacrifices and thank offerings into the house of the LORD. And the congregation brought in sacrifices and thank offerings; and as many as were of a free heart burnt offerings.

- After cleansing, there is to be thankfulness.
- How free and unburdened one feels after he is cleansed from his sins. It makes him want to sing and worship. It gives him a grateful heart.
- Are you grateful for a clean heart today? Remember you are cleansed through the Word. ***Psalms 119:9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.***
- Remember today who it is that cleansed you from your sins – the King of kings, the creator of all! He took our sins upon Him and forgave us all!

Psalm 119: 129-136

Psalms 119:133 Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

- This is a good daily prayer:
 - Order my steps in thy word – what better place is there to have your steps laid out? As we walk with the Lord our steps become obvious
 - Do not allow iniquity to have dominion over me. ***Psalms 139:23-24 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.***

***Though dark be the night and long be the day
Lord, make me follow in Thy perfect way
Tho cometh sorrow; tho great be my pain
Lord make me serve Thee, Come Sunshine or Rain***

***The Steps of a Good Man are ordered by the Lord
and He delighteth in his way
Though he fall, he shall not, be utterly cast down:
For the Lord, for the Lord
For the Lord upholdeth him with his hand.***

***O Thou Art almighty, I am so small
Lord make me trust Thee whatever be-fall
Thou art all holy; You make no mistake
Lord, make me Christ-like whatever it takes***

Psalm 1:1-3

Psalm 1:1-3 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

- *“ He is not under the law as a curse and condemnation, but he is in it, and he delights to be in it as his rule of life;”*
-Treasury of David

What a difference when we know Christ! We no longer dread the law, but now it is our delight to do what Christ commands out of love for Him. His commandments are not grievous!

“Whatsoever he doeth shall prosper” Do you want prosperity? Not the prosperity, the world has to offer, but prosperity in Christ? Then get to know Him. Meditate in His word by day and by night!

- “Whatsoever he doeth shall prosper - It is always healthy; it is extending its roots, increasing its woody fibres, circulating its nutritive juices, putting forth fruitbuds, blossoms, leaves, or fruit; and all these operations go on in a healthy tree, in their proper seasons. So the godly man; he is ever taking deeper root growing stronger in the grace he has already received, increasing in heavenly desires, and under the continual influence of the Divine Spirit, forming those purposes from which much fruit to the glory and raise of God shall be produced.”

Adam Clarke's Commentary on the Bible

Psalm 1:4-6

Psalms 1:4-6 The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Have you heard this little song?

There's a right way

There's a wrong way

There's a way that seems the right way

But it's the wrong way and

It will lead you far from God

The title of this song is "Get Smart" and truly it is a smart thing to follow God's way. As we see in Psalm 1:6, The Lord knows the way of the righteous and His way is the best way.

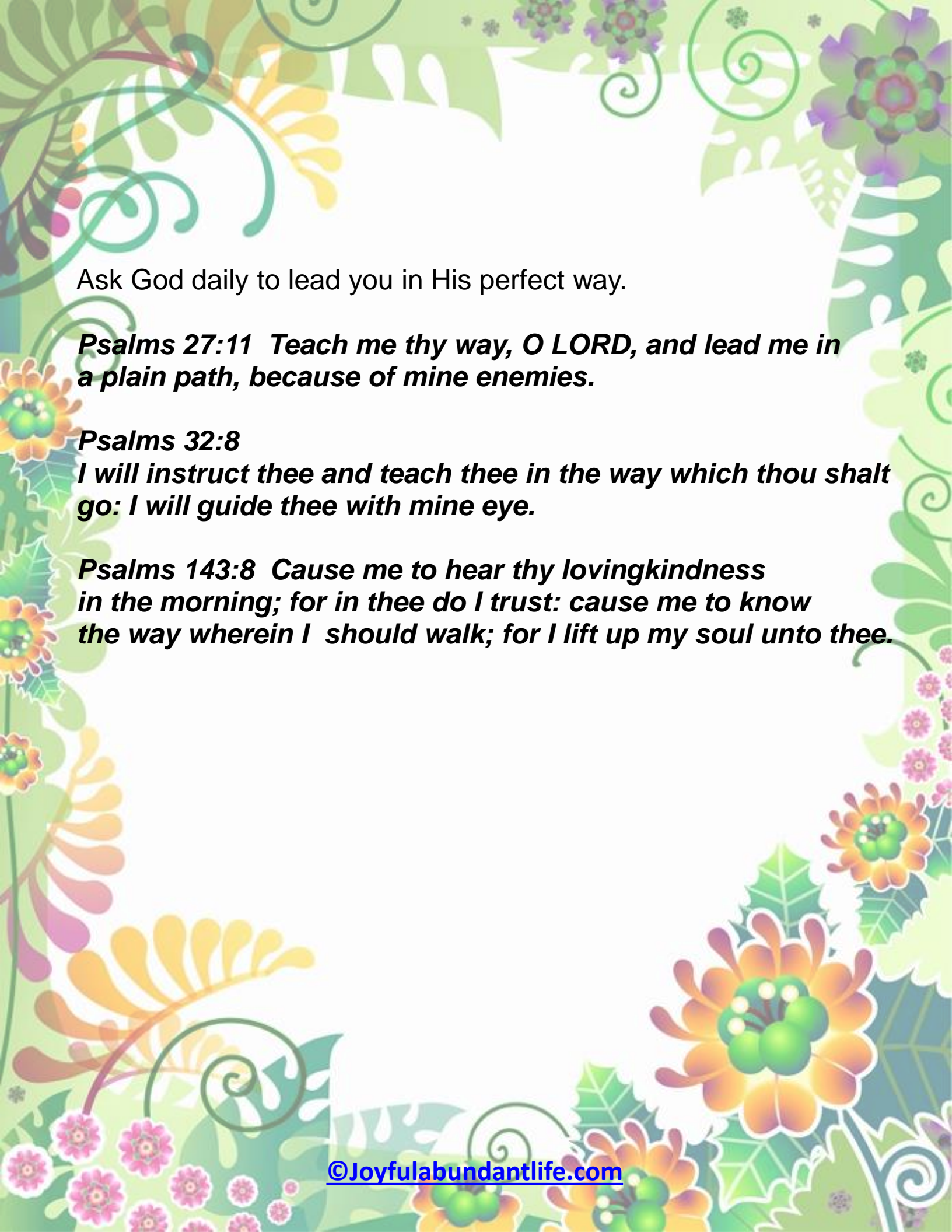
Unfortunately some think they know the best way only to realize that ***Proverbs 16:25 There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.***

What a blessing to know that God's Way is Perfect. Whatever way He has chosen for you is perfect! ***Psalms 18:30 As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the LORD is tried: he is a buckler to all those that trust in him.***

Psalms 25:8 Good and upright is the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way. He will teach us (sinners saved by grace) in the right way!

(cont.)

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Ask God daily to lead you in His perfect way.

Psalms 27:11 Teach me thy way, O LORD, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies.

Psalms 32:8

I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.

Psalms 143:8 Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee.

Genesis 13-14

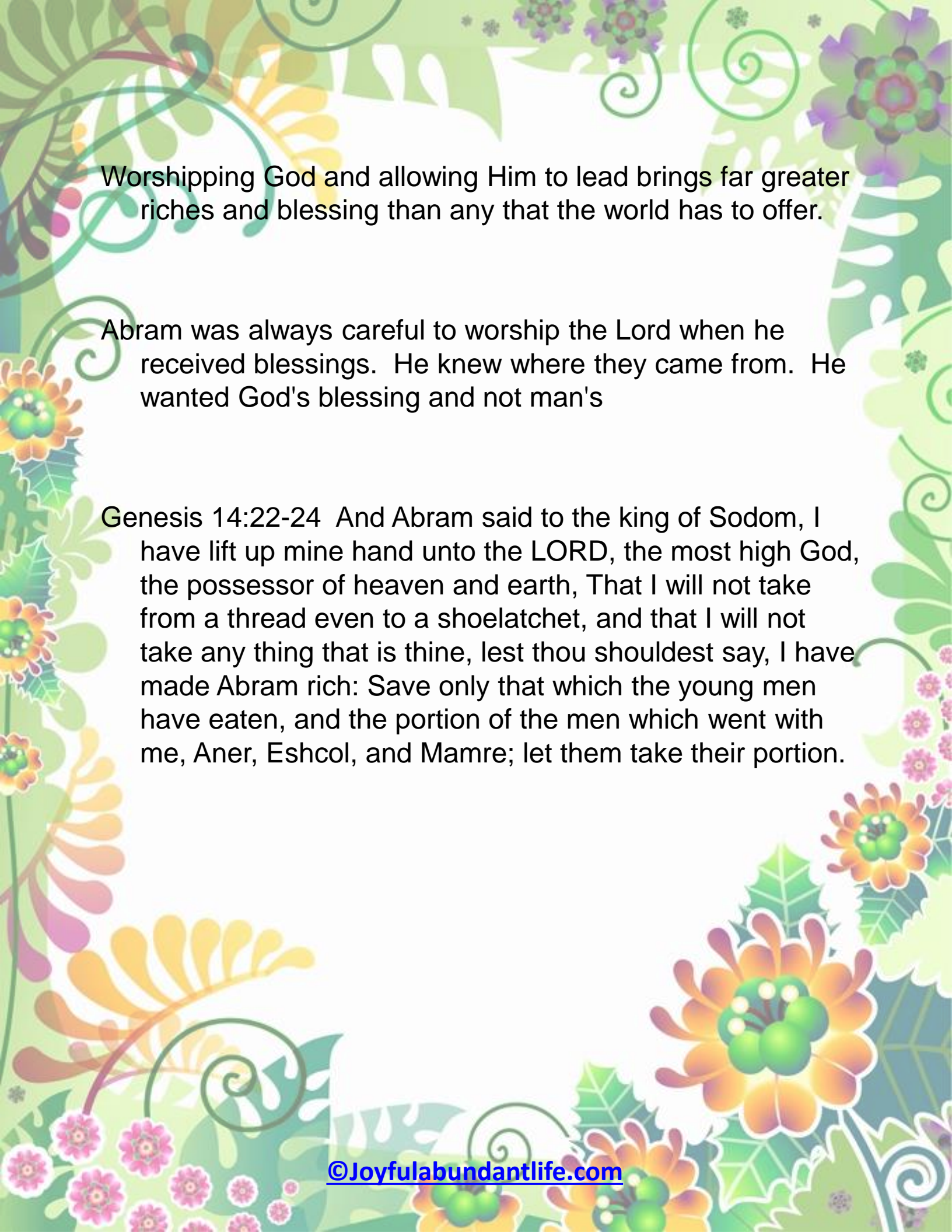
Genesis 13:8 *And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren.*

Genesis 13:9 *Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.*

Abram told Lot to choose what he wanted. In reality, everything ultimately belonged to Abram because God told Abram to look every way and it was all his.

Genesis 13:14-15 *And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.*

(cont.)



Worshipping God and allowing Him to lead brings far greater riches and blessing than any that the world has to offer.

Abram was always careful to worship the Lord when he received blessings. He knew where they came from. He wanted God's blessing and not man's

Genesis 14:22-24 And Abram said to the king of Sodom, I have lift up mine hand unto the LORD, the most high God, the possessor of heaven and earth, That I will not take from a thread even to a shoelatchet, and that I will not take any thing that is thine, lest thou shouldest say, I have made Abram rich: Save only that which the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men which went with me, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion.

Genesis 15-16

30

Genesis 15:5 And he brought him forth abroad, and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to number them: and he said unto him, So shall thy seed be.

Genesis 15:6 And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness.

Abraham did believe God. However, when things began to take so long and the timing didn't seem to match his, maybe he began to doubt. How often we may doubt even when God through His Word specifically gives us peace about something.

Abraham doubted

Abraham tried to do it his own way

Abraham caused disastrous results Ch. 16

Always do things God's way. Wait on Him. His timing and His ways may be different than our own. Remember that God said: Genesis 15:1 ... Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.

Isaiah 55:8-9 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Psalm 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

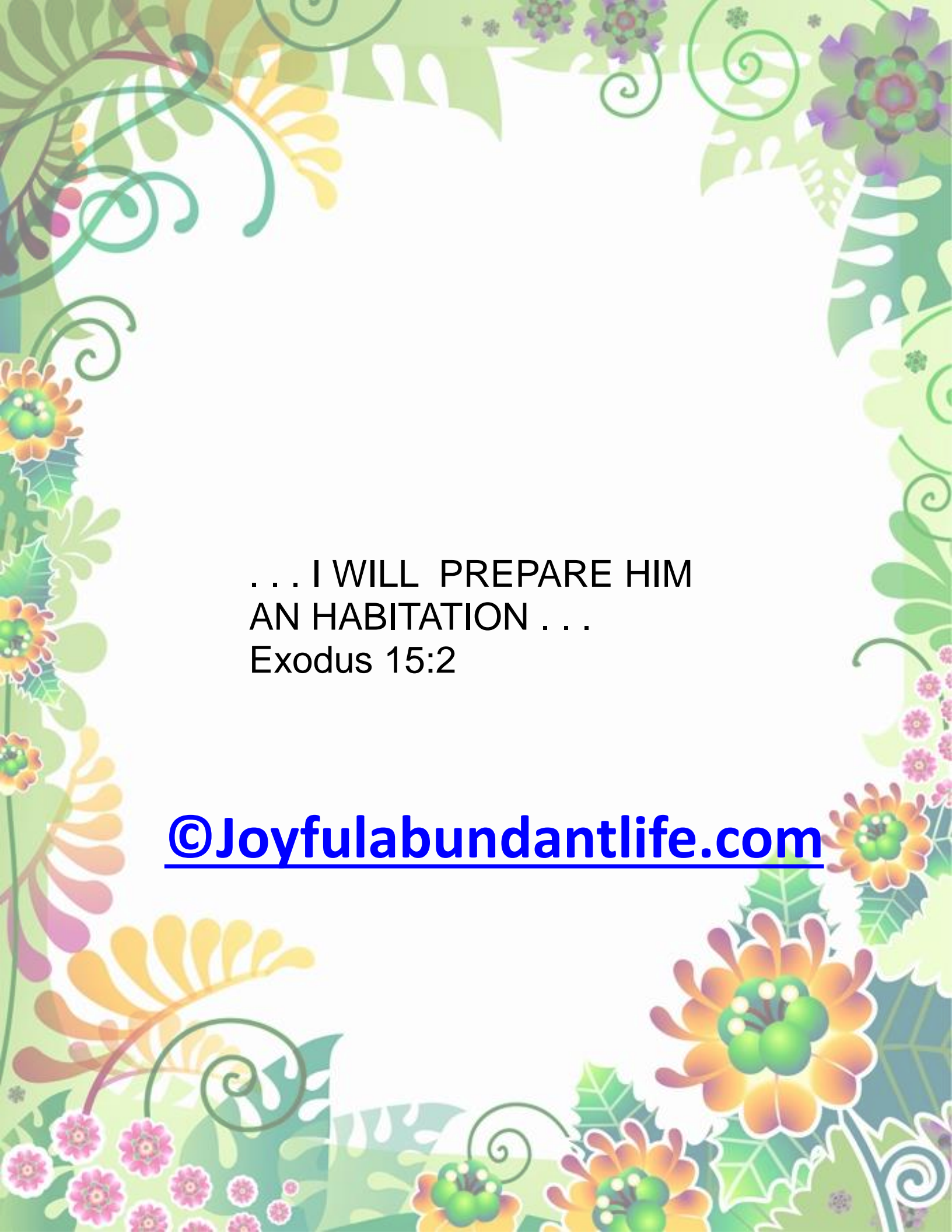
It matters not what excuses people give!
Everyone can see God through His handiwork!
God made the world and all that is therein including us!
Because we ultimately belong to Him we have not excuse
for not obeying His Word. His Word is powerful!

Psalm 19:7-14 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes 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 for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward. Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults. Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression. Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

(cont)

God's Word is Powerful!

- .It is perfect
- .It convicts and converts
- .It is sure
- .It makes wise the simple
- .It is right, rejoicing the heart
- .It is pure, enlightening the eyes
- .It is clean, enduring forever
- .It is true, and righteous altogether
- .It is to be desired above the finest gold
- .It is sweeter than the sweetest honey
- .It warns God's servants
- .It rewards God's servants when obeyed
- .It keeps one sin
- .It should be the meditation of one's heart and the
- .words which flow from once mouth – this would be
- .acceptable in the sight of the Lord who is our strength
- .and our Redeemer



... I WILL PREPARE HIM
AN HABITATION ...
Exodus 15:2

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