

Thy Word is a Lamp unto My Feet Lesson 11 2Q 2007

Daily Wisdom

SABBATH

Read memory text – thoughts? What does it mean to be wise for salvation through faith in Jesus?

What is “salvation”? its English root is “salvo” from which we get salve or salvage, which means to heal or recover or restore. The Greek for save is sōzo which means to heal.

Could we read it as “wise for healing”?

What does “faith in Jesus” mean? Does faith also mean trust? Does it mean something different to trust Jesus?

If you were sick and in pain and suffering and went to the doctor would you need to trust him? Why? If you didn't you wouldn't follow his instructions.

So basically it is saying the scriptures are able to make you understand/comprehend God's plan to heal and restore you if you trust in Jesus and follow His instructions!

Read first paragraph-

What principles have you gained from God's Word that help in your daily life?

Liberty – Saul vs. Paul do we experience that change? The willingness to grant others the freedom to see it differently and still love them?

Love – do we care about others? Are we willing to give? To serve?

From the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks – what truth is being conveyed? How do we apply it?

How do we apply God's principles in interacting with those we disagree with?

How about if someone tells you about another they say is in an adulterous relationship?

How do you apply God's principles in dealing with them?

A homosexual relationship?

If someone shares with you that an acquaintance has a child out of wedlock how do you apply God's principles?

Those who have eyes let them see and ears let them hear vs. seeing though they do not see, hearing though they do not hear

those who are seeing and hearing without seeing and hearing go "whoa, I can't believe it, I've got to call my mother and tell her." But those who have eyes to see and ears to hear go, "Thanks for revealing to me that you are the kind of person who spreads malicious gossip about another, while I have no evidence regarding what you are saying, you are right now giving me evidence that you cannot be trusted with information, so I will be sure to be careful with what I share with you."

Any other examples of God's principles and how we apply them?

SUNDAY

Read third paragraph "In the Bible..." Thoughts? Any examples of where the Bible gives wisdom on moral decision making?

Faithfulness in marriage, loving others, caring for less fortunate, valuing mercy

Are there any examples where people try to use the Bible in a "moral way" but actually become immoral in doing so?

What about when people use the Bible in an attempt to coerce people to behave the way they think is best? Inquisition? What about today with those who want to pass legislation on moral matters? Does the Bible give clear guidance on exactly where that line is to be drawn?

Read last paragraph "It's one thing..." thoughts? Is there something missing in this? Do we have to go beyond what the Bible says and ask, "what does it mean?"

What does it mean to obey? Is there a difference in doing what you are told because you are told to do it and understanding why and doing it because it makes sense and you want to do it? Which does God want from us?

What happens if someone obeys but doesn't know why over time? They obey only because they are told to but never come to understand?

A sullen submission to the will of the Father will develop the character of a rebel. By such a one service is looked upon as drudgery. It is not rendered cheerfully, and in the love of God. It is a mere mechanical performance. If he dared, such a one would disobey. His rebellion is smothered, ready to break out at any time in bitter murmurings and complaints. Such service brings no peace or quietude to the soul. {ST, July 22, 1897 par. 11}

## MONDAY

Read middle dark section “In an earlier lesson...” Thoughts?

Is it good Christian policy to post the 10 Commandments in public buildings?

What is the purpose of the 10? Are they the source of our healing and remedy or were they given as a promise and diagnostic instrument?

The law was added so that the trespass might increase. Romans 5:20

The 10 are like and MRI of the heart/mind character – they expose the problem:

We also know that law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious; for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, <sup>10</sup> for adulterers and perverts, for slave traders and liars and perjurers--and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine <sup>11</sup> that conforms to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me. 1 Tim 1:9-11

We know that the MRI is good if one uses it properly. We also know that the MRI is made not for healthy people but for those who are sick and diseased, the suffering, the ill, and all those who are dying, and all activities that are contrary to the principles of healthy living that conform to the model of health that the blessed God has entrusted to me. – My paraphrase

Are the 10 commandments to diagnose our sinfulness? Then why do we emphasize trying to obey? Should we instead emphasize accepting an accurate diagnosis? We are sick and sinful and the commandments cannot cure us – can they?

Who can? Christ – once we are diagnosed we need to go the Great Physician for healing. And how do the 10 commandment start? I am the Lord who brought you out of bondage you will not...

Imagine an old TB hospital, where people are quarantined until they either die or are well and can leave. And on the wall there is a list of what the healthy will look like, and it states in order to leave “You shall not cough, you shall not have fever, you shall not spit up blood, you shall not have chills...” and as you look at that list you begin to work very hard to obey them all. Whenever the doctor comes around you work not to cough, not to shake, you suck ice chips so your temperature will appear lower all in an effort to have the doctor think you are healthier than you really are. Does this sound like a wise and good plan?

What about if you realize how sick you are, you look at the list and realize how far away you are from it and you cry out to the doctor – please save/heal me. And then you hear the doctor say, if you trust me and let me apply my remedy I promise “you will not cough, you will not have fever, you will not spit up blood, you will not have chills. For I am the one who sets you free.”

The 10 Commandments are there to diagnose us and also as a promise of how we will look when Christ completes His healing plan and the law is again written in our hearts and minds!

TUESDAY

What is the purpose of work?

It keeps us occupied and thus out of trouble – idle hands are the devils workshop

It provides income, sustains our livelihood

It provides a sense of meaning and purpose

Is that all?

It is an opportunity to immerse ourselves into God’s circle of love – to receive from God talents, wisdom, ability and then invest them in service to others to use our abilities, time energies resources to help others, thus growing closer to God and experiencing more of His joy and love.

Those who don’t work (when able) or don’t appreciate their work as opportunities to give, cheat themselves out of blessings God has designed for us to experience.

Work does not necessarily mean gainful employment, but the investment of oneself in activities and pursuits that result in constructive outcomes and benefit others.

#### WEDNESDAY

The Bible and Wealth – what is the Biblical position on wealth?

Are those that are wealthy blessed by God? Are those who are not wealthy therefore not blessed by God? Is wealth a good barometer of whether we are blessed of God?

Read bottom pink section – thoughts?

Do gold, silver, platinum, diamonds, rubies, US dollars have any value with God? What is the currency of heaven? Love, goodness, righteousness, beneficence, truth

How do we store up such currency in heaven? By giving what we have received to benefit others and bring more and more back into harmony with God and His principles.

#### THURSDAY

Read third and fourth paragraphs “According to Robert...” thoughts? What would have happened if world leaders would have been like this? They would have been killed and persecuted. Didn’t Christ say that if we are like Him the world would hate us?

How can we apply Christ’s principles in our lives as leaders?

Remembering that we are responsible for our actions, choices, conduct, not what others think of us or whether others like us. We must be open to hear others input perspectives and ideas but always retain our own conclusions and decision making.

Keep God, His mission, loving Him and others first and defend against flattery and self exaltation.

#### FRIDAY

Question 2 read and discuss

Do we need more wisdom in making decisions that just what the Bible says not to do? Why? Those convinced against their will are of the same

opinion still. If the only reason we have for doing something is that someone in charge told us then we in our hearts remain unconvinced and will look for opportunity to do what we think is best.

But if we have been shown evidence, given reasons, thought it through for ourselves and come to our own conclusion then we are settled and cannot be moved into unhealthy channels.

What wisdom does the Bible give on picking a spouse?

Finding a job?

Moving?

Major in college?

Read question 1 and discuss

Read first paragraph and discuss.