

Northside Church of Christ

“God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”
John 4:24



Testing and Trusting

By Mike Riley

In Exodus 17:7, we see the children of Israel testing the Lord by asking, “Is the Lord among us, or not?”

After Israelites left Egypt for the land of Promise, they grumble their way through the hot miserable desert. Even though God had demonstrated His watchful care for them, they still felt alone facing the threat of starvation and thirst (Exodus 15:22-25; Exodus 16:4-15). Their memories of His care for them, last no longer than their last meal. They complain. Would you?

How long does our faith endure when we are tested? “Is the Lord among us, or not?” In other words, is He still keeping up with me?

The people had little choice but to depend on God. No grain fields, no ready water supply, no real nourishment. They told Moses in certain terms. “Why did you bring us out here to suffer? We weren’t so bad off in Egypt. At least we weren’t starving!” (Exodus 16).

God responds by sending the manna and the quail. He provides water from a rock. He is in their midst! He did work miracles for them. He did provide. But it was a daily exercise in faith. Every day, they had to gather. They needed faith for each day that the manna would fall and the water would flow.

But what about me here and now? It’s my “daily bread” I’m after (Matthew 6:11).

I am learning to take each day as it comes praying that God will provide a blessing for that day. Tomorrow is up to Him. I know He loves me, because He wants my attention. And guess what? He gets it! That’s the greatest part of faith. It’s my daily dependence upon the One who cares the most (1 Peter 5:6-7).

Yes, the Lord is in our midst you can depend on it! (Matthew 18:19-20).

SUNDAY MORNING

Triple E
Edify, Exhort,
Evangelize
8:30 AM

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Thru the Bible in
52 Weeks -
Ecclesiastes & Song of
Solomon
9:30 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship Service
10:30 AM

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Luke 12:13 - 21
Luke 13:6 - 9
Parable of the Rich Fool
Parable of the barren fig
tree

Northside Church of Christ
4217 Highway 39 N
Meridian, MS 39301

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“Study to shew thyself
approved unto God, a
workman that needeth
not to be ashamed,
rightly dividing the word
of truth.”

2 Timothy 2:15

Prerequisites Of Divine Restoration | Solomon's Prayer

By Mike Riley

In 2 Chronicles 7:14, God speaking to Solomon stated, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." This passage of scripture presents to us as God's people the prerequisites of divine restoration. After God's temple had been completed by Solomon (2 Chronicles 7:11; cf. 1 Kings 9:1ff), a prayer of dedication is offered to the Lord (2 Chronicles 7:12-42).

In a series of requests, Solomon petitions the Lord to forgive him and the people of their sins if they are willing to repent and return to faithfully serving Him (2 Chronicles 7:21-31; 2 Chronicles 7:34-39). God basically promises them that He will restore to them (as He did to David) the "joy of thy salvation" (Psalm 51:12). In addition, Solomon also petitions God to "hear" and grant the requests of the "stranger" (foreigner – [ESV] – vs. 32-33) so "that all people of the earth may know thy name, and fear thee, as doth thy people Israel, and may know that this house which I have built is called by thy name." Let us look and analyze these prerequisites of divine restoration in the light of other passages and then make application of them in our lives.

1) Humble Ourselves

This is a prerequisite of Christ (Matthew 18:3-4; Matthew 20:27; Matthew 23:11-12) and of God (James 4:6; cf. Psalm 138:6; Proverbs 3:34; 1 Peter 5:6). The purpose of acquiring this attitude is for:

- (a) The giving of grace (James 4:6).
- (b) Us to be exalted "in due time" (1 Peter 5:5-6).
- (c) Teaching us God's "way" that we might go down a "plain path" (Psalm 27:7-11).

2) Pray

We should note from scripture the "frequency" of our prayers to God.

- (a) The Psalmist said that he prayed "Evening, morning, and at noon" (Psalm 55:17).
- (b) The apostle Paul states that we should "pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17).
- (c) We are to pray "always" making "supplication for all saints" (Ephesians 6:18).

3) Seek God's Face

The idea of "seeking God's face" is:

- (a) To seek an audience with God (Psalm 20:9).
- (b) To seek the favor of God (Proverbs 29:26).

We are told to "seek God" with all our heart and soul (Deuteronomy 4:29; cf. 2 Chronicles 15:4).

4) Turn From Our Wicked Ways

- (a) It is a requirement of God (Acts 17:30).
- (b) It is a requirement of Christ (Luke 13:3, 5).
- (c) It is a requirement of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:30-31; cf. Psalm 78:32-41; Isaiah 63:10; Acts 7:51).
- (d) It is a requirement of the apostle of love (1 John 1:9).

Turning from his sins was David's attitude and desire (Psalm 51:1-4, 7-14). We should display the same attitude and desire as well.

When we as God's children fulfill the four divine restoration prerequisites enumerated above, then God will (according to 2 Chronicles 7:14):

- (a) Hear from heaven.
- (b) Forgive our sin.
- (c) Heal our land.

Our fellowship with God will then be restored! What a marvelous promise from our Heavenly Father even to His children today (1 John 1:3-9; cf. Psalm 32:5; Psalm 51:2). May God richly bless us as we daily make application of these divine restoration prerequisites.

Prayer Requests This Week

- Pray for all those with ongoing health ailments (Maxine Powell)
- All those affected by COVID-19
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Communion Preparation

- Sign up sheet for 2021 is in foyer
- November - Rowell
- December - Montgomery

Announcements

- Holiday Dinner - December 12 @ 5:30, Okatibbee Fish Cam
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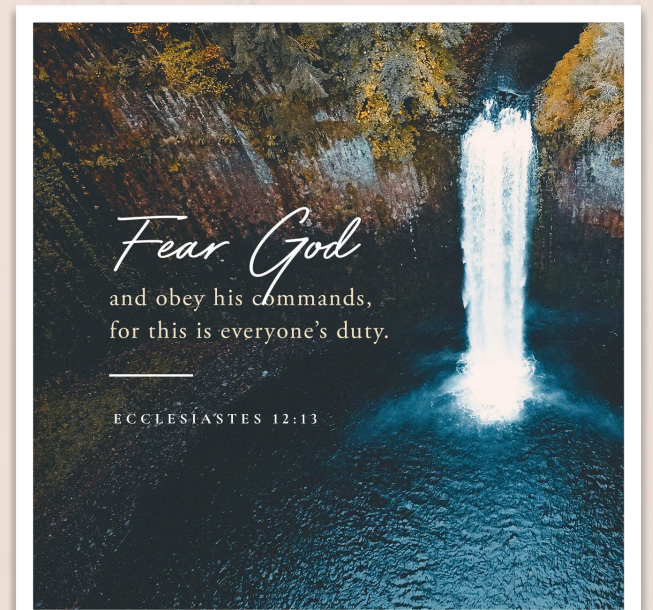
November Birthdays & Anniversary's

- Laila McKenzie - 5th
- Marilyn Potts - 15th
- Cindy Littrell - 14th
- Margie Wooldridge - 30th
- John/Beverly Isaacs - 25th

Every Sunday Morning

@ 6:00 AM

on WTOK-TV



Sermon Notes

Men to Serve

Announcements/Opening Prayer - Don Potts
 Scripture Reading -
 Lead Singing - Mark Potts
 Head of Lord's Table - Scott Williams
 Assist on Lord's Table - David Cradic
 Scripture Reading - 1 Corinthians 11:23 - 29
 Closing Prayer - Shay Cooper

Comcast Cable	8
Comcast Cable	438
Comcast Cable	1012
DirecTV	12
Dish Network	9306
Dishnet Local	49
Over-the-air	11.3