

:: Staying The Course ::

:: Obedience ::

Proverbs 12:11

New King James Version

¹¹ He who [a]tills his land will be satisfied with bread,

- **Many small yes's**
- **Keeps us tender hearted**

Genesis 7:13-16

New King James Version

¹³ On the very same day Noah and Noah's sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them, entered the ark— ¹⁴ they and every beast after its kind, all cattle after their kind, every creeping thing that creeps on the earth after its kind, and every bird after its kind, every bird of every sort. ¹⁵ And they went into the ark to Noah, two by two, of all flesh in which *is* the breath of life. ¹⁶ So those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in.

- **God brought the animals**
- **God shut them in**

- Our lives require **BOTH** obedience **AND** divine assistance
- God is always faithful to uphold his end

Luke 6:46-49

New King James Version

Build on the Rock

⁴⁶ “But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say? ⁴⁷ Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: ⁴⁸ He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was ^[a]founded on the rock. ⁴⁹ But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it ^[b]fell. And the ruin of that house was great.”

Ezekiel 7:19

New King James Version

**¹⁹ ‘They will throw their silver into the streets,
And their gold will be like refuse;
Their silver and their gold will not be able to deliver them
In the day of the wrath of the LORD;
They will not satisfy their souls,
Nor fill their stomachs,
Because it became their stumbling block of iniquity.**

- stomach led to sin
- we need to have self-discipline and be obedient
- relate to what Jesus says in Luke about “loving him and not doing what he says”

Psalm 23:4

New King James Version

**⁴Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
For You *are* with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.**

- It's the rod and staff that bring the comfort
- They represent strength, protection, guidance, and lovingness

W. Philip Keller, in his book *A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23*, comments on the uniqueness of the shepherd's staff:

“In a sense, the staff, more than any other item of his personal equipment, identifies the shepherd as a shepherd. No one in any other profession carries a shepherd's staff. It is uniquely an instrument used for the care and management of sheep—and only sheep. It will not do for cattle, horses or

hogs. It is designed, shaped and adapted especially to the needs of sheep” (from chapter 8).

:: Accountability Steps ::

- You don't water the leaves you water the roots

Colossians 2:7

New Living Translation

⁷ Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

- Find a Mentor
 - Look at when Israel and Judah split
 - This is before the actual split
 - Rehoboam was Solomons son
 - Solomon was the wisest man ever

2 Chronicles 10:6-9

New Living Translation

⁶ Then King Rehoboam discussed the matter with the older men who had counseled his father, Solomon. “What is your advice?” he asked. “How should I answer these people?”

⁷ The older counselors replied, “If you are good to these people and do your best to please them and give them a favorable answer, they will always be your loyal subjects.”

⁸ But Rehoboam rejected the advice of the older men and instead asked the opinion of the young men who had grown up with him and were now his advisers. ⁹ “What is your advice?” he asked them. “How should I answer these people who want me to lighten the burdens imposed by my father?”

- **Here’s his response**

2 Chronicles 10:13-14 New Living Translation

¹³ But Rehoboam spoke harshly to them, for he rejected the advice of the older counselors ¹⁴ and followed the counsel of his younger advisers. He told the people, “My father laid^[a] heavy burdens on you, but I’m going to make them even heavier! My father beat you with whips, but I will beat you with scorpions!”

- **We are subject to the same mistakes**
- **Israel and Judah ended up splitting**
- **King Jeroboam took Israel**
- **King Rehoboam took Judah**

- **Time with God is first**
 - **Schedule first what matters most**
 - **Seek the kingdom of heaven first**
 - **Renew your mind**
 - **Set your mind on things that are above**
 - **John 15:3** says you are clean because of the word

John 17:17

New King James Version

¹⁷ Sanctify^[a] them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

- **Repent / Confess**
 - **Leaders we need to normalize repentance**
 - **Jon the Baptist and Jesus both stressed repentance**

1 John 1:5-10

New Living Translation

Living in the Light

⁵ This is the message we heard from Jesus^[a] and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all. ⁶ So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we are not practicing the truth. ⁷ But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light,

then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.

⁸ If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. ⁹ But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts.

- Rest in Jesus

Matthew 11:28-30

New Living Translation

²⁸ Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light."

Matthew 11:25-26

New Living Translation

Jesus' Prayer of Thanksgiving

²⁵ At that time Jesus prayed this prayer: "O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, thank you for hiding these things from those who think themselves wise and clever, and for revealing them to the childlike. ²⁶ Yes, Father, it pleased you to do it this way!

:: Humility / Pride Check ::

Read through **1 John** and you see these types of themes:

- Testimony is real
- Have fellowship with one another and Jesus
- Test yourselves to know Christ
- Don't love the world
- Don't be deceived
- The command to love...
- Lots of Love, Love God, Love Another, Consummation of Love
- Obedience by Faith
- The Spirit is truth

1 John 5:21

New King James Version

²¹ Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.

- Jesus and Idols cannot co-exist together
- The rest of the book has no value if we are exalting things above Jesus and his leadership
- Idols are sneaky and proud people don't know they're proud
- Pride will keep you from being honest with Jesus and your peers
- Jesus said, he didn't come for those who claim to be righteous but for those who know they are sick. **Luke 5:31-32**
- Humility always wins
 - Saved hearts should be serving hearts
 - The point of being free is to help others be free
 - Not to Lord your freedom over others
 - Pride says, "I have"
 - Humility says, "How can I help you get what I have"
 - The woman who got healed and began to serve Jesus : **Mark 1:31 / Luke 8:1-3**

:: Be Careful What You Look At ::

- **Ecclesiastes 1:8** – The eye is never satisfied with seeing
- **Proverbs 27:20** – So the eyes of man are never satisfied

The things we look at will grow in us. We will desire those things.

Looking at David with jealousy ruined Saul

- King Ahaz of Judah
- Asked King Tiglath-pileser of Assyria to help rescue him from the Kings of Aram and Israel
- After Assyria won, King Ahaz went to Damascus and saw their alters and something astounding grew inside of him.

2 Kings 16:10-15

New Living Translation

¹⁰ King Ahaz then went to Damascus to meet with King Tiglath-pileser of Assyria. While he was there, he took special note of the altar. Then he sent a model of the altar to Uriah the priest, along with its design in full detail. ¹¹ Uriah followed the king's instructions and built an altar just like it, and it was ready before the king returned from Damascus. ¹² When the king returned, he inspected the altar and made offerings on it. ¹³ He presented a burnt offering and a grain offering, he poured out a liquid offering, and he sprinkled the blood of peace offerings on the altar.

14 Then King Ahaz removed the old bronze altar from its place in front of the LORD's Temple, between the entrance and the new altar, and placed it on the north side of the new altar. 15 He told Uriah the priest, "Use the new altar^[a] for the morning sacrifices of burnt offering, the evening grain offering, the king's burnt offering and grain offering, and the burnt offerings of all the people, as well as their grain offerings and liquid offerings. Sprinkle the blood from all the burnt offerings and sacrifices on the new altar. The bronze altar will be for my personal use only."

We can't pretend like God's will for our lives doesn't involve some type of suffering.

More importantly we can't look to something else to provide comfort when times get tough on us.

It's your will that doesn't involve suffering not Gods.

- **God loves people.**
- **He could have created something different after the flood but he chose us still.**
- **He helped Adam make clothes after Adam's sin.**
- **Even if the only people you follow on social media are Christians, eventually you'll start to align yourself and your thoughts with people's perspective and their doctrine. If you're not careful, you'll get a people-based doctrine, which won't plant in your heart like God's does.**

Isaiah 28:16

New King James Version

A Cornerstone in Zion

¹⁶ Therefore thus says the Lord GOD:

**“Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation,
A tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation;
Whoever believes will not act hastily.**