

Monday, 15 August 2016

Hebrews 11:6

And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Continuing to examine what the LORD, God the Almighty means when He tells me I must have faith; I must believe, I must trust; I must commit, I must obey. This evidently is not some idle whim on the part of the Almighty, the writer of Hebrews tells me it is **impossible** to please the LORD God the Almighty without faith, etc.

Tuesday, 16 August 2016

Hebrews 11:6

And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

I have been proposing that to believe in something is to have a complete, an all encompassing conviction of that something's existence. Therefore, my initial reaction needs to be an appropriate version of "Wow, look what God is doing?" I need to deliberately foster a desire to search for God's hand in **everything**.

A lot can be learned from the Celtic Christians of the 5th through 10th centuries as they practiced lives based on recognizing the hand of God everywhere.

Wednesday, 17 August 2016

Hebrews 11:6

And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Romans 8:28

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

I am convinced that these two verses are so linked together that they must be regarded as the two sides of the same coin. Side 1 tells me that He rewards me, a seeker after Him. Side 2 directs me to search out the good in everything--at all times--in all things--whatever the

circumstances.

For starters, no complaining or grumbling but always with a mouth that praises the Lord and gives thanks in all circumstances. Work to be done.

Thursday, 18 August 2016

Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

This terse little set of verses must be regarded as a triptych displaying the well disciplined Christian life. Moreover, it is a life defined as the will of God for me. A life that is complete in Christ Jesus. Hallelujah!

A life whose public manifestation is one of rejoicing. Rejoicing in all circumstances. A life being lived from moment to moment in the joy of the Lord. A life of contrition and humility, being lived in service to others. A life that honors the LORD, God the Almighty and and its neighbors.

Rejoice always!

Friday, 19 August 2016

Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Is prayer the WD-40 of our relationship with the LORD, God the Almighty that enables the well disciplined Christian life? Isn't it the will of God in Christ Jesus for me to be in constant relationship with Them?

When I am not it is because I think I can do it myself or I tell myself it is too trivial to bother the Lord of the Universe with or I know that I have strayed from the King's Highway or ... Quite often it is that I forgot.

If I am praying without ceasing, there is no opportunity to forget. Forgive me Lord for my failures and teach me/transform me to be more like You.

Saturday, 20 August 2016

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

A life of outward thanksgiving may not be a thanks-filled life any more than a life of outward rejoicing is a joy-filled life. But as I strive through the guidance of the Holy Spirit to find the good in all circumstances, I will begin to live in a state of thanks that is running over and spewing out of me. That is a joy-filled life. That, in turn, leads to a life that is being lived in the righteousness, peace and joy of the Kingdom of Heaven in the here and now. Praise the Lord for His goodness to man.

Lord's Day, 21 August 2016

Psalm 119:103

How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Lord, that this will be a day of tasting the sweetness of Your words, sweeter than honey to my soul.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Scriptures



August 15-21, 2016

I was dealing with a very difficult and perplexing problem in the spring of 1989 and tackling it by trying to learn everything I could on the subject. One evening, as I continued my studies, God told me very clearly that the root of the problem was that I did not know Him. I put down the book I was reading and picked up a Bible figuring that was where I was going to find Him. That began what has been a 27-year search to know, really know in a John 17:3 way, the Lord, God the Almighty.*

Voices Together has and continues to be, a very important part of that search. It is extracted from my daily meditations and is shared in the hope that others will be encouraged to turn to the Scriptures as a rich source of guidance for prayer and meditation.

It is published daily on the website of the Fellowship of Ailbe, www.ailbe.org; along with material by other writers to encourage and assist in our walks as disciples of Jesus Christ.

These messages can also be received as daily emails or in a monthly printed version by sending a request to:

Pastor John Nunnikhoven
The Church at Prison, Inc.
PO Box 8318
Essex Junction, VT 05452

or at
The Fellowship of Ailbe, voices@ailbe.org
Realizing the presence, promise and power
of the Kingdom of God.

*LORD or LORD, God the Almighty always refers to the Trinitarian God.