

JUNE 2021

vol. 6 #4

FOCUS TODAY

a devotional



...LIVING GODLY DAILY!

FOREWORD

Every day we get the privilege to see, is a priceless and one-time gift. We are offered blank cheques and limitless opportunities to gain maximally or lose regrettably. Life comes with daily pressures that sufficiently drain the vital potentials from us. Painfully still, amidst the exhaustions that characterizes our routine, we get to miss out of a priority which counts the most, depriving ourselves of that which our lives base on. Since there could never be a better source of replenishing strength and lifelong satisfaction outside drawing from Life Himself, learning to focus on Him every day remains wisest for us.

On a collection of inspired words that bless my heart daily, strengthening my focus on Christ Jesus, I urge you, fellow pilgrims, to keep up the focus. Our redemption is so much closer now than when we first believed; if we ever needed to stay focused, it is now. May our faiths, like glowing splints, continue to blossom and grow deeper into Him. May our hearts continue to seek Him. May our eyes continue to fix on Him. May our lives continue to express Him.

E. A. Faith

INTRODUCTION

We give praise to the God of heaven and earth, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and giver of the Holy Spirit, Who by His grace has made us to be partakers of great heavenly blessings.

This month, we'll have our focus on the attitude of the believer: knowing why you were saved and living in His salvation.

It is my pleasure to have you on this page, and in this month, praying that the Lord bless you, and make your daily walk with Him godlier than before. God bless you!

Deep appreciation goes to all who have been so present for the Lord's use in this view; editing team, sharing, praying, and so on. God's blessing again.

Another Beloved,

Adeyemi Michael Adetunji

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All Scriptures quoted from The Holy Bible, New King James Version, unless otherwise stated.

THE SHALLOW SHILOH

Tuesday, June 1, 2021.

1Samuel 1:24–28

LESSON: *A lot, I wish I could emphasize how 'lot' it was that happened at that Shiloh in recent days. Well, a woman of faith would be able to tell; Hannah. Shiloh, the house of the Lord, where the Ark of Covenant lived, where worship was offered and the altar fire was never out, there a grieving woman bowed to pray sometime ago. Accused of drunkenness, yet not angered. In that shallow Shiloh, she got what she had yearned for, for years. And thus, it was like a new month, even a new year when the result came. But she was not one who forgot words, she had a bull, and, the result.*

“Now when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three bulls, one ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and brought him to the house of the Lord in Shiloh. And the child was young. Then they slaughtered a bull, and brought the child to Eli. And she said, “O my Lord! As your soul lives, my Lord, I am the woman who stood by you here, praying to the Lord. For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted me my petition which I asked of Him...”

Wow! I remembered while trying to pay a first fruit of my first working operation... It was a really tough thing, especially when it was huge and none besides it was in the treasury. It was revealed that Samuel (the child) was young, but not specified if she (Hannah) had other children already. Perhaps, yes she had, or no she had not, what mattered was that she paid her vow.

Prayer: O God of Shiloh, let my prayers reach You today, in the name of Jesus!

FOCUS TODAY

Miracles still happen, not in Shiloh alone, but in the hearts of faithful men and women –I am a witness. Happy new month! #focustoday

Bible in One Year: 2Chronicles 15–16; John 12:27–50

ABRAHAM'S WORKS OF FAITH

Wednesday, June 2, 2021.

Romans 4:3–4

LESSON: *Continued, the day's works and the time not stopped but a lot of things have changed. When time began, in the days when the left was not known nor the right observed, there existed a man who was different, knowing the way, the truth and even life. Meanwhile, all these he knew or gained by what could be called works. Oh, works, that should be the good works that Christ mentioned. Yea, rightly good works. But whose work can be good in the sight of the Holy God? All are like filthy garments (rags) before Him.*

“For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt.”

Truly, the Scripture reckons the law to be Moses', because unto him it was delivered. But the author of the law of life was really Abraham. Abraham seemed to be the one man who was convicted of his wrongs or unfaithfulness (like Job in his days too), that by blood, he got remission. Even to that of his own begotten son, unless God had commanded him a halt. Yet, for Abraham, his works were not always righteous, of which end is debt.

Prayer: Lord, help my work this month be unto Your will in Jesus' name!

FOCUS TODAY

The law is always asking, for blood, for more, and thus a poor or indebted man will die according to it, but God has proffered grace, through Jesus. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: 2Chronicles 17–18; John 13:1–20

THIS IS NEW!

Thursday, June 3, 2021.

Ecclesiastes 1:10

LESSON: *I had a real sense of fear of science after getting to watch the documentary of Albeit Einstein's $E=mc^2$ or the trip of Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin to the moon, not to mention the new inventions that are approaching. There was a documentary I watched on the Discovery Channel. It was called Next World, and some others related to it. It filmed new inventions, inventions that sprung from existing ones, but were astonishing. And even these inventions were yet to get the real pictures of their visions. Having it said that the next world would finish them up. We have the Time Machine which could go back or forth in time, Human Parts 3D-Printers, Calytronic Atoms etcetera. These are extreme!*

*"Is there anything of which it may be said,
"See, this is new"?
It has already been in ancient times before us."*

And here is my little question for/from the preacher, 'Is there a limit to the ancient?' From there we can proceed. All true, there is no thing as new that hasn't been before. Almost all of the inventions in the industrial evolution/revolution were things the Romans, Babylonians, Egyptians had in time past designed, but were almost impossible to be fabricated then. And here is a message for thoughts; have you any lack of thoughts that God still exists or that He's a little restrained from some things? Get faithed!

Prayer: Father, do a new thing in my life, in the name of Jesus!

FOCUS TODAY

This is new, we are in the new age, new world, new system. Though all (inventions) may be developed and changed, yet man has not changed, the same as Abraham we still have today. Nevertheless, God's standard and word will never change. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: 2Chronicles 19–20; John 13:21–38

DAVID'S FAITH

Friday, June 4, 2021.

Romans 4:5–8

LESSON: *Abraham, of the truth had good works to prove, but that was not rightness before God. He had the other gift that differentiated him from the kings of the nations, he believed God. Faith was his substance of grace. Abraham like Noah was almost the only one who had God in his every thoughts and heart. That God said, "I have chosen you and your seed (descendants) for myself". It was the greatest offer any man could possess –sonship. Also there exist one of the seeds of his, who had not works of the law but of faith.*

“...just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works:

*“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,
And whose sins are covered;
Blessed is the man to whom the Lord shall not impute sin.”*

David's faith was distinctive, that even today I marvel at his life compared to our Christianity. Like the early church, David would not take any step unless he had inquired of God. Even when his all, I mean all that he had, children, wives, families, weapons, sheep, friends, fellow soldiers' families and so on were gone, he was really grieved, but he encouraged himself in the Lord and still asked, 'Shall I pursue?'

Prayer: Lord Jesus, help me to be strengthened in faith, faith in the Father through the Son.

FOCUS TODAY

Having seen what faith Abraham, Job or David possessed, I could envy this none Christians and wished our faiths arise even as a mustard seed in God. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: 2Chronicles 21–22; John 14

THE CROOKED STRAIGHT

Saturday, June 5, 2021.

Ecclesiastes 1:15

LESSON: So, like there is that way that seems good and right but has potholes and ditches that could size a truck. That way the preacher of Proverbs called the way of death. In life's case, in fact many of life's cases, there is that falling of man, good men into wrongs and falling of the wicked into treasuries. Yea, that is to the earth life, not the spiritual one. So it is desired of the other to follow suit the same order in the spiritual, which is not. Many then fall for the fine path only to end up in the death zones.

*“What is crooked cannot be made straight,
And what is lacking cannot be numbered.”*

These were words of the grieving preacher, after his thirst and hunger had been satisfied with lessons of life. He wished to pour upon everyone morals from experiences, but it could be overreacted upon. In what way? There cannot be crooked straight, yes, and that was why he mentioned that. But for one who will walk in faith, his father David stated, "Blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not impose iniquity..." (Psalm 32:2).

Prayer: Lord, help my walk and work not be crooked before You, in the name of Jesus.

FOCUS TODAY

Have you reached a dead end, and truly the road is death? Aye! Wait! There is a way, which is true and gives life even on the crooked paths, believe in Jesus.

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Bible in One Year: 2Chronicles 23–24; John 15

HYPOCRITE!

Sunday, June 6, 2021.

Luke 6:42

LESSON: *Have we any man on the wall today? Have we Ezekiels? Have we Moses to intercede or Jeremiah to wallow the truth? A Micaiah who would tell the Lord's heart and Jehoshaphat to plead for the Lord's word and way? Nay! Okay, to the Gospels and New Covenant... Have we Peter, Paul, Stephen, Philip, Matthew, Luke... We will lose counts. Nay! All we have are Laodecians, Galatians, Corinthians, not even Thessalonians or Bereans. Why? If we cannot even pattern to the disciples, apostles, early Christians, why then or how can we relate to Jesus, why are we called Christians?*

“Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me remove the speck that is in your eye,’ when you yourself do not see the plank that is in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck that is in your brother’s eye.”

See the way Jesus alerted the audience –Hey, Hypocrite! Jesus was not scared to lose members or to offend his religious leaders, Pharisees, Sadducees, even teachers of the great Moses' laws. He poured it all out! Hypocrite! The day, a preacher would do that to speak nothing of motivations but the truth... Hmm!

Confession: I shall bear nothing but the truth; I shall be a voice for the Lord in my generation.

FOCUS TODAY

Speak the truth, the devil won't be asked, he will be defeated. Though the truth tarries to be unveiled, it will surely never die, it will remain –the truth. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: 2Chronicles 25–27; John 16

THE LOOTING OF WISDOM

Monday, June 7, 2021.

Ecclesiastes 1:17–18

LESSON: *Have you done a run on that book of the Preacher also known as Ecclesiastes? And in the first three chapters, you had perceived a not worried man, but self-condemned and likely giving up preacher. Solomon, whom the Scriptures reckon to be the wisest ever to live, he was wearied and off note of worthiness. He was very much at the verge of cursing his own self, and the wisdom which he was given. In Proverbs 8 of which he authored, he spoke so well of wisdom and as it could be observed, he wrote about Jesus (though feminine). This wisdom Solomon had, greatly, but he never knew its worth. A queen of Sheba (an enemy as ally from a far country) knew.*

“And I set my heart to know wisdom and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this also is grasping for the wind.

*For in much wisdom is much grief,
And he who increases knowledge increases sorrow.”*

His endnote of that Chapter One sounds regretful. This amongst all treasured things of earth is the way to life. That, he once preached 'Get wisdom, and in all thine getting –understanding' (Proverbs 4:7). Wisdom is life, health, wealth as it can only be obtained divinely. But for Solomon, his wisdom drove him mad... 1000 women man. 'But wisdom is justified by all her children' (Luke 7:35).

Prayer: Father, help me to get the wisdom of Christ, not unto death, but unto life.

FOCUS TODAY

The gift of a man makes way (rooms) for him, but when the gift is abused, it leads directly to death. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: 2Chronicles 28–29; John 17

HYPOCRITE!!

Tuesday, June 8, 2021.

Luke 6:46

LESSON: *Some said certain histories recorded that Jesus schooled. But our Scriptures did say he was a carpenter. There is no way you would school and remain a carpenter in those days. But how Jesus could be referred to as 'Teacher' even by Pharisees was dumbfounding. Even though Jesus was a scholar, what of Peter who was an illiterate, yet taught in the temple in the Acts? In the well-organized system, in which the Lord was aware of, the people around Him were just –hypocrites!*

“But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say?”

A gospel guitar singer, Chris Delvan, did sing 'Why do you call Him Lord, when He doesn't know you at all?' A very deep lamentation of the Lord was that, while He was surrounded by multitudes, down to the one hundred and twenty, then to the seventy, then the chosen twelve and now the guiding trio, they seemed to still be ignorant of who Jesus was. Their hearts could have been worse than that of the fathers who lived in Moses' time. Those ones were stiff-necked, maybe the Jesus' time would be stack-necked, and what would ours be?

Prayer: Break from me O Lord, every trace and spirits of hypocrisy, in the name of Jesus!

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Playing a hypocrite does not pay anywhere –why not drop the play and pray. Pray for salvation, be genuine. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: 2Chronicles 30–31; John 18:1–18

THE AGONY OF A PREACHER

Wednesday, June 9, 2021.

Ecclesiastes 2:15

LESSON: *If only it could be possible to extract the first two to three chapters of Ecclesiastes and rename it as The Lamentation of The Preacher (Solomon). Thoughtful, the previous book was the Proverbs, containing mysteries broken down, life it had. The next after the Preacher's lamentation was the Song of Songs, and therein was merriment; well I feel that was in disguise to a coarse regret of a young girl of Shulam. The preacher seems to have a deep extension for regrets, that a common man could have ended up in suicide. It was still thoughtful to me that, Solomon must have lived a very vague life indeed, though he had the chance for the best ever.*

*“So I said in my heart,
As it happens to the fool,
It also happens to me,
And why was I then more wise?”
Then I said in my heart,
“This also is vanity.”*

Vanity! Vanity! Vanity! Vanity! Countless vanities saying, he would have chanted in a day then. Just like the Lord would have in remorse preached –hypocrisy– hypocrites, this Solomon was regretful of vanities. When a life is lived without God, no matter how big and bountiful it appears, the soul will always be alerted that death is not the end, and there comes the fear of the next unknown.

Prayer: Every plan of darkness, works of the flesh, to make me regret, fail in the name of Jesus!

FOCUS TODAY

Nonetheless, more than the wisest man, we have grace which says... Seek first the kingdom of God and its righteousness. Note, 'first'. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: 2Chronicles 32–33; John 18:19–40

THE SERVANT'S LIFE

Thursday, June 10, 2021.

Luke 7:2–6

LESSON: Recall that parable that Jesus narrated of a father having two sons and sending the first on an errand, he refused but later went. And the younger also, who accepted but never went. Who would the father trust? Of the two sons of the father, who would the blessed father trust or find faithful? The one behind or the one who was frivolous but repenting? Well on trust levels, faithfulness would determine. And here is a touching event that took me in hasty wowed ways.

“And a certain centurion’s servant, who was dear to him, was sick and ready to die. So when he heard about Jesus, he sent elders of the Jews to Him, pleading with Him to come and heal his servant. And when they came to Jesus, they begged Him earnestly, saying that the one for whom He should do this was deserving, “for he loves our nation, and has built us a synagogue.” Then Jesus went with them. And when He was already not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to Him, saying to Him, “Lord, do not trouble Yourself, for I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof.”

In just one same event, this centurion sent both elders, and his friends. Friends of a centurion must be centurions. I do not know why this centurion couldn't go to Jesus himself, maybe he was on duty (a Roman soldier). But, the shock was that –this was for a servant, a servant! How dear and faithful that servant must have been!

Prayer: Lord, give me grace to be a faithful worker, before You and before others in the name of Jesus!

FOCUS TODAY

Would your boss, father, mother or brethren want to do anything to save you? Yea, Jesus did, but what faithfulness is your servanthood? Hypocrisy? #focustoday

Bible in One Year: 2Chronicles 34–36; John 19:1–22

THE PURSUIT OF ALL

Friday, June 11, 2021.

Ecclesiastes 2:18

LESSON: *For this cause was the Son of God crucified. That was the first time God's word would fall, yea, Jesus the word of God fell, died, and was even buried. Alas, He resurrected by the same power of the word! Yea, for this cause or course. What course was/is that? 'Seek first the kingdom of God and its righteousness, and all other things shall be added onto you.' 'All' is the very accountable word, that is not generalizing but universal on any and many. That all–other–things are the pursuit of men.*

You had seen people tag themselves with names such as Young Millionaire, Young Billionaire etc. It got to a time she acquiring billions was the target of every young person, they sang with it even. Billions, not millions anymore. What is the gain of having the billion? Power? Wealth? Health? What could it be? Why not ask Solomon the wisest and wealthiest, who eventually became a preacher, of vanities?

“Then I hated all my labor in which I had toiled under the sun, because I must leave it to the man who will come after me.”

The regret of king Solomon was one odd one. His reason was based on even selfish ones. What concern is it for the one who will inherit It? Why not be concerned about where you would go and not what or where you left?

Confession: I receive grace to seek nothing but the kingdom, as from today, in the name of Jesus!

FOCUS TODAY

The pursuit of all, for the course in which Jesus died, is for all to seek first the kingdom of God and its righteousness. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Ezra 1–2; John 19:23–42

INCOMPARABLE!

Saturday, June 12, 2021.

Luke 7:6–9

LESSON: *Running on the hills all for a dying servant's life could be questioning. What is it that the servant stood for? What (other) relationship did this servant-master have than being servant to master? Why was the servant's life so worthy, worth it or priceless to him? And this same occasion made one of the biggest faith in the Scriptures. In fact, to me, it's a favorite. How could this man so reason the spiritual so easily? Meanwhile, being a Gentile –a centurion– a Roman soldier.*

“Then Jesus went with them. And when He was already not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to Him, saying to Him, “Lord, do not trouble Yourself, for I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof... But say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man placed under authority... And I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes...” When Jesus heard these things, He marveled...!”

I could say Jesus was wowed! It was indeed incomparable in all of Israel, that was Jesus' remark. How could that be? This was the first time Jesus would be taught what to do, that even He marveled.

Confession: I receive faith! I have faith! I obtain faith in Jesus!

FOCUS TODAY

*What a faith! Jesus was ordered by a man of faith, that He became dumbfounded and marveled! Whatever faith you bear; will it marvel Jesus or mar His coming or presence?
#focustoday*

Bible in One Year: Ezra 3–5; John 20

THE WRONG CAUSE

Sunday, June 13, 2021.

1Samuel 17:28–29

LESSON: *Bitterly, outrightly it would have been that Peter, and the others forsook their businesses for a wrong cause/course. How would it have been if Jesus never resurrected? You would just become one follower of a dead man. What doctrine of heresy that would have been! But alas, there was no wrong in it, Jesus arose from the dead, and right now He is our Advocate at the right hand of God! Alas, how daily, we fall to the wrong cause! How we even judge just after we understand that there is a long (plank) in our eyes, while seeking the dust in our brother's eye!*

“Now Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and Eliab’s anger was aroused against David, and he said, “Why did you come down here? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your pride and the insolence of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle.” And David said, “What have I done now? Is there not a cause?”

Oh, there it is, for what cause? You don't just do something unless there is something (to be done). Eliab was really furious at the now anointed king of Israel. Although he (Eliab) did not know how that would be, he nevertheless ridiculed the boy (David) to being a little village shepherd.

Prayer: I shall not be caught up in any wrong cause in the name of Jesus! I am delivered from any that I am into. Amen!

FOCUS TODAY

When you do a judgment, always ask before the verdict, is there a cause? No job is worse than a wrong job. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Ezra 6–8; John 21

NO JOB AND WRONG JOB (1)

Monday, June 14, 2021.

Revelation 2:10

LESSON: *"We are soldiers, soldiers marching on! We will never ever never look back! We are soldiers, soldiers marching on, we will never ever never look back!" That could have been one of the Saul's Israeli army led chants. But they did look back. Why? What did they see? They saw the same giant their wilderness fathers saw. Goliath of Gath was there, daily defying the army of the Lord. What insolence! This was one of the greatest critic or tragedy that would have befallen our model country –Israel, unless there was not a faithed boy.*

"Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life."

Oh, the letter addressed to the church at Smyrna. How I wished king Saul and his Israeli's host had seen that then, they might have battled. The church of Smyrna was revealed to what was to befall them soon, and there was that closing remark, 'Be faithful until death...' That is the job. It is better never to be in the church at all than to be and then compromise.

Prayer: I shall not work the wrong course, cause or job in the name of Jesus. I do nothing but His will.

FOCUS TODAY

Yea, it is much better not to receive a job, not to put a hand to the plough, than to be engaged in a job but the wrong job, looking back. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Ezra 9–10; Acts 1

A ZEAL FOR GOD

Tuesday, June 15, 2021.

1Samuel 17:36

LESSON: *'I told you, that boy is stupid, the insolence of his heart, his pride will kill him. Go tell father quickly...!' That could have been Eliab's thoughts and conversation with probably Abinadab or an armor bearer around. But, here was the young man they wanted to shut up, as well as the enemy wanted to shoot down too, whose zeal was for his God. The insult was indeed much, a shameful one. For almost forty days, the armies of Israel could not provide a champion. No, not one, that a shepherd boy in one bush of Bethlehem was pulled out.*

“Your servant has killed both lion and bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God.”

Indeed, armies... Not one, probably twelve or thirteen (Manasseh and Ephraim replacing Joseph) and there was not even one of their troublesome rebels or stubborn soldiers or even the tallest and handsome king Saul that could confront the Giant of Gath, Goliath. But David, a kid did. There was the zeal. Zeal for the Lord is good, and it is rarely a waste. It will only be a waste if there is a selfish interest in it.

Prayer: Father, pour upon me the zeal for Your will, in the name of Jesus!

FOCUS TODAY

Zeal –Phinehas–David–Daniel... zealous for God, very good and never regretting. But God would become silent when the zeal has selfish or personal interests. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Nehemiah 1–3; Acts 2:1–21

We wish to hear from you,
JUNE 2021

THE COST OF BELIEF?

A Devotional

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Write to us via email focustodaydevotional@gmail.com

Or Facebook: www.facebook.com/ourdaillyfocus

AS MANY AS BELIEVED HIM...

...living godly daily!

HAVE A BLESSED RIDE, GOD BLESS YOU!

NO JOB AND WRONG JOB (II)

Wednesday, June 16, 2021.

Revelation 3:1

LESSON: *In the first lesson on 'No Job and Wrong Job, there was the persecuted church at Smyrna. The Lord had no such regret over them. He knew their works, had their records and unlike other five of the seven letters, He could not say 'I have found you wrong'. Rather, the Lord sent to them – strength, for what would befall them soon and that they should be faithful till death. If someone tells a church or a congregation that on a Sunday morning, scarcely will you find a few in the next service. They had a job, and to be carried out rightly.*

*“And to the angel of the church in Sardis write,
‘These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: “I
know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.”*

Of all the letters that was written to the churches of Asia, I had this of Sardis so concerning. Why? Because that is what we have today. Every church wants that thing –name. Every church, rather ministry, wants the largest cathedrals, members, branches, biggest names on mortal tongues. Why? Are they pursuing the needful?

Prayer: Lord, chase me out of the wrong job and make me do only Thine will in the name of Jesus!

FOCUS TODAY

There are so many who are dearly and faithfully doing the wrong job. I wish a pinch or punch could revive them, not even a pinch. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Nehemiah 4–6; Acts 2:22–47

DAVID KILLED GOLIATH, ALLELUIA!

Thursday, June 17, 2021.

1Samuel 17:49–51

LESSON: *'David killed Goliath Alleluia!' Oh we sang this with those sweet notes but nothing noted in the hearts. We'd just felt like David was one brave young man as our elementary and Sunday School teachers had taught us. The same excitement to the non-fiction history I got in the elementary school days, was what those women had when the unbelievable happened. My question is this, 'were the women on the field of battle, for them to have known how David conquered Goliath? It definitely meant that 'All Israel' –women, children, elders and the young soldiers had got full report of how Goliath had abused the Lord's armies for days, and all must have been expecting more of bad news than good. Dread and fear all over the place.*

“Then David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone; and he slung it and struck the Philistine in his forehead, so that the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the earth. So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him. But there was no sword in the hand of David... And when the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled.”

He died a bird's death. The hunter was hunted. Can you recall what Goliath promised David? He would feed his (David's) flesh to the birds. But David rather killed Goliath like killing a bird. That was the Spirit of God at work. Unshakeable faith reacting with zeal for God.

Confession: Today, I shall see this Goliath no more, for in the name of the Lord Jesus I overcome. Amen!

FOCUS TODAY

Have a zeal for God, His name, His word, be unshakeable, for your reward will not be comparable. 1Corinthians 15:58 #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Nehemiah 7–9; Acts 3

THE CALL TO COME

Friday, June 18, 2021.

Revelation 3:20–22

LESSON: *The wild fire is burning and there rarely is one that could quench it. The wild fire is burning and there is no where it won't reach. The wild fire is burning, boiling the salt sea... There is a real deep call for wisdom, in fact from wisdom, there is the call for all to come. But how many would hear or have heard or would answer? There is a call to come!*

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

What are the churches? The bricks or the centers? The churches are the people –the faithfuls. The Lord is calling to come to dinner. This is free meal, freest of all that no hidden cost is involved. Yet the pride of men won't let them. Just one ear is needed to hear this call. He who has an ear... Though figurative yet simple and straight. For how long will you keep the Lord waiting? Till 3021?

Prayer: Come thou Lord into my heart. Be my Lord and my Savior. Forgive my sins as I repent today, in the name of Jesus.

FOCUS TODAY

'There is a free call to come, come dine!' 'Nay! We won't!' 'Why?' 'We are not ready, let's remain here'. That's the lukewarmness. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Nehemiah 10–11; Acts 4:1–22

COST OF UNBELIEF

Saturday, June 19, 2021.

Deuteronomy 2:14–15

LESSON: *In the times when ages were born and men were out into their own various ways, before the floods and after it, there existed a lot of unbelief and loyalties to various things. Some did say there were many gods, other believed only in just one. And major gods that one might have faithfully observed could have been water, fire, air, life, death, love and so on. But for people like Enoch, Noah, Abraham, they walked with the God of all, the God of light, darkness, water, life, love, death, all. And there is a cost or prize for all beliefs likewise.*

“And the time we took to come from Kadesh Barnea until we crossed over the Valley of the Zered was thirty-eight years, until all the generation of the men of war was consumed from the midst of the camp, just as the Lord had sworn to them. For indeed the hand of the Lord was against them, to destroy them from the midst of the camp until they were consumed.”

The sin of these Israel generation wasn't disobedience but unbelief. And sometimes, to some extent, disobedience could warrant death, but unbelief would warrant even more. The unbelief of about ten spies, put an entire generation to death.

Prayer: I quench unbelief in me, in my camp, in my household, in my nation in the name of Jesus!

FOCUS TODAY

Unbelief spreads; do not allow the poisoning of your faith, believe in God and be thus established. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Nehemiah 12–13; Acts 4:23–37

COST OF BELIEF

Sunday, June 20, 2021.

John 1:12–13

LESSON: *Of a truth, Karma's (nature) law is kind and very reciprocal. For every thing there is a precost and postcost. The precost (price) will determine the postcost (prize). Whatever a man sows, so will he reap. As there is a cost of and for unbelief, likewise there is for believing (belief). And this cost (prize) of belief is a very strange one. But before it gets too strange, I like to think deeply as it may not be fully expressed in here, 'what does it take or mean to believe? 'How low or how high?'*

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”

That closing part of the sentence is the key. How mighty one would be if he is born of God! He is then like God. Right? These 'children-of-God' prize only costs a simple not heavy price –to believe. Belief (faith) is one of the most precious things to any man, that a man fears to do as well.

Prayer: Father, help my unbelief. Rain faith into me and into my community today, in the name of Jesus!

FOCUS TODAY

Because of the pride of man's heart, he finds it hard to pay the little cost of belief all to attain being God-like. He prefers to eat the enemy's bait instead.

#focustoday

Bible in One Year: Esther 1–2; Acts 5:1–21

COST OF DISOBEDIENCE

Monday, June 21, 2021.

1Samuel 15:28

LESSON: *In our study on the cost of unbelief, a point was made that 'Disobedience could cost a death, but unbelief could cost a lot more than death. In another stead, I could be convinced that both are alike. Disobedience could also cost the bondage or death of a generation, depending on who did it or how it was done. A case study is Achan, Saul and so on. Here was what it cost Saul the first king of Israel.*

“So Samuel said to him, “The Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today, and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you.”

Disobedience in some previous verses was defined to be as witchcraft –rebellion. And for the sin of witchcraft, it is death. There is a terribleness in acting disobedient. For what reason would man call himself into disobedience? For Achan, it was for selfish interest. For Saul and his people, selfish interest likewise, so are lots of ministers and Christians acting totally opposite to the orders of God. The kingdom is torn away.

Prayer: O Lord my God, save me from the holds of disobedience and rebellion, in the name of Jesus.

FOCUS TODAY

Do you know what it means for the kingdom to be torn away from a Christian? That's more than death, it is the cost of disobedience. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Esther 3–5; Acts 5:22–42

COST OF OBEDIENCE

Tuesday, June 22, 2021.

Romans 8:14

LESSON: *It is appearing like the New Testament holds an answer or antidote to every Old Testament question and problem. There was the cost of disobedience, and here we have the cost of obedience. What does it require to obey? Why is obedience a concern? These questions amongst others are called for continuously by the natural instinct of man which otherwise can be called pride. Some say it is self-pride.*

“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.”

And, here could come the generational error likewise. Here it is: men are presumptuous beings, that David fell into it atimes, he had to pray against it (Psalm 19:13). Many every time are only led by their instincts and ideas, not waiting to get things confirmed especially like king Saul who had yet become familiar with leadership. They just presume or assume every thought. Man has his spirit, yet there is the Holy Spirit. Do not mistake all thoughts to being led, that obedience may not become disobedience.

Prayer: I receive in me the Spirit of obedience, the Spirit of submission to His will, the Spirit that consumes pride, in the name of Jesus.!

FOCUS TODAY

Obedience has a cost, it is first to believe, and then to be led, not by presumptions or assumptions but by the Spirit of God, the otherwise is disobedience. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Esther 6–8; Acts 6

HONOUR AFTER DEATH

Wednesday, June 23, 2021.

1Samuel 15:30–31

LESSON: *Most times, when you hear 'All is well', nothing may be actually well. An author said, 'all that end well is well'. Yea that is the basic of a well ending life. It is good to pray to end strong, better to pray to end well, best is to end strong and well. Here we have a man who had a heart made by God, the first of its kind, but he died without death, that's fear. Nonetheless, one other thing can end a man without fear, disobedience.*

“Then he said, “I have sinned; yet honor me now, please, before the elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me, that I may worship the Lord your God.” So Samuel turned back after Saul, and Saul worshiped the Lord.”

Here, we have a man, a king who was so interested in worshipping what he did not obey, accept or honor. And you can see king Saul pleading for honor after he had just died, after the kingdom was just torn away from him. What a disaster upon a man! What a tragedy of death!

Prayer: Lord, I receive grace to end well and strong in Jesus' name.

FOCUS TODAY

Whenever you see (or fall) into a man pleading or fighting for honor or to be honored, he is dead already. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Esther 9–10; Acts 7:1–21

HONOUR IN DEATH

Thursday, June 24, 2021.

Revelation 2:10

LESSON: Honors are quite exciting gains; they are great appreciation of hardworking personalities or the impacts of persons in various conditions. Honors are good while men live, they are better at the point of death (in death), but best when a man is physically dead. That honor that king Saul craved for was one after which he had spiritually died. What a death upon death! Here we have a church, a people in whom the Lord delighted in to honor in and even after death. They had sacrifice.

“Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

In real life situations, honors come only when there is much work done, but none will come with no work. Yet, in the stature of man to God, in Christ Jesus, no little work will be forgotten without honors, unless there is a defilement. That even feeding, or harboring a traveler gives rewards and awards. All He needs is 'be faithful'.

Prayer: Create in me a clean heart, that I may be poured forth a living sacrifice unto You my God, in Jesus' name!

FOCUS TODAY

There is great honor (reward) in being faithful, more than being faithful, being faithful to death. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Job 1–2; Acts 7:22–43

A LIVING MOURN

Friday, June 25, 2021.

1Samuel 15:34–35

LESSON: *Rewards and Awards are ever encouraging matters. A living mourn is one, a narrative made not for a dead person but a living dead person. A living mourn, characterizes the death of even a living being. A living mourn was the wifful willy troubles that befell Israel in the days of king Saul as were more other kings which followed. There is serious trouble in living but dead already. This doesn't come by unless there is that sin of disobedience called rebellion.*

“Then Samuel went to Ramah, and Saul went up to his house at Gibeah of Saul. And Samuel went no more to see Saul until the day of his death. Nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul, and the Lord regretted that He had made Saul king over Israel.”

And this was the case of the great king Saul, the first of his kind. I did weep on his behalf as I wrote. The great prophet, one of Israel's God-best mourned for this man, till Samuel died—not even till Saul died. One would mourn for one who is dead, but a reverse case is here, Saul—a living mourn.

Prayer: Father, may I not die spiritually. May I not be declared dead, vacant while I live, in the name of Jesus!

FOCUS TODAY

Lord, we pray that we will not be delivered to the evil one, that we may not become living mourn. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Job 3–4; Acts 7:44–60

A LIVING GLORY

Saturday, June 26, 2021.

Revelation 3:8

LESSON: *While Saul was recorded as a living mourn, another somewhere, but a church was recorded for an example of a living glory—a church in which the Lord was glorying in. There was the record of faithfulness from this church at Philadelphia. Consider this, there is a book called a Remembrance, at judgment. But for this church her reward was even to come NOW. Remembrance could come probably in years or even after death, but surely God still rewards immediately when faithfulness is sighted.*

“I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name.”

There was that notion the Lord made: little strength. I was expecting a disappointing sentence or clause after that, but it was an honor instead. They had kept His word and were faithful, even with their little strength, which could have been, poverty, continuous persecutions and so on. Let God glory in you, in us, in our lives.

Prayer: Father, count me worthy of Your glory, in the name of Jesus!

FOCUS TODAY

Let your light so shine..., that your Father may be glorified. This alone comes by being a light; but know, a light that doesn't shine is darkness. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Job 5–7; Acts 8:1–25

WHO YOU ARE

Sunday, June 27, 2021.

Proverbs 27:21

LESSON: *It is not a question of who are you but an acknowledgment of who you are when it comes to having a relationship with God. All is exposed, nothing is or can be hidden in the sight of God. So what is it that could be told to Him? Whenever God asks a man "Who are you?", it could be damnation already. Men could ask such, and it will all go smoothly, as one would always like to present himself cool and good. But with the Lord, all may not be. It baffles me as men still play saints when they are foul smelling scents.*

*"The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold,
And a man is valued by what others say of him."*

Sometimes I do consider seeing Solomon's words as classics, and at other occasions, I see a frustrated king writing out of death or dying state. Solomon's first reflection on the refining pot and furnace was to denote and to tell us what these things were used for. The refining pot is known for silver, whoever uses it to cook is doing the wrong thing. If refining pot and furnace are known for what they do, it is alarming that men do not know who they are.

Prayer: O Lord, reveal who I am to me; reveal Yourself to me as well, in the name of Jesus!

FOCUS TODAY

Although men may have one or two things to say about a man, yet it is a lamentable tragedy if he doesn't know who he himself is. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Job 8–10; Acts 8:26–40

WATCH AND PRAY

Monday, June 28, 2021.

Mark 14:38

LESSON: *'Christian, seek not yet repose, hear thy guardian angel say, thou art in the midst of foes, watch and pray!' The hymn writer, Charlotte Elliott did not write this hymn out of thoughtfulness, she had gotten an encounter of what it is to watch and pray. It came to one stanza when she said –the foe seeks thine unguarded hour (paraphrased), and that is exactly what the foe is doing all along. There was at the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness, the Scripture recorded that he sought an opportune time –that unguarded moment (Luke 4:13).*

“Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

To my little understanding long ago, I do think that 'the flesh is weak' means something good as used there. But it was a direct statement that tells us that the flesh is the embodiment that the spirit dwells in. After Peter and others had boasted their loyalty to the Master, that was exactly what the enemy was seeking, they created an opening and the enemy did enter. Peter and others slept like babies.

Prayer: Lord, give me grace to pray, the prayer of the righteous man.

FOCUS TODAY

To watch is to understand the moment (time), that there is no opportunity created for the enemy, and to pray is to tell the Father... Deliver us not to the evil one. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Job 11–13; Acts 9:1–21

A FATHER'S CRY

Tuesday, June 29, 2021.

Isaiah 1:2–3

LESSON: *'You are smart; this boy you are smart!' This happened at a church service sometimes ago. The present pastor of a church in a best moment for him got the opportunity with the former pastor of that place. And, there were big success stories that followed this former bishop. So, the current one requested with kneeling, pray for me. And from the heart of the former, without rehearsals and unexpectedly, I think, began to groan and almost to tearing. That was a father's cry, a cry of love and compassion. But, in the case of Israel, it could always be otherwise. Otherwise doesn't mean the children are crying or the Father is laughing.*

"Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth!

For the Lord has spoken:

"I have nourished and brought up children,

And they have rebelled against Me;

The ox knows its owner

And the donkey its master's crib;

But Israel does not know,

My people do not consider."

Prophet Isaiah tried, I would say he did try with the choice of words he used to deliver the message of God. Yet he could not convey the groaning of heaven, of the Lord to us, perhaps my perception. The Lord on several occasions regrets. Hmm, He recalls, yet regrets.

Prayer: Father, the blood of Jesus shall not be in vain over me. Amen!

FOCUS TODAY

The Lord though recalls His covenants with Abraham, yet regrets at almost every generation that comes. Don't make God regret over you, an adopted one. #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Job 14–16; Acts 9:22–43

OH, BETRAYAL!

Wednesday, June 30, 2021.

Mark 14:21

LESSON: *At the end of one witless and very spiritually death-driving TV show, I wrote in simple words on a social media: "O God our help in ages past... Christians did it, Christians watched it, Christians voted it, Christians won it." And then the one eye symbol below it and a 'God help our Christianity'. I had few a men, at least some of the few that could relate repented. But many others, being ridden into the perversion that the world had given couldn't accept the gesture, they just passed by. How we live our Christianity fitfully!*

"The Son of Man indeed goes just as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had never been born."

There is no sense of exaggeration in this Jesus' statement. It came naturally as it would have to be. It is better to be termed as sinners than to be hypocrites. Sinners get forgiven, hypocrites get woes, cursed endings.

Prayer: O Lord my God, break from me every spirit and yoke of betrayal, of hypocrisy, in the name of Jesus!

FOCUS TODAY

Oh, betrayal! How our Christianity confesses on Sunday but go on recess until next Sunday –hypocrites! #focustoday

Bible in One Year: Job 17–19; Acts 10:1–23

YOU CAN BE SAVED

Have you burdens?

Have you troubles?

Have you sins and weaknesses *unthinkable*?

Come to the Lord today; He is willing to help you.

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

“He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

John 3:16-18

Pray:

Lord Jesus, come into my heart and reign as Lord.
I confess my every sin (mention) and forsake them today.
Heal me O Lord, and save me till the end.
Thank You Lord for this grace, in Jesus' name I pray.

Perhaps you need further prayers and counselling, reach us today via any of the followings:

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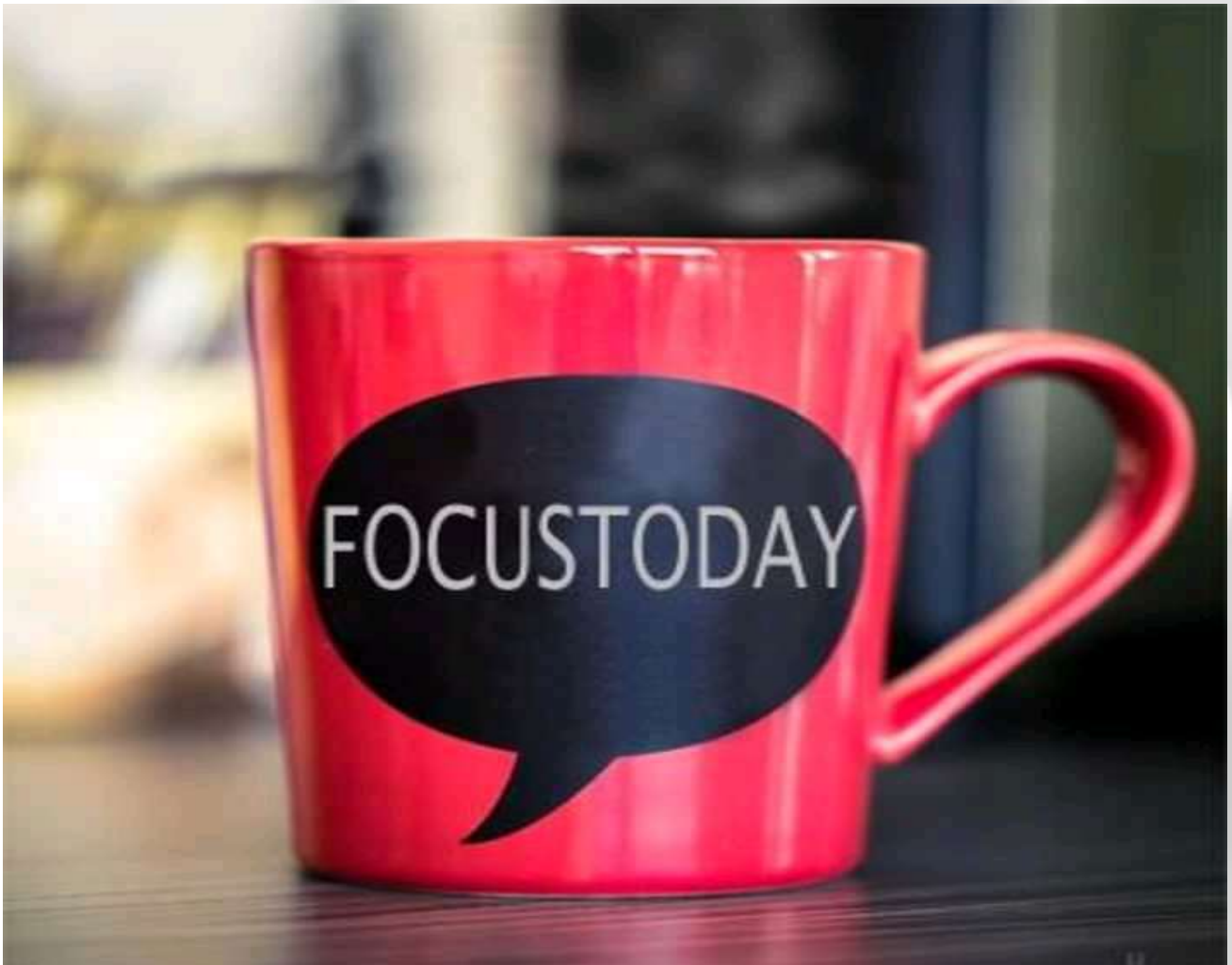
Shalom!

“In times like these you need the Bible,

In times like these O be not idle;
Be very sure, be very sure
Your anchor holds and grips the Solid Rock!"

~Ruth Caye Jones

FOCUS TODAY is a Daily Devotional written to guide The Christian into ALL TRUTH, and in accordance to the Holy Scriptures; having daily words that can strengthen and edify The Christian. With the watchwords of Watch and Pray, the Christian can overcome fears and obtain the victory of Jesus our Lord. Living Godly Daily, Daily Godly Living! Amen!



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