

Women & More

Losses and Crosses

February 28, 2013

What we lose, give up or are robbed of, and what we bear or endure upon this earth, will be a drop in our bucket—easily emptied—compared to the blessings bestowed by our God now and forever. Remember “*Enoch walked with God; then he was no more, because God took him*” **Genesis 5:24. The life that walks with God is marked by Integrity!**

“Losses, crosses, heaviness, sickness, poverty, and a thousand other ills,
are of the Lord’s sending, and come to us with wise design.

Frosts kill noxious insects, and puts a bound to raging diseases;
they break up the clods, and sweeten the soil.

O that such good results would always follow our winters of affliction!”

Charles Spurgeon

“Your worst day with God is still better than your best day without Him.”

Joyce Meyer

“Remember, you can only be as filled with God

as you are willing to be emptied of yourself!”

Greg Frizzell

Prepare by Soaking in Scripture:

Proverbs 14:2

Romans 12:2

Galatians 2:20

Colossians 2:6

Hebrews 2:18

Scripture to Memorize:

Psalm 41:12 “*In my integrity you uphold me and set me in your presence forever.*”

NOTES on Speaking Session:**Questions for Mentor-group Discussion:**

1. Someone said the following about *problems*: I've got em; you've got em, Adam had em! And then added: **If a problem can be solved with money, it's not a problem!** What percentage of agreement do you have with that statement in **Bold**? Explain.

10% _____ 50% _____ 100%

◆ _____.

2. **Read 3 John**—it comes right before Jude—and only has 14 verses. It is a personal letter to a friend of John's and a leader in the church, and he is **commended for having the truth in him and for walking in that truth**.

► What's his name? _____.

3. **When Enoch had a child at age 69 it changed him; it was then that he began to walk with God!** Oswald Chambers: "There comes a mist and a blinding rain: And life is never the same again." In the space below share what you recall to have been the situation in your life—*the mist or blinding rain*—that prompted you to "walk with God"—to be saved, or as a believer already, to begin walking daily with the Lord Jesus.

Recommended Reading:

Growing Strong in the Seasons of Life, Charles R. Swindoll
Hudson Taylor's Spiritual Secret, Dr. and Mrs. Howard Taylor
In His Steps, Charles M. Sheldon

Charles Spurgeon, January 25, *Morning and Evening*

*“I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the Lord,
and the praises of the Lord,
according to all that the Lord hath bestowed upon us—”*

Isaiah 63:7a—KJV

“And canst thou not do this? Are there no mercies which thou *hast experienced*? What though thou art gloomy now, **canst thou forget that blessed hour when Jesus met thee**, and said, ‘*Come unto me*’? **Canst thou not remember that rapturous moment when He snapped thy fetters, dashed thy chains to the earth**, and said, ‘*I came to break thy bonds, and set thee free*’?”

“Or if the love of thine espousals be forgotten, **there must surely be some precious milestone along the road of life not quite grown over with moss, on which thou canst read a happy memorial of His mercy towards thee.**

- What, didst thou never have a sickness like that which thou art suffering now, and did He not restore thee?
- Wert thou never poor before, and did He not supply thy wants?
- Wast thou never in straits before, and did He not deliver thee?

“Arise, go to the river of thine experience, and pull up a few bulrushes, and plait them into an ark, wherein thine infant-faith may float safely on the stream. Forget not what thy God has done for thee; turn over the book of thy remembrance, and consider the days of old.

- Canst thou not remember the hill Mizar?
- Did the Lord never meet with thee at Hermon?
 - Hast thou never climbed the Delectable Mountains?
 - Hast thou never been helped in time of need?

“Nay, I know thou hast. Go back, then, a little way to the choice mercies of yesterday, and though all may be dark *now*, light up the lamps of the past, they shall glitter through the darkness, and thou shalt trust in the Lord till the day break and the shadows flee away. ‘Remember, O Lord, thy tender mercies and thy lovingkindnesses, for they have been ever of old.’”

The world's view is without God and His Word! The following was in an email forwarded to me by a fellow-believer and chaplain on January 12, 2013.

Arkansas Coach Jim Neugent had contacted ABC-TV Network regarding their show, *The Practice*. He outlined the reason he wrote to them by telling us, "In last night's episode, one of the lawyer's mothers decided she is gay and wanted her son to go to court and help her get a marriage license so she could marry her 'partner'. I sent the following letter to ABC yesterday and really did not expect a reply, but I did get one." **Jim Neugent's original message:**

"ABC is obsessed with the subject of homosexuality. I will no longer watch any of your attempts to convince the world that homosexuality is okay. *The Practice* can be a fairly good show, but last night's program was so typical of your agenda. You picked the 'dufus' of the office to be the one who was against the idea of his mother being gay, and made him look like a whiner because he had convictions. This type of mentality calls people like me a 'gay basher'.

"Read the first chapter of Romans (that's in the Bible), and see what the apostle Paul had to say about it...he, God and Jesus were all 'gay bashers'. What if she'd fallen in love with her cocker spaniel? Is that an alternative lifestyle? (By the way, the Bible speaks against that, too.)"

ABC's reply from the ABC on-line webmaster:

"How about getting your nose out of the Bible (which is ONLY a book of stories compiled by MANY different writers hundreds of years ago) and read the Declaration of Independence (what our nation is built on), where it says 'All Men are Created Equal,' and try treating them that way for a change!

"Or better yet, try thinking for yourself and stop using an archaic book of stories as your lame crutch for your existence. You are in the minority in this country, and your boycott will not affect us at ABC or our freedom of statement."

Neugent's response to ABC:

"Thanks for your reply. From your harsh reply, evidently I hit a nerve. I will share it with all whom I come in contact. Hopefully, the *Arkansas Democrat Newspaper* will include it in one of their columns and I will be praying for you."

Note: Wouldn't Satan just love it if people stopped using the Bible for a crutch?