

Related Verses

**Josh. 14:1-2**

1 And these are what the children of Israel received as inheritances in the land of Canaan, which Eleazar the priest and Joshua the son of Nun and the heads of the fathers' houses of the tribes of the children of Israel gave to them as inheritances,

2 By the lot of their inheritance, as Jehovah commanded through Moses for the nine tribes and the half-tribe.

**Josh. 1:1-2 (read only)**

1 After the death of Moses the servant of Jehovah, Jehovah spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' attendant, saying,

2 Moses My servant is dead; now then arise, and cross over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land which I am giving to them, to the children of Israel.

**Col. 1:12**

12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;

**Col. 2:6**

6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,

**Phil. 3:8, 12-15**

8 But moreover I also count all things to be loss on account of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, on account of whom I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as refuse that I may gain Christ

12 Not that I have already obtained or am already perfected, but I pursue, if even I may lay hold of that for which I also have been laid hold of by Christ Jesus.

13 Brothers, I do not account of myself to have laid hold; but one thing I do: Forgetting the things which are behind and stretching forward to the things which are before,

14 I pursue toward the goal for the prize to which God in Christ Jesus has called me upward.

15 Let us therefore, as many as are full-grown, have this mind; and if in anything you are otherwise minded, this also God will reveal to you.

**Rev. 3:12**

12 He who overcomes, him I will make a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall by no means go out anymore, and I will write upon him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem,

which descends out of heaven from My God, and My new name.

Related Reading

These two main points—to take the land for Christ and to provide the bona fide ancestors for Christ—are the spirit of the history from Joshua to Ruth. Since the God-promised land is a type of Christ, to gain the land for Christ means to gain Christ for Christ.

It was a fact that God had given the land to Israel, but this fact was not yet practical. Rather, it was a promise that still needed to be fulfilled....Only after Israel had gained the good land and had taken possession of it did the land actually become theirs as a practical fact.

The principle is the same with the preaching of the gospel today. God's salvation has been promised, prepared, and completed in Christ and with Christ....God wants to give salvation to sinners, but they need to respond to Him by receiving His gift of salvation....Actually, to receive God's salvation is to do God a favor. If you know the heart of God, you will realize that whenever a sinner repents and receives Christ, that sinner is doing God a favor. (*Life-study of Joshua*, pp. 31-32)

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At the beginning of the book of Joshua, Israel was ready to go forward, to take the good land, to possess it, and to enjoy it. For Israel to do this meant that they were doing something for Christ, who is typified by the good land....Today, Christ as the good land is ready to be taken and possessed by His believers. However, where are those who are ready to take Him, possess Him, and enjoy Him as the all-inclusive good land?

Our need today is to gain more of Christ, to possess more of Christ, and to experience more of Christ....This is not only for our enjoyment but also for Christ to be what He should be....We gain Christ for Christ so that He may have His corporate expression. This is to make the good land the land of Immanuel (Isa. 8:8)....Paul was one who struggled to pursue Christ in order to gain Christ (Phil. 3:8, 12)....Because so many Christians do not pursue Christ in order to gain Him, God needs the overcomers.

As early as the first century, the Lord came in to call for overcomers (Rev. 2:7, 11, 17, 26-28; 3:5, 12, 20-21; 21:7), and today He is still sounding out the call for the overcomers. Nevertheless, even among devoted Christians

it is hard to find some overcomers, some who are pursuing Christ in order to gain Him.

At the time of Joshua, there were two or three million Israelites, but there were not many Joshuas and Calebs. There were not many endeavoring ones, genuine pursuers of God. Without such ones both the good land and the Giver of the land would have been idle. Both the land and the Giver of the land needed certain ones to take the land, possess the land, and enjoy the land. Those who possessed the land did a favor to the One who gave them the land.

We today need to take and possess the land for Christ. We need to gain Christ for Christ. If we do this, we will do Christ a favor. However, if we go on living a routine Christian life and church life, we will not be able to gain the land for Christ. For this, God needs some overcomers. There are millions of real Christians on earth today, but where are the overcomers? God is calling for overcomers, but who will answer His call? Who will respond to God's call by pursuing Christ in order to gain Christ? I hope that many among us will do Christ a favor by responding to God's call for overcomers. (*Life-study of Joshua*, pp. 32-35)

**Further Reading:** *Life-study of Joshua*, msg. 6

**Corporate Reading of "The History of God in His Union with Man" Chapter 4 – Sections:** *God's History In Time (From The Creation Of The Universe To The Final Judgment At The Great White Throne—Genesis 1:1—Revelation 20:15) (3) Saving Man From His Fall, Outline*

Related Verses

**Heb. 2:10**

10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and through whom are all things, in leading many sons into glory, to make the Author of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

**Heb. 4:8, 11**

8 For if Joshua had brought them into rest, He would not have spoken concerning another day after these things.

11 Let us therefore be diligent to enter into that rest lest anyone fall after the same example of disobedience.

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Morning Watch

1 Thes. 2:12

12 So that you might walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

Gal. 5:24

24 But they who are of Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and its lusts.

Rom. 8:13

13 For if you live according to the flesh, you must die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the practices of the body, you will live.

Phil. 1:19

19 For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

Rom. 8:2

2 For the law of the Spirit of life has freed me in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and of death.

Matt. 11:28-30

28 Come to Me all who toil and are burdened, and I will give you rest.

29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.

Related Reading

The first type of Christ in the book of Joshua is Joshua himself...Joshua typifies Christ and grace (Christ) replacing the law (Moses—Josh. 1:2a; John 1:17). It was when Moses the lawgiver died that Joshua came in (Deut. 34:8-9) to bring the people into the good land (Josh. 1:6), typifying the Lord Jesus bringing the people of God into rest, into the enjoyment of the all-inclusive Christ. (*Life-study of Joshua*, p. 4)

*Joshua*, which means “Jehovah the Savior” or the “salvation of Jehovah” (Num. 13:16), is a Hebrew name, of which the equivalent in Greek is Jesus. Hence, Joshua was a type of the Lord Jesus, who brought the people of God into rest. (Heb. 4:8, footnote 1)

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The salvation mentioned in Hebrews 2:10 and referred to in verse 3 and 1:14 saves us from our fallen state into glory. Jesus, as the Pioneer, the Forerunner (6:20), took the lead to enter into glory, and we, His followers, are taking

the same way to be brought into the same glory, which was ordained by God for us (1 Cor. 2:7; 1 Thes. 2:12). He cut the way, and we are now taking the way. Hence, He is not only the Savior who saved us from our fallen state but also the Author who, as the Pioneer, entered into glory that we may be brought into the same estate. (Heb. 2:10, footnote 4)

Since the rest that is covered in Hebrews 3:7—4:13 is the all-inclusive Christ, to fall from it is to fall from Christ, to be brought to nought from Christ (Gal. 5:4). In Galatians the danger was that the Galatian believers would drift into the bondage of law from the freedom of grace (Gal. 5:1-4). Paul advised them to stand fast in the freedom of grace, that is, not to be brought to nought from Christ. Here, in Hebrews, the danger was that the Hebrew believers would not forsake their old religion, which was according to the law, and press on into the enjoyment of Christ as their rest. If they continued to stagger in their old religion, that is, in Judaism, they would come short of Christ, who was their rest. The writer of Hebrews earnestly encouraged them, as Christ's partners, to press on with Christ and enter into the rest, that they, as His partakers, might enjoy Christ as their rest. (Heb. 4:11, footnote 1)

Amalek typifies the flesh, which is the totality of the fallen old man (Gal. 2:16...). The fighting between Amalek and Israel depicts the conflict between the flesh and the Spirit within the believers (Gal. 5:17; cf. 1 Pet. 2:11). (Exo. 17:8, footnote 1)

Amalek was defeated by Israel through the supply of the manna (Exo. 16) and the living water (17:1-6) and by the lifting up of Moses' hands and the fighting of Joshua. (Exo. 17:11, footnote 1)

Amalek was the first enemy encountered by the children of Israel on the way to the good land (Deut. 25:17-18; 1 Sam. 15:2). This indicates that our flesh is the first among all our enemies. The flesh, sin, the world, and Satan are all related, but the most prominent among them in fighting against the believers is the flesh (Gal. 5:17). When in our experience the flesh is put to death (Gal. 5:24; Rom. 8:13), the world cannot hold us, sin cannot operate in us, and Satan is powerless to work on us. Amalek's purpose in attacking Israel was to frustrate them from entering the good land. Likewise, Satan's aim in stirring up the flesh to fight against us is to keep us from entering into the full

enjoyment of the all-inclusive Christ as our good land (see footnote 1 on Deut. 8:7). (Exo. 17:8, footnote 2)

**Further Reading:** *Life-study of Joshua*, msg. 1; *Life-study of Matthew*, msgs. 1, 6; *Life-study of Exodus*, msgs. 46-48

**Corporate Reading of “The History of God in His Union with Man” Chapter 4 – Sections: Dealing With The Fall Of Man; Its Initiation; Its Nature**

Wednesday 9/1

Related Verses

Heb. 12:2

2 Looking away unto Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down on the right hand of the throne of God.

Rom. 10:17

17 So faith comes out of hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Heb. 4:2

2 For indeed we have had the good news announced to us, even as they also; but the word heard did not profit them, not being mixed together with faith in those who heard.

Gal. 2:20

20 I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

2 Pet. 1:1

1 Simon Peter, a slave and apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who have been allotted faith equally precious as ours in the righteousness of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ:

Rom. 8:1

1 There is now then no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus.

1 Cor. 1:9

9 God is faithful, through whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 John 1:9

9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Morning Watch

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**1 Cor. 16:13**

13 Watch, stand firm in the faith, be full-grown men, be strong.

Related Reading

The overcoming saints in the Old Testament are only witnesses of faith, whereas Jesus is the Author of faith. He is the Originator, the Inaugurator, the source, and the cause of faith. In our natural man we have no believing ability....When we look away unto Jesus [Heb. 12:2], He as the life-giving Spirit (1 Cor. 15:45) transfuses us with Himself, with His believing element. Then, spontaneously, a kind of believing arises in our being, and we have the faith to believe in Him. This faith is not of ourselves but of Him who imparts Himself as the believing element into us that He may believe for us. Hence, He Himself is our faith. We live by Him as our faith; that is, we live by His faith (Gal. 2:20), not by our own. (Heb. 12:2, footnote 3)

As indicated by the evil report of the ten spies (Num. 13:31-33) and the murmuring of the people against Moses and Aaron (14:1-4), the children of Israel did not care for God but cared only for themselves....Because of this, they did not believe in God, and they offended God to such an extent that they became abhorrent to Him. Their situation brought in God’s judgment and punishment. God alone is the source of faith. If we would have faith, we must learn to care for God’s interests and not for our benefit. (Num. 14:11, footnote 1)

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To what is God faithful? He is faithful to what He says. He is faithful to His Word, and His Word is the testament, the covenant. The covenant is simply God’s Word.

Our Christian life and church life are absolutely a covenant life....In verse after verse of the New Testament, we find God’s promises. I want to give you one of them:....“No temptation has taken you except that which is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow that you be tempted beyond what you are able, but will, with the temptation, also make the way out, that you may be able to endure it” (1 Cor. 10:13). There is a verse for every circumstance that you face...as a living promise for you to rely upon and live by....We should not be threatened or frightened by the clouds of our convictions, feelings, and environments. We are under God’s covenant, fully

under His blessing. There is no more condemnation, no more judgment, no more curse. Death has been abolished. In the church, we continually enjoy life....Do not be frightened about losing your job or your health. Do not be threatened by any dark or negative thing. We are the covenanted people, and we have a verse of promise to meet every situation. (*Life-study of Genesis*, p. 437)

Only God’s Word is true! If the environment and experience match God’s Word, we thank and praise Him! If the environment and experience do not match God’s Word, it is God’s Word that stands. Anything that contradicts God’s Word is false....God says that Christ is my holiness, my life, and my victory. Satan will say that you are still corrupt, weak, and unclean. But God’s Word is true. Satan’s words are lies. Only God’s Word is true! (*CWWN*, vol. 24, “The Overcoming Life,” p. 136)

The faith of the believers is actually not their own faith but Christ entering into them to be their faith....When we repented unto God, the pneumatic Christ as the sanctifying Spirit of God (1 Pet. 1:2a) moved within us to be our faith by which we believed on the Lord Jesus (Acts 16:31)....As sinners, we did not have faith. Faith came into us by our hearing the word. This word is just Christ Himself. (*CWWL*, 1994-1997, vol. 1, “Crystallization-study of the Epistle to the Romans,” p. 273)

**Further Reading:** *Life-study of Hebrews*, msg. 25; *CWWN*, vol. 24, “The Overcoming Life,” chs. 7-8

**Corporate Reading of “The History of God in His Union with Man” Chapter 4 – Sections:** *Its Issue; Satan Entering into Man to Be Man’s Indwelling Sin; Sin Entering into Mankind; Sin Bringing Death to Mankind; Sin Bringing Vanity and the Slavery of Corruption to All the Creation*

**Thursday 9/2**

Related Verses

**Josh. 1:5-7**

5 No man will be able to stand before you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, I will be with you; I will not fail you nor forsake you.

6 Be strong and take courage, for you will cause this people to inherit the land which I swore to their fathers to give to them.

7 Only be strong and very courageous, being certain to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you. Do not turn away from it to the right or to the left, that you may have success wherever you go.

**Phil. 1:20**

20 According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I will be put to shame, but with all boldness, as always, even now Christ will be magnified in my body, whether through life or through death.

**Heb. 2:14-15**

14 Since therefore the children have shared in blood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner partook of the same, that through death He might destroy him who has the might of death, that is, the devil,

15 And might release those who because of the fear of death through all their life were held in slavery.

**2 Tim. 1:6-7**

6 For which cause I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

7 For God has not given us a spirit of cowardice, but of power and of love and of sobermindedness.

**Col. 1:10**

10 To walk worthily of the Lord to please Him in all things, bearing fruit in every good work and growing by the full knowledge of God,

**Heb. 11:6**

6 But without faith it is impossible to be well pleasing to Him, for he who comes forward to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

**Rom. 12:11**

11 Do not be slothful in zeal, but be burning in spirit, serving the Lord.

Related Reading

God’s promise first was that no man would be able to stand before Joshua all the days of his life (Josh. 1:5a). Second, God’s promise was that He would be with Joshua and would not fail him or forsake him (v. 5b). In verse 9c God said to Joshua, “Jehovah your God is with you wherever you go.”

First, God encouraged Joshua to be strong and to be bold (vv. 6a, 7a, 9a). Joshua was to be bold not in himself but in the moving and operating God....Next, God

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encouraged Joshua not to be afraid or dismayed (v. 9b)...Furthermore, God told Joshua that he would have success wherever he went (vv. 7c, 8b).

The children of Israel agreed with Joshua in taking God’s commission. Their response [in verses 16 through 18] implied their willingness, their readiness, and their being in one accord not only with Joshua but also with Jehovah their God as expressed by their blessing of Joshua in the name of their God. They were one with the Triune God in the great wheel of His economy for the purpose of gaining the good land. (*Life-study of Joshua*, pp. 10, 12)

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Second Timothy 1:6-7 indicates that we need to fan our spirit into flame. In these verses Paul says, “For which cause I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of cowardice, but of power and of love and of sobermindedness.”...Our God-given spirit is what we must fan into flame. We have to fan our spirit.

At times you may suffer to such an extent that you may begin to doubt God and doubt your salvation. But regardless of how much you doubt, one thing is within you that you cannot deny—your spirit. You are not like a beast. You have a spirit. This spirit is a trouble to Satan. Regardless of how much work Satan has done and is still doing, there is one thing within us that he cannot touch—our spirit. We need to fan our spirit into flame.

If you want to fan your spirit into flame, you need to open up your mouth, open up your heart, and open up your spirit. You need to open these three layers of your being. You have to use your mouth to say, “O Lord Jesus.” But then you have to go deeper by using your mouth with your heart to say, “O Lord Jesus.” Then you need to go even deeper by using your mouth with your heart and with your spirit to say, “O Lord Jesus.” This is to open up your spirit from deep within. Then the fire burns. If you are down, you should call “O Lord Jesus” again and again from deep within with the exercise of your spirit. Then you will be up.

Quite often we are cheated and deceived by the enemy. We say that we are weak and cloudy. But when we say that we are weak, we are weak. When we say that we are cloudy, we are cloudy. On the other hand, when we say that we are strong, we are strong. When we say that we are clear, we are clear. When we say what we are, that is what we are. Do not say that you are weak. If you say that you

are weak, weakness is with you. But if you say that you are strong, strength is with you. We can say that we are strong because we have the capacity. We have the capital. God gave us not a spirit of cowardice but a spirit of power, of love, and of sobermindedness. We should declare this and claim this. Then we will have it. This is our portion. This is our legal, God-appointed lot, which has been allotted to us by God. (*CWWL*, 1993, vol. 2, “The Spirit with Our Spirit,” pp. 182-185)

**Further Reading:** *Life-study of Joshua*, msg. 2; *CWWL*, 1993, vol. 2, “The Spirit with Our Spirit,” ch. 8

**Corporate Reading of “The History of God in His Union with Man” Chapter 4 – Sections:** *Man’s Soul Being Corrupted, Man’s Body Being Changed in Nature, and Man’s Spirit Being Deadened; Man Attempting to Cover Himself and Hide Himself from God; God Not Permitting Man to Eat the Tree of Life; God Driving Man out of the Garden of Eden and Closing to Man the Way to the Tree of Life*

**Friday 9/3**

**Related Verses**

**Josh. 1:8-9**

**8** This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall muse upon it day and night so that you may be certain to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous and then you will have success.

**9** Have I not commanded you? Be strong and take courage; do not be afraid or dismayed. For Jehovah your God is with you wherever you go.

**Psa. 119:9-11**

**9** With what should a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to Your word.

**10** With all my heart I have sought You; Do not let me wander from Your commandments.

**11** In my heart I have treasured up Your word That I might not sin against You.

**John 14:23-24, 26**

**23** Jesus answered and said to him, If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make an abode with him.

**24** He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me.

**26** But the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things and remind you of all the things which I have said to you.

**Col. 3:16**

**16** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to God.

**Psa. 119:15-16**

**15** I will muse upon Your precepts And regard Your ways.

**16** I will take delight in Your statutes; I will not forget Your word.

**Related Reading**

God’s encouragement to Joshua was in the term of Joshua’s walking in the word of God....The book of the law was not to depart from his mouth, but he was to muse upon it day and night so that he would be certain to do according to all that was written in it (Josh. 1:8a). Joshua was to be occupied with God’s word and to let the word occupy him. By being occupied and filled with the word, he would have prosperity and success in taking the good land. (*Life-study of Joshua*, p. 11)

Rich in meaning, the Hebrew word for *muse* (often translated *meditate* in the KJV) implies to worship, to converse with oneself, and to speak aloud. To muse on the word is to taste and enjoy it through careful considering. Prayer, speaking to oneself, and praising the Lord may also be included in musing on the word. To muse on the word of God is to enjoy His word as His breath (2 Tim. 3:16) and thus to be infused with God, to breathe God in, and to receive spiritual nourishment. (Psa. 119:15, footnote 1)

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In a number of verses [in Psalm 119] the psalmist says that he mused upon God’s word (vv. 15, 23, 48, 78, 99, 148)...To muse upon the Word is to “chew the cud,” like a cow eating grass (Lev. 11:3)...If we take in the Word too quickly, we shall not have very much enjoyment. But if we “chew the cud” as we take in the Word, our enjoyment will increase.

When we muse upon the Word of God,...we shall spontaneously pray....Furthermore, we may converse with

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ourselves or begin to praise the Lord. We may be so inspired by the Word that we want to shout our praises to the Lord. (*Life-study of Exodus*, pp. 669-670)

Chewing the cud signifies receiving the word of God with much consideration and reconsideration....We may do this while we pray-read early in the morning. As we are pray-reading, we may consider and reconsider the word. This is to chew the cud to receive nourishment by reconsidering what we receive from God’s word. (*Life-study of Leviticus*, p. 315)

Usually musing upon the Word will be slower and finer than pray-reading the Word. For example, in our musing upon Exodus 20:2, we may say to ourselves, “Remember that Jehovah is your Lord. He has brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Now you are out. Amen! O Lord, I worship You for bringing me out of bondage!” In all our musing upon God’s Word, talking to the Lord or conversing with ourselves, we should be spontaneous and full of enjoyment. We may bow down to worship the Lord, ponder the Word, remember, or give ourselves a rebuke.

The seekers of God in the Old Testament mused upon His living word. Their way of handling the Word of God was different from that followed by many today who mainly exercise their mind to study the Word in letter. As the psalmists mused upon the Word of God, they spoke to God, prayed, worshipped Him, and even bowed down to Him. In the presence of God, they spoke to themselves of His mercy, salvation, and gracious supply. Musing upon the Word in this way is even richer, broader, and more inclusive than pray-reading, for it includes prayer, worship, enjoyment, conversation, bowing down, and even lifting up our hands to receive God’s word. It also includes rejoicing, praising, shouting, and even weeping before the Lord....If we muse upon the Word of God, we shall delight ourselves in the Word. Sometimes we may weep before the Lord or sing hymns of praise to Him. (*Life-study of Exodus*, pp. 670-671)

**Further Reading:** *Life-study of Exodus*, msgs. 56-57; *Life-study of Leviticus*, msg. 36

**Corporate Reading of “The History of God in His Union with Man” Chapter 4 – Sections: Saving Man From His Fall (paragaphs 1-6)**

Saturday 9/4

Related Verses

**Psa. 119:48, 147-148, 49-50**

**48** And I will lift up my hand to Your commandments, which I love; And I will muse upon Your statutes.

**147** I anticipated the dawn and cried out; I hoped in Your words.

**148** My eyes anticipated the night watches, That I might muse upon Your word.

**49** Remember the word to Your servant In which You have made me hope.

**50** This is my comfort in my affliction, For Your word has enlivened me.

**Psa. 130:5-6**

**5** I wait for Jehovah; my soul waits, And in His word I hope.

**6** My soul waits for the Lord More than watchmen for the morning, Yes, watchmen for the morning.

**Jer. 15:16**

**16** Your words were found and I ate them, And Your word became to me The gladness and joy of my heart, For I am called by Your name, O Jehovah, God of hosts.

**Psa. 27:4**

**4** One thing I have asked from Jehovah; That do I seek: To dwell in the house of Jehovah All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of Jehovah, And to inquire in His temple.

**Phil. 3:8, 14**

**8** But moreover I also count all things to be loss on account of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, on account of whom I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as refuse that I may gain Christ

**14** I pursue toward the goal for the prize to which God in Christ Jesus has called me upward.

Related Reading

To lift up our hand unto the word of God is to indicate that we receive it warmly and gladly and that we say Amen to it (Neh. 8:5-6). (Psa. 119:48, footnote 1)

[In Psalm 119:147] we see that the psalmist rose up before dawn, cried out, and hoped in God’s word. Verse 148 goes on to...[indicate that] the psalmist woke up during the night to muse upon God’s word. Musing upon the Word involves more than just meditating on it. We muse

upon the Word by talking to God, worshipping Him, enjoying Him, receiving grace from Him, and conversing with ourselves in the Lord’s presence. (*Life-study of Exodus*, p. 671)

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To muse upon the Word of God is to enjoy His Word as His breath. It is to contact God in the Word and to have fellowship with Him, to worship Him, and to pray to Him through and with the Word. By musing upon the Word of God in this way, we shall be infused by God, breathe Him into us, and receive spiritual nourishment.

The psalmist waited for the Lord’s word, hoped in it, and arose before dawn to cry out to the Lord that he needed His word. Then he mused upon the Word, worshipping the Lord, praying to Him, and receiving His supply. He also spoke to himself and instructed himself with the Word of God. All this is part of musing upon the Word of God. (*Life-study of Exodus*, pp. 671-672)

Concerning meditating [musing] on the Word,...George Müller...said,...“The first great and primary business to which I ought to attend every day was, to have my soul happy in the Lord. The first thing to be concerned about was not how much I might serve the Lord, how I might glorify the Lord; but how I might get my soul into a happy state, and how my inner man might be nourished.” (*CWWN*, vol. 48, “Messages for Building Up New Believers (1),” p. 138)

When we touch the Lord’s Word with our spirit and remain in continual fellowship with Him, our spirit should have a feeling of being bathed, as if our whole being were taking a bath in the Bible. This is refreshing, comfortable, and joyful. We should have this kind of feeling when we fellowship with God through reading the Word....When we pass through God’s word, we should be like a person who has taken a bath, a person who has been soaked in water.

The more we read, the more we should be refreshed....This freshness...is like the freshness of the morning dew....We may not know what has touched us, what has enlightened us, or what we have learned, but we will be moistened. As we read verse by verse, we become moist, and we will be full of an inward sweetness. In addition, we will sense a supply. The more we read, the more we will be inwardly satisfied, filled, empowered, and strengthened. There will also be light.

God's Charge, Promise, and Encouragement to Joshua

Aug. 30 – Sep. 5 2021

Morning Watch

This is the way we should read the Bible for thirty minutes in the morning. Although we may not understand anything, we will take a bath in God's Word and feel warm in our spirit. We will not have the sense of being hot, scorched, or burned, but we will have an indescribably warm feeling and be refreshed, moistened, supplied, and satisfied. This is good Bible reading.

This can be compared to eating a rich breakfast. We may not remember exactly what we ate, but we will feel full and energized....This is an indescribable feeling. The more we read the Lord's Word and fellowship with Him in this way, the more we will know how real and sweet it is to read the Bible. (CWWL, 1959, vol. 3, "Lessons for New Believers," pp. 323-324)

**Further Reading:** *Life-study of the Psalms*, msg. 40; *CWWN*, vol. 48, "Messages for Building Up New Believers (1)," chs. 9, 11; *CWWL*, 1959, vol. 3, "Lessons for New Believers," Isn. 24

**Corporate Reading of "The History of God in His Union with Man" Chapter 4 – Sections: Saving Man From His Fall (paragraphs 7-16)**

Hymns, #784

- 1 Pray to fellowship with Jesus,  
In the spirit seek His face;  
Ask and listen in His presence,  
Waiting in the secret place.

Chorus

- Pray to fellowship with Jesus,  
In the spirit seek His face;  
Ask and listen in His presence,  
Waiting in the secret place.
- 2 Pray to fellowship with Jesus,  
Fully opened from within,  
With thy face unveiled, beholding,  
Single, pure, and genuine.
  - 3 Pray to fellowship with Jesus,  
Seeking Him in confidence;  
Learn to touch Him as the Spirit,  
Looking up in reverence.

- 4 Pray to fellowship with Jesus,  
Speaking nothing in pretense;  
Ask according to the spirit,  
Praying by the inner sense.
- 5 Pray to fellowship with Jesus,  
List'ning earnestly to Him;  
Be impressed with His intentions,  
Yielding to Him from within.
- 6 Pray to fellowship with Jesus,  
Bathing in His countenance;  
Saturated with His beauty,  
Radiate His excellence.

- 13 In whom you also, having heard the word of the truth, the gospel of your salvation, in Him also believing, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of the promise,
- 14 Who is the pledge of our inheritance unto the redemption of the acquired possession, to the praise of His glory.

**Further Reading**

*Life-study of Joshua*, msg. 1, 2, 6  
*Life-study of Exodus*, msg. 46-48, 56-57  
*Life-study of Hebrews*, msg. 25  
*CWWL*, 1959, vol. 3, "Lessons for New Believers," lesson. 24

Lord's Day 9/5

Related Verses

**Eph. 1:3-14**

- 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies in Christ,
- 4 Even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blemish before Him in love,
- 5 Predestinating us unto sonship through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,
- 6 To the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He graced us in the Beloved;
- 7 In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of offenses, according to the riches of His grace,
- 8 Which He caused to abound to us in all wisdom and prudence,
- 9 Making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself,
- 10 Unto the economy of the fullness of the times, to head up all things in Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him;
- 11 In whom also we were designated as an inheritance, having been predestinated according to the purpose of the One who works all things according to the counsel of His will,
- 12 That we would be to the praise of His glory who have first hoped in Christ.