

*In the throne room -
Reflections and Messages*



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Estudo Bíblico Evangélico*

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Preface

I thank the Lord for shedding His living waters over me every day, quenching my thirst through His word and the practical experiences that He gives me.

I dedicate this work to all those who desire a more intimate communion with Jesus and who are thirsty for knowing His secrets. To all those who value the great treasure placed inside them and try to put it into practice aiming their personal growth with God.

Often, we do not know how to direct ourselves in certain situations of our daily life. So, the word of God is our light, and when we meditate on it we see that it has many secrets to reveal, secrets that are new at different times in which we read it.

This book is a book of teaching and meditation on the Word, coming from the heart of God to guide His people; a book that encourages, inspires, comforts, gladdens, frees, heals and teaches us to love, to cry out to God and preach His word for those who are captives and aimless.

In *Prov. 3: 1-2*, the Lord says, “My child, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments; for length of days and years of life and abundant welfare they will give you.”

In *Prov. 1: 33*, it is written, “but those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease, without dread of disaster.”

And in *Prov. 4: 1-2* we can read, “Listen, children, to a father’s instruction, and be attentive, that you may gain insight; for I give you good precepts: do not forsake my teaching.”

It is in *the throne room*, in the silence of God’s heart, that He speaks and reveals His secrets to us.

In the bible, many of His servants found the way to the throne, for they opened the door of their heart to Him and knew valuable secrets that they transcribed in books and left them to us as the Father’s guidance dictated by the Holy Spirit. Among them we see Moses, David, Solomon, Ezra, Nehemiah, the Major and Minor Prophets, Paul, Peter, James and the evangelists, especially John, who was the closest to Jesus and the only one who was present at the crucifixion. By living a life ‘at the feet of the cross’ he received from the Lord the privilege to write the revelations contained in the book of Revelation.

God spoke in the past and continues to speak today through His anointed ones. He wants to use all His children as instruments of His revelations on earth. He longs for a deep relationship with us; thus we may be filled every day with His power and His love. In *Ps. 25: 14* is written, “The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear him, and he makes his covenant known to them.” These messages are weekly, covering the entire year.

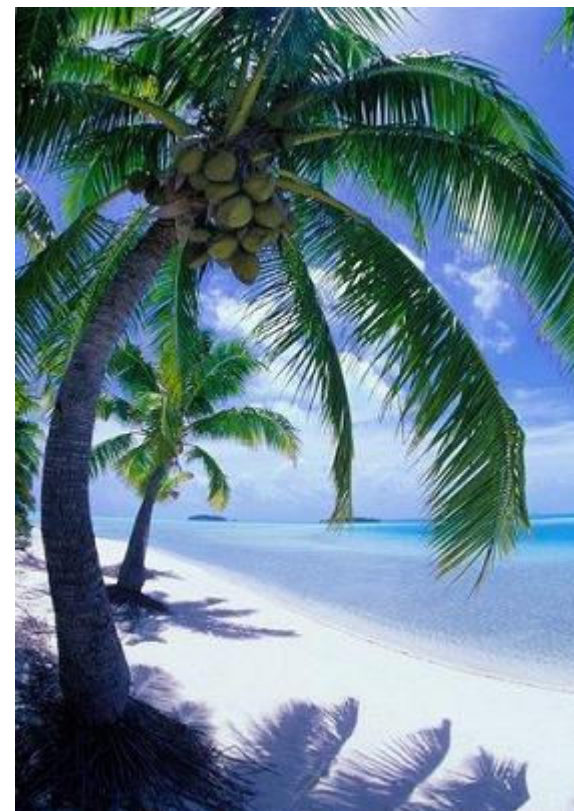
I hope you enjoy the reading and can expand it further with your own reflections and meditations.

On the last pages of this book, you can write down your personal experiences.

I love you in Jesus.

Tânia Cristina

- The version used here is the New Revised Standard Version, NRSV – 1989 (1995)
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“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.” (1 Cor. 6: 19-20)

While He was among us, Jesus also had a body similar to ours in everything, but He always used it with holiness, to glorify the Father. He expects us to do the same, respecting our limits, taking care of our hygiene, of nutrition, sleep, exercise, the work we do in the world and, especially, not giving our body to unclean practices. We are no longer of ourselves but the Lord's. The sanctification of the Holy Spirit in our lives affects not only our spirit or our soul, but also our body. Thus, we may be vessels more helpful to Him.

Prayer: Lord, teach me to take care of my body so it may be a true temple in your hands. Amen.

“The land will yield its fruit, and you will eat your fill and live on it securely.” (Lev. 25: 19)

The land is our soul, which must always be a fertile ground for the implantation of God's word. It is important to take care of the land of our hearts, plucking out the weeds of bitterness, hatred, pride, selfishness, greed, infidelity, impurity, gossip, addictions, contention and envy so that the Holy Spirit may sow the fruitful trees of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, meekness and self-control. One of the actions of the Spirit in us is to give us knowledge about ourselves so that we can have mastery over our weaknesses and get rid of the enemies who accuse us. Our soul must be a place of peace, but this is only possible when the land of our soul is plowed and clean, and our 'garden' is already showing signs that it was already sown by the Holy Spirit. Plowing the soil before planting is a process that can seem aggressive because it turns the soil, opening furrows and thus creating conditions for seed to germinate. It's the same process that God uses in our soul, removing the stones, opening furrows and creating conditions so that His dreams are implanted and may grow. Who does not undergo this process of healing by the hands of God Himself, but accommodates with the position of saved child, thinking that the blessings fall from heaven without any effort on his part will regret later, because he will see that even what he thought he had was taken of him. The Lord cannot sow anything in hard and barren soil; He can only do this on prepared ground, fertile and watered by His Spirit.

Prayer: Lord, I commit my soul in submission to your Spirit so that it can grow and be changed according to your will. Amen.

Bearing fruit

3

“No good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit; for each tree is known by its own fruit. Figs are not gathered from thorns, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush [NIV, briars]. The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good, and the evil person out of evil treasure produces evil; for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks.” (Lk. 6: 43-45)

Bramble bushes are creeping and thorny plants that does not produce fruit. If we have carnal and small goals, like a shrub, and our words are thorns that hurt, of course, we will do not reap good fruit. But if our dreams are as clean and sublime as the dreams of God, and His Spirit finds enough space to grow in us, our words will be seeds of life and our fruit will be joyful. Our mouth and our attitudes are the mirrors of our soul; they reflect to the world the true desire of the heart and testify about whom we serve.

Prayer: Father, help me to surrender my dreams and my soul to you so that my thoughts, feelings and attitudes are compatible with your projects and I can bear good fruit. Amen.

God's faithfulness

4

“Yet I will remember my covenant with you in the days of your youth, and I will establish with you an everlasting covenant... I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall know that I am the Lord.” (Ezek. 16: 60; 62)

God remains faithful even if we are unfaithful because He never changes. But why should we be unfaithful, forgetting the first love, that love we felt when we surrendered to Him? We need to renew our covenant with Him from time to time, as a covenant is renewed in a loving marriage. This willingness of our heart is what will lead us to overcome the difficulties of our journey and will make us keep steady this bond of eternal love. If you feel divorced and away from Him, renew your covenant and you will know that He is your God. The Lord made a covenant with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and all those who surrendered their lives to Him. In Jesus we have been grafted in His family.

Prayer: Lord, I wish that my mistakes, weaknesses and sins never move me away from you. I ask your forgiveness and I renew my covenant of being *One* with you. Amen.

In Him, there is always life

5

“They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.” (Ps. 1: 3)

We must always be connected to the fountain of living waters that is Jesus, to be nourished and bear fruit for His kingdom. If we move away from His presence, we will dry as a little plant in the desert. When we come close to God through prayer, the streams that flow from His throne cleanses us, restore us, renew us and strengthen us. At His throne we are cared and taught by our Father to be successful and victorious people. Get used to these moments of intimacy and gradually you’ll see how your interior has been transformed. The Lord also wants healthy relationship with us. There is a time for everything and everything we sow in the fertile soil of the kingdom of God will bear fruit.

Prayer: Father, teach me the way to your throne and strengthen it every day. Don’t allow anything keep me away from you. Amen.



“Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, ‘It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer’; but you are making it a den of robbers.’” (Matt. 21: 12-13)

We have spoken of the importance of sanctifying our souls to be every day an instrument of blessing in the hands of the Lord. But He also speaks of our respect for His word and His church. The House of God is not a place of trade, where we think we have the right to buy blessings for any penny, nor to distort the Word for our own interests. The pulpit is Holy Place, not a place of advertisement of concerts or sandwiches, and the altar is not a place where disrespectful people lie down to talk frivolity, to date or make unnecessary noise with musical instruments. Where is the fear of the Lord in His own House? Help to take care for your church. It’s there where you feed your soul. Set the example to your brothers and teach them to care for it too.

Prayer: Father, in the name of Jesus, kindle the flame of the fear of the Lord in my spirit and put the love for your House in my heart. Amen.

“The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each one to his home, and you will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone because the Father is with me. I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!” (Jn. 16: 32-33)

How many times our ‘best friends’ leave us alone in difficult and painful times! Jesus experienced this pain so that we also had one certainty: the Father is with us and does not abandon us. The world is a place of distress, so the Lord directs us to stay always on His path, to avoid unnecessary suffering. The world is under the dominion of Satan; hence the Lord said, “I have CONQUERED the world.” He didn’t say, “I CHANGED the world” or “I CONVERTED the world.” We cannot change the world or convert the devil, but we can overcome them as Jesus did, not allowing the evil one has power over us. Just follow the Way, Jesus. We must not conform to the position of saved people, but teach our brothers to develop the salvation, love and unity. Where Jesus is not present, the flock is scattered.

Prayer: Lord, I want to always be linked to you in order to have mastery over my soul and to know the difference between the holy and the profane. Amen.

“It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out.” (Prov. 25: 2)

God conceals His glory from the wise, proud and arrogant, but is willing to reveal it to the humble and the little ones. When we humble ourselves before Him and begin to have thirst of His truth, we become true kings in His sight, because we start to take dominion over creation and know His secrets. God delights to see His children seeking wisdom and truth. He is pleased to see His children studying and living His word, simply because He delights to share His power with us. The more we know Him, the more we are filled with His love, and therefore, we’ll come closer to His image. Therefore, study the Word, pray, seek intimacy with the Lord, and soon, His light will be reflected on you. It’s not by words that we show Jesus to others, but by our example of life.

Prayer: Jesus, take me to know your secrets and have intimacy with you, so that your love and glory are poured upon me. Amen.

“I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things.” (Jer. 2: 7a)

When the people of Israel left the wilderness, God led them into a good and fertile land, but only two people saw this truth: Joshua and Caleb. Today, the Lord does the same with us. He gives us a land of prosperity, fertility and goodness, but we need faith and good eyes to see it, otherwise we will give up our Canaan. Look around and see what God has already put at your disposal so that you are the master where you are. The gifts He placed inside you are seeds that, if planted with love and faith in this soil, will bear fruit and multiply. They will be enough to feed everyone around you and still have some left over. What land has the Lord given you? Was it in the family, workplace, school, church? What ministerial gifts did He place within you? Is it the gift of love, healing, preaching and administration, to support His work or praise Him? Use them.

Prayer: Lord, give me good eyes so that I can fight for what you gave me and win. With love, faith and courage I know I will please you. Amen.

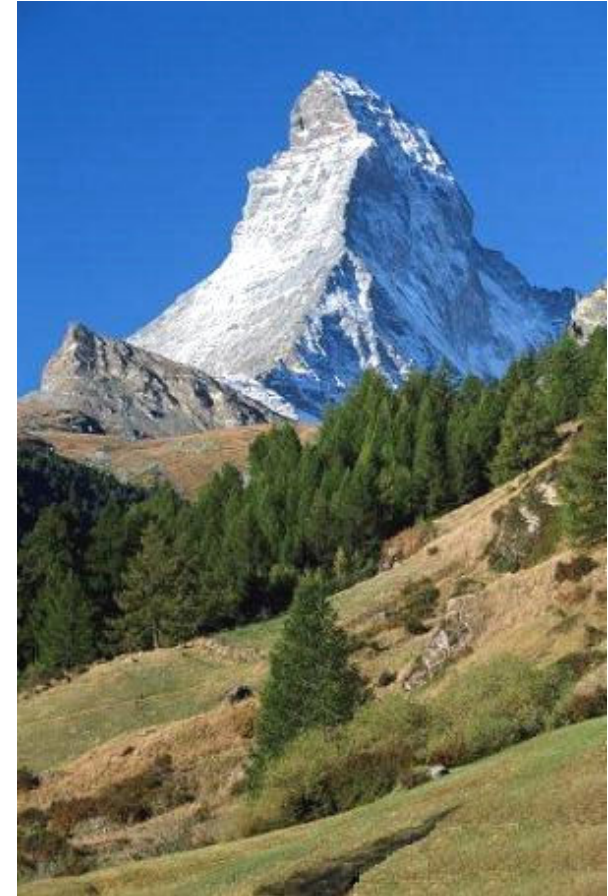
Landmarks of victory

10

“Joshua said, ‘Roll large stones against the mouth of the cave, and set men by it to guard them; but do not stay there yourselves; pursue your enemies, and attack them from the rear. Do not let them enter their towns, for the Lord your God has given them into your hand.’” (Josh. 10: 18-19)

In this passage, five enemy kings hid in a cave and God told the Israelites to shut the entrance with large stones, while the people pursued the others remaining. He promised victory over all enemies of Israel. When they returned victorious, they took the five kings out of the pit and killed them. Sometimes, our enemies hide, but God knows that sooner or later they will be discovered and in His strength we'll defeat them and eliminate them. The stone that hid them, now will serve as a landmark in our journey and a symbol of the victory of the Lord. Look back and see the landmarks. How many victories Jesus has given you! When you bear witness to the victory, the landmark is reinforced, your faith is strengthened and helps to strengthen the faith of the brothers.

Prayer: Lord, help me to thank you for the victories and give me strength to drive out of my life everything that does not come from you. Amen.



“For lack of wood the fire goes out, and where there is no whisperer, quarreling ceases.” (Prov. 26: 20)

We’ve all been through difficult situations, when someone with bad intentions came to put more ‘wood in the fire.’ But the Lord teaches us that in this time we must shut our mouths and let the waters of the Spirit calm the moods; waters of love, peace, forgiveness, meekness and unity. However, there is a fire that the Lord makes a point to keep alive in us: the fire of the spiritual revival. And the firewood is the prayer, is our daily willingness to keep alive our communication with Him; is the joy of being filled with His presence. Don’t let the waves of the enemy extinguish the fire of the ‘first love’ in your heart, or the desires of the flesh quench the flame of the Spirit. Keep it lit. It is the Holy Spirit who sustains us in difficult moments when it seems that we no longer have the strength to walk. May the flame of the Spirit keep burning in you.

Prayer: Father, in the name of Jesus, I surrender my mouth to the dominion of your Spirit so that it may be an instrument of blessing, praise and edification, but also a sword against the enemy. Amen.

“But you, take courage! Do not let your hands be weak, for your work shall be rewarded.” (2 Chr. 15: 7)

Sometimes it seems that our work is useless and we feel discouraged and frustrated; we even ask God if what we do it is worth it. However, the bible says in another passage that in the Lord our work is not in vain. When we do something under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and carry it out with integrity, love and faith in Him who has promised us, we can be sure that our time was not wasted and the seed that was planted will germinate and be born. The greatest reward we can have concerning a work is to see that it helped others to grow, to be happy and find out their inner potential. Don’t lose faith and hope. The envious and fruitless persons try to steal them, but God is able to keep the flame burning until the end. Ask the Lord to bring to your life those who can assist you in your work and to move away those who try to undermine your potential. But remember that many times, He allows these people for a while, until your soul may be disciplined, cleansed and healed from the wounds and impurities.

Prayer: Lord, help me to see the fruit of the seeds that I planted with effort. Remove from me every mark of humiliation and theft. Amen.

“On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, ‘Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said’, ‘Out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water.’” (Jn. 7: 37-38)

In the following verse, the Lord explains that He was referring to the Holy Spirit, for it was a promise to those who believed in Him. The Holy Spirit is still a promise of Jesus to those who feel thirsty for joy, power, justice, love, peace, fellowship and good words. Jesus compares the Spirit to rivers of living water, not just to a little fountain of water. This means that the Spirit provides us with the necessary anointing for all situations. There are several gifts and He supplies us with abundance. What we need to do is to believe and ask Him to fill us more and more each day. We need not be afraid to dry out, because the river that flows from God never runs out, and the larger is the river bed (our heart), the more torrential it will be. It is God’s desire that we are filled with His Spirit so that we can overflow and flood other lives that are dry. Fill yourself with the Holy Spirit.

Prayer: Lord, I need more of your Spirit and I desire that every day He has more dominion over me, because I know that there is only GOOD in you. Amen.

“For there is hope for a tree, if it is cut down, that it will sprout again, and that its shoots will not cease. Though its root grows old in the earth, and its stump dies in the ground, yet at the scent of water it will bud and put forth branches like a young plant.” (Job 14: 7-9)

Sometimes it seems that our lives and our dreams were cut and we will not manage to stand up again. We don’t see the fruit of our work, our relationships and even in our ministry. But the Lord brings in His Word a great hope and a promise: at the scent of water, that is, under the anointing of the Spirit, we will come back to have life and restoration of everything that was stolen from us. Stay away from people whose mouth seems a chainsaw that cuts off every bud of hope and life. Stay away from people who seem a vial of poison, which kills what it sees ahead. Hold on to God and His Spirit, for He is the stream of living and restorative waters. Drink of it and quench your thirst. Do not give up watering your dreams through prayer and action, even with tears, knowing that he who sows reaps.

Prayer: Father, in the name of Jesus, restore me from everything that was broken in me and from all that was stolen. Amen.

“An argument arose among them as to which one of them was the greatest. But Jesus, aware of their inner thoughts, took a little child and put it by his side, and said to them, ‘Whoever welcomes this child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me; for the least among all of you is the greatest.’” (Lk. 9: 46-48)

Jesus wants to dwell in simple and humble hearts like a child’s or like a modest wooden house, which we find in the field. The child is a symbol of something pure, innocent, which can be molded, something like a blank paper in which one can print a story, someone capable of receiving new teachings or to be formed. If you think you know everything or no longer need to grow, forget it; Jesus will not dwell there. But if you’re willing to take away your ego from the throne and rewrite your story, Jesus will come and help you. Humble yourself before Him and let Him shape you again in His image and likeness.

Prayer: Lord, I surrender to you as a child that needs to be taught, loved, guided each day, for you are my father and mother and I trust you. Give me a simple and humble heart. Amen.



“Bezalel and Oholiab and every skillful one to whom the Lord has given skill and understanding to know how to do any work in the construction of the sanctuary shall work in accordance with all that the Lord has commanded.” (Ex. 36: 1).

When we look at nature, we see the skill and creativity of God manifested in it. But He has also placed within us His creativity and His ability to build our lives, as well as to cooperate with Him in His work of redemption. We have no excuse of not being evangelizing or healing souls. God has already put the right tools within us. It is only necessary that we are sensitive to the voice of His Spirit so that we use them properly and wisely. Love is the incentive. What we speak molds our lives and the lives of those around us. Create beauty and blessing, not curse. Use your natural and spiritual gifts with creativity to improve the world around you. Do not conform to what is ugly. Create what is beautiful.

Prayer: Lord, take away from me all the roots of laziness, selfishness and destruction and put the true love, the spiritual and natural gifts and the willingness to serve you. Amen.

“But Moses said to the people, ‘Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.’” (Ex. 14: 13-14).

Egypt (in Hebrew, *Mizraim*) foreshadows the world, and means: *land of slavery, dilemma, conflict, confusion, affliction, disturbance, trouble*. When we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we spiritually come out of Egypt. The water baptism symbolizes the crossing through the Red Sea. But if you remember the story, the people, even in the desert, brought Egypt with them. They missed the garlic and the meat they ate there. It’s the same with us. We are no longer under the hand of Pharaoh (the devil), but we need to pass through the desert for God to take the values of Egypt out of our hearts. Only then we can enter clean into Canaan. The Lord has deliverance for each of our days. In every struggle for holiness, He brings us victory. Each tear is a gem to adorn our crown.

Prayer: Lord, I want to live your word that says, ‘the impossible with men are possible with God’ and ‘Everything is possible for him who believes.’ Amen.

“The Lord says to my lord, ‘Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool.’ The Lord sends out from Zion your mighty scepter. ‘Rule in the midst of your foes.’” (Ps. 110: 1-2)

Jesus died on the cross to make us sit with Him in heavenly places, that is, to give us authority over all the power of the enemy who tries to touch our souls. The Psalm says that He sends out from Zion, namely, from His throne, the scepter of His power. The Church of Christ will only be victorious when it takes position and takes into its hands the authority that Jesus has already given to it. Having authority is not to shout every day with the devil, but to have dominion, experience, wisdom and understanding on a particular subject (for example, our life that has been devastated). Therefore, it’s not something conquered in the flesh, but it is gift from the Spirit. If you still have difficulties and seem defeated, believe in this promise. The Lord will subdue your enemies and make you a winner.

Prayer: Lord, teach me to have authority over the situations that try to devastate my life, and teach me to use it with love and wisdom. Unite your Body here on earth in a single purpose. Amen.

“As it was commanded to leave the stump and roots of the tree, your kingdom shall be re-established for you from the time that you learn that Heaven is sovereign.” (Dan. 4: 26)

Almost, if not all of us, have been through this before. We give our lives to Jesus, and suddenly, we lose something that meant security for us. We should not despair; it’s just a treatment of God to teach us that we will not manage to maintain certain positions or possessions if we continue in the flesh or if they are our gods. We will only have them back, when we understand that Jesus is the center and everything is under the dominion of His Spirit. It is not punishment of the Lord; it is care and protection of a loving Father who wants to give us something solid, that we will not lose anymore. It is a present from a God who wants to teach us to reign here on earth so that we can reign in heaven. When we are grounded in Jesus, the superficial can get out of our lives, but the essence of His Spirit abides in us.

Prayer: Lord, teach me to put you in the center of my life. Amen.

Our heart belongs to the Lord

20

“Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.” (Prov. 4: 23)

Our heart, in the biblical sense, is the place where we store things, our ‘treasure’ which, logically, must have identity with Him. Sometimes we have so much concern to save money, purse, documents, credit cards, car, house and take out insurance against theft, but our heart, which is the most precious thing we have for God, we leave in the hands of anything or anyone. It is like a garden that must be inspected daily and cleared of weeds and pests, because our heart is the wellspring of life. When we fail to love and to feel God’s feelings, we lose life. Take care not to leave your heart with anyone. It would be so good if you could hear from someone: — “They tried to contaminate you, but didn’t manage!” Isn’t that true? Glory to God! Our heart belongs to Jesus.

Prayer: Lord, I give my heart to you so that you teach me to have mastery over it. May your wisdom reign in it. Amen.



“But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.” (Jn. 14: 26-27)

Jesus sent us His Spirit to teach us, to comfort us, to remember His words and to be our intercessor with the Father. He is God and lives in us; therefore, He understands us, conducts us and knows us more than we do. For this reason, Jesus tells us not to let our hearts be troubled, and not to be afraid, because His peace is already available to us through the Holy Spirit. He will provide everything we need, the manna for each day. Tomorrow, He will provide too. The world offers us peace in exchange for something and it doesn't last long. But Jesus gives it for free and it is everlasting.

Prayer: Lord, I need and want to know and live your peace. Take away from my life everything that has been stolen it. Amen.

“Then he said to them all, ‘If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it.’” (Lk. 9: 23-24)

The Greek translation for *life*, here, is *soul*. And the Lord says that whoever wants really to save his soul must follow the way of the cross, which is daily. Cross means the responsibilities and obligations of natural life, the work with us, the task, the mission, the calling and the private learning that will make us develop our own salvation. It means our daily surrender into His hands for His will to prevail. Not always this submission and this surrender are easy, but it's the only way to ensure His protection and deliverance over our lives. When this surrender is voluntary, conscious and for love, we see that it's not something heavy, but something that comes to be a necessity in us for us to feel strong and loved. “Take me to the banquet hall, and his banner over me is love” (Song of Songs 2: 4). The cross leads us to the banquet hall and makes us know His power. He who manages to love Jesus and His work more than his own desires discovers the true meaning of life.

Prayer: Jesus, help me day by day to know your wishes for me and tell me how to surrender myself with more confidence to you. Amen.

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.” (Matt. 13: 44)

I had an interesting experience with this passage when I decided to make dried flower arrangements and ‘things of nature’ as a gift for my friends at Christmas. If we go to the field or to the park and start paying attention, we’ll see how many ‘treasures’ are hidden there: pinecones, barks of trees that curl in on themselves, Araucaria fruit, leaves of various shapes and sizes, Eucalyptus flowers, seeds protected and hidden in structures that open when dried in the sun and resemble ‘oysters’, cork and other beautiful things that, for non-nature lovers, seem more like a bunch of garbage. It depends on the eye of the beholder. So is the kingdom of heaven for those who are sensitive to the voice of the Holy Spirit. They will find treasures that the unbelievers cannot see.

Prayer: Lord, place into me the desire to live and know your kingdom and teach me how to conquer it. Help me to see what I need to see. Amen.

“And they captured fortress cities and a rich land, and took possession of houses filled with all sorts of goods, hewn cisterns, vineyards, olive orchards, and fruit trees in abundance; so they ate, and were filled and became fat, and delighted themselves in your great goodness.” (Neh. 9: 25)

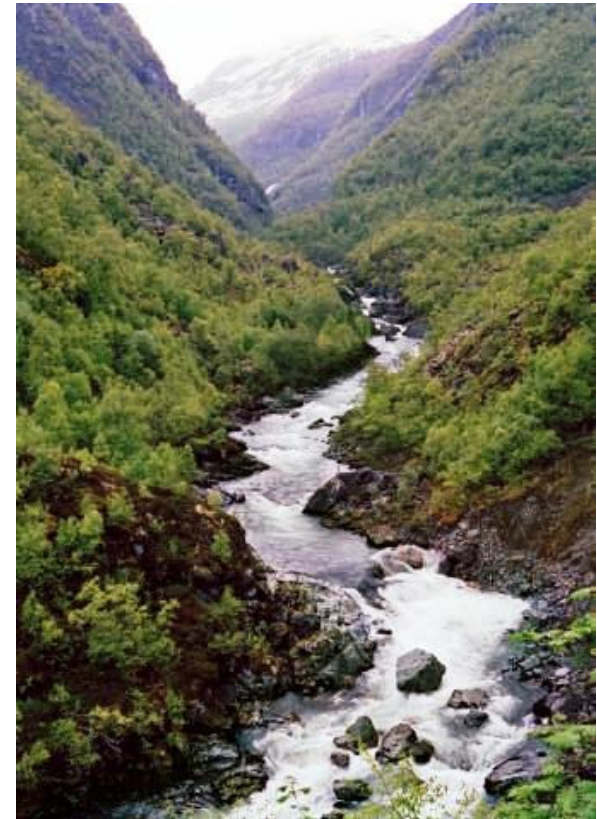
God has always the best for us, already available, as He says in His word (Eph. 1: 3) in the heavenly realms, that is, what we need, we already have in the spiritual world, by faith. The secret is to bring to the physical world what we have seen with our spiritual eyes, for it is in heavenly places that the enemy acts trying to prevent our blessing from coming to us. When we manage to overcome his tricks, the angels are released to bring us what was already set apart for us. “What is the weapon, or rather, what are the weapons?” They are: The blood of Jesus and His word. Faith is the fuel for weapons to work. Now that you already know this, get to work. The Lord is ready to call into existence the things that do not exist.

Prayer: In the name of Jesus I cast out all evil of my life so that it never comes back and I cover myself with the blood of the Lamb, because I’ve already confessed my sin. From now on, I’ll prophesy His words to conquer my blessings. Amen.

“But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.” (Mal. 4: 2)

The sun of righteousness is Jesus and when He rises upon a given situation He brings justice, peace, stillness, protection and salvation; we feel happy and free like a pet that came out of a place of imprisonment or captivity. His name – *Yeshua* – means *salvation*, which translated is: forgiveness, protection, security, prosperity, peace and health. The interesting thing in this verse is that the Lord put a condition: to revere His name. His deliverance is a privilege for those who revere or fear His name. And to fear, here, is not just the fear of His wrath, but respect, reverence, recognition for who He is, to give priority. When He is the center, everything else is subordinate to Him. Do you have a situation of captivity in your life? Do you revere the Lord? So, rejoice. The sun of righteousness will come upon you.

Prayer: Lord, now I give you this problem that afflicts me and I ask for your light and your redemption to come over it. Amen.



“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters.” (Ps. 23: 1-2)

The shepherd is the one who leads His flock to the places of pasture, of rest, to quench their thirst and, sometimes, along winding trails until they reach the sheepfold. The important thing is to follow the shepherd, not to question him. He knows our limits, knows our need for rest and the stop times to restore our soul after some fights. It is He who always knows the way back home. When we acknowledge His lordship, we can be sure that nothing will be lacking to us, for His eyes will be attentive to all our needs. Sometimes, what we call need does not mean the same to Him; therefore, we must trust totally on His trial. Let's try this. What do you need today? Look at your shepherd and ask Him. He will provide.

Prayer: Lord, I give you my needs today. In Jesus' name, I take possession of this provision by faith. Amen.

“You were adorned with gold and silver, while your clothing was of fine linen, rich fabric, and embroidered cloth. You had choice flour and honey and oil for food. You grew exceedingly beautiful, fit to be a queen. Your fame spread among the nations on account of your beauty, for it was perfect because of my splendor that I had bestowed on you, says the Lord God.” (Ezek. 16: 13-14)

This text is one of the most beautiful declarations of love that God makes to His beloved (Jerusalem) which, however, did not know to be faithful. That's what God has set apart for us, the Church, His bride. When we are faithful to Him and wash ourselves in the blood of Jesus, the Lord clothes us with His righteousness (fine linen), with His kindness, beauty and gifts (rich fabric, and embroidered cloth), with the best of His food (choice flour), with healing and love (honey) and His anointing to His purpose in our lives (oil). Moreover, He covers us with His *glory*, which means: victory, abundance, protection, dignity, wealth, reputation, manifestation of God's power where we need it.

Prayer: Lord, teach me to wash my clothes daily in your blood and in the renewing waters of your Spirit and to keep them clean. Amen.

“When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, ‘Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.’... When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink... Then Jesus said to Simon, ‘Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.’” (Lk. 5: 4; 6-7; 10b)

When we look at the sea, we don’t even imagine the wealth and beauty it contains. Once, I made a submarine tour and could never imagine how much beauty and variety of life was hidden under the waters. The corals were like a forest and the fish had a multitude of colors and sizes. The sea, in the bible, refers to the nations of the earth or the spiritual world, where we find all our blessings and supplies. No wonder that Jesus said, “Follow me and I will make you fishers of men” (Matt. 4: 19 – NIV). Our ‘fish’ are in the sea, i.e., the souls that are the Lord’s, but that we need to ‘fish’ for His kingdom; His sons and daughters are waiting to meet you. Are you willing to go fishing? Peter understood everything about fishing because he did the Lord’s work, under the strength of the Holy Spirit, and in everything he had victory.

Prayer: Lord, give me the same love that Peter had for you and teach me to exercise perseverance for me to conquer my blessings. Amen.

“Come now, let us argue it out, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land.” (Isa. 1: 18-19)

The Lord invites us every day to be in His presence to enjoy His grace. He is not a neurotic father who delights to see the defects in the child to expose it to ridicule. Rather, He is a loving Father who points out our error so that through His forgiveness, we can have more intimacy with Him. There is no sin that God cannot forgive, when we are willing to assume our responsibility before Him. Even the worst can be erased by the power of Jesus’ blood. The biggest barrier between us and God is sin, and the biggest human difficulty to enjoy His forgiveness is the pride that blinds us to see that we can make mistakes. When we win all this through humility, we’ll see that being in the presence of a so grand being does not mean to be struck down by so much power, but to be treated, released and loved.

Prayer: Father, in Jesus’ name, may your Holy Spirit bring repentance in my heart when it’s necessary, so that my communion with you is not broken. Amen.

True Healing

30

“When Jesus heard this, he said to them, ‘Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners to repentance.’” (Mk. 2: 17)

Jesus, here, I was exposing the hypocrisy of the Pharisees and scribes who condemned Him for eating with sinners. And Jesus gave them the answer above as if saying, “You who are righteous, perfect and straight do not need me. I came to the humble, who know they need my help to continue walking with heads held high in front of people like you who insist on making them blush with shame for having committed mistakes.” God’s word says that there is no one who does good, not even one. So, do not shame yourself before your mistakes nor before criticisms and condemnations of the hypocrites. But seek the remedy directly in Jesus, in the healing power of His blood, whether your illness is physical, emotional or spiritual. He understands what it means to be sick and rejected. So, humble yourself before Him and bow before His power, and you’ll experience the true healing.

Prayer: Lord, I trust in you wholeheartedly to heal me and guide my life. Look at my inner self today and bring healing. Amen.



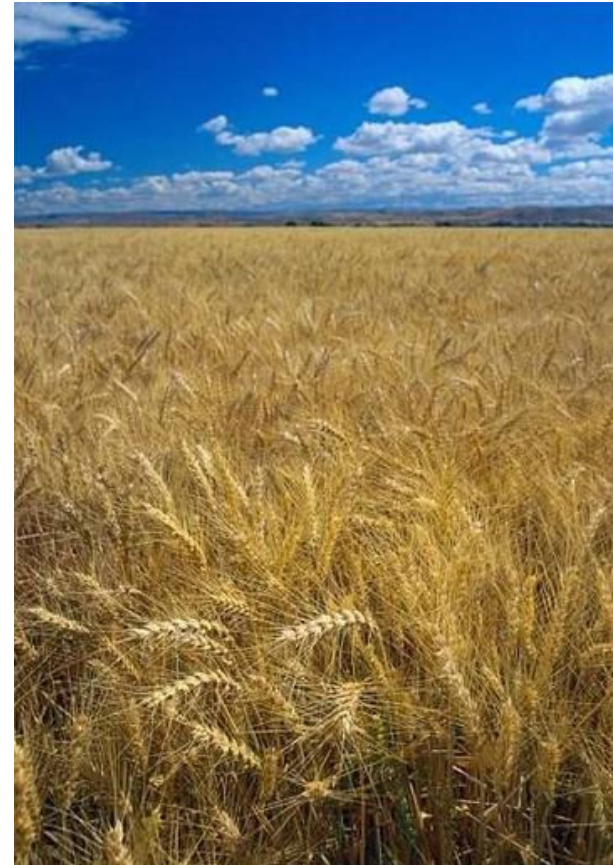
Prize for work

31

“Anyone who tills the land will have plenty of bread, but one who follows worthless pursuits will have plenty of poverty.” (Prov. 28: 19)

This concerns what the Lord has entrusted to us as holy work to contribute to His kingdom on earth. Some are called to have a specific ministry in the House of God, others are called to serve God in their secular work, which is able to show His love and salvation to all those who need to know the truth and feel that there is a greater goal for their lives. It is not always easy to sow the word of God in people’s hearts, but it is also a necessary work for our growth to be perfected in the Lord. The reward we expect does not come in the way we think or when we want, but this cannot discourage us, because even if men do not value our small work, God values it greatly and knows where to take it, where there is a need for it. If we persevere, we will reap our fruits. Someone will be saved and healed by our seeds of life. Working for the Lord also generates financial prosperity.

Prayer: Jesus, I want to always grow and learn from you. Do not let the accommodation and discouragement reach my being. Amen.



“You whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, ‘You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off’; do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.” (Isa. 41: 9-10)

The Lord has chosen us and will never forsake us. Even if humans reject us, the Lord welcomes us and supports us. When everything around us seems to be difficult and frightening, He says, “Do not fear, for I am with you.” He has great work in our lives and, sometimes, His actions leave us out of control, or at least it is what seems to us, and people around us also behave in a strange way. This is because God is moving waters, earth and heaven in our favor. It all seems so frightening, however, the Lord tells us, “Do not be afraid, for I am your God.” It is He who commands everything. He strengthens us, helps us, upholds us with His strong and faithful hand and keeps us standing up when we no longer have the strength to fight.

Prayer: Lord, I receive your boldness, your love, your strength, your help and your sustenance to overcome any difficulty and I believe in the great victory that you have for me. Amen.

“If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land.” (Isa. 1: 19)

When we hear the voice of God, we can always be sure that the best will happen to us, because He is and always will be our guide and shepherd. When we deviate from His voice, we began to miss the target and then, affliction comes upon us. Sometimes, the devil held us captive for years in chains of illnesses and personal limitations because we didn’t know the truth of Jesus and didn’t know His voice, or because, though knowing the voice of God, we had no strength to resist evil. Whatever is your problem, Jesus releases you today from every deceit that weighed over you. Like that woman who was ill and that Satan brought in chains for eighteen years (Lk. 13: 10-17), Jesus comes today and says, “Woman, you are free from your infirmity”; “Son, you are free from your infirmity.” So straighten up; you’re free to eat the best of this land.

Prayer: Jesus, I now open my heart so that your Spirit may act and free me from all evil; so, I’m telling you my problem and taking possession of my healing. Amen.

“A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God’s people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.” (Isa. 35: 8)

This is a prophecy about the messianic kingdom brought by Jesus, freeing us from all sin and showing a safe path to His redeemed. It may also be referring to the restoration of Israel after exile, where what was devastated would be restored. Anyway, when we walk in holiness, we approach the light that is Jesus, and even if we feel confused sometimes, His Word keeps us in the right direction, without errors. Those who follow Jesus have their ways leveled and straightened. He corrects what was crooked. He removes what has made us go astray from Him. What hindered us, He makes it easy.

Prayer: Lord, correct and straighten my ways. Make them holy and happy. Give me your wisdom and understanding so that I walk rightly. Amen.

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined ... For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” (Isa. 9: 2; 6)

Jesus came as the true light to the world to enlighten the path of everyone to heaven. He came to teach the way of salvation. God the Father has placed upon His shoulders the mantle of authority and gave Him the government over everything that is in heaven, on earth and under the earth. All Wisdom, Strength, Justice and Power are upon Him. He is the alpha and omega, the beginning and end, so the eternity belongs to Him. Peace and counsel for any situation in our lives come from Him. It’s His strong hand that keeps us standing and helps us to walk a little more. Carry that message within you. Others need it. It is a living word.

Prayer: Jesus, I surrender my life to you, so that you may be my only Lord and Savior. Forgive my sins and make me a new creature. Amen.

He protects us

36



“But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, so that those who love your name may exult in you. For you bless the righteous, O Lord; you cover them with favor as with a shield.” (Ps. 5: 11-12)

Jesus is our refuge, our strength and our source of protection and blessings. Therefore, those who love Him and trust Him can always have a reason to rejoice. The word of God says that He is merciful, even to the ungrateful and wicked, allowing them to breathe the same air than the righteous, to drink the same water than the righteous, to eat, to sleep, to work and have fun, but those who are just and walk in His presence not only get greater blessings, more protection, more intimacy with Him, and even the natural blessings that the bad ones delight in come to be enjoyed with greater intensity and sense of gratitude. Being Jesus’ friend brings privileges. No evil arrow can hit the one who takes refuge on the *Rock*.

Prayer: Jesus, I belong to you. Guide me by your path of righteousness, and surround me with your infinite protection. Amen.

“Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” (Jn. 6: 27)

Often we strive in our work to be promoted or have a good salary, and thus, to bring greater supply for home. However, we forget to work for Jesus. We forget to sow and multiply His word in the lives of those hungry around us. It is because we cannot see our deposit in heaven, when we bring His light to the life of a person. If we could see the value of this ‘currency’, we could understand the spiritual significance of His words. When we sow in one’s life, Jesus sows in ours. It is time to put selfishness aside and act. He said, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.” (Jn. 4: 34)

Prayer: Lord, I give you my work so that you sanctify it and all I do through it may be for your honor and glory. May it bless many people. Amen.

“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son... Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet... But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe.” (Matt. 22: 1-14)

God always compare our union with His Son to a wedding banquet, symbolizing joy, satisfaction and perfect union. Jesus is the bridegroom and we, His Church, we are the bride. He has called many children, but very few have been willing to this faithful surrender. And those who accept Him must be with appropriate clothing, garments of holiness, to enter the ‘palace.’ Having Jesus as bridegroom implies faithfulness and spiritual exclusivity. This is the first choice. The second choice is to be willing to inner preparation, the beautification of the soul through sanctification by the Holy Spirit. Only then we will be ready for His coming. There is much work to do inside and outside of us. Are you willing to work?

Prayer: Lord, help me to maintain my clothes clean every day so that I can sit and eat at your bountiful table. Amen.

“Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help.” (Ecc. 4: 9-10)

God tells us here that where are two united in one purpose, He will be among them, because the result of this unity will be light, love and all the fruit of His Spirit. But who is alone will have no one to help him get up, and his work will not bear fruit. He is not talking about to be married or unmarried, about to be in church or not, because many go there only physically, without having the Spirit of unity. He’s talking about the benefits of friendship and enjoying the company of others, of having within us the true love of God that keeps us united with all His other children, regardless of the denomination they belong to. Jesus said once, “He who is not with me is against me, and he who does not gather with me scatters” (Matt. 12: 30; Lk. 11: 23). Only love unites; the devil divides. It is necessary more love and unity to win greater fights. And the love which He refers to is Agape (love of God), not Philia (love of friend) or Storge (love of family). Only the Agape Love, which was shed on Calvary, the unconditional love, of complete surrender, the very word of God in action is able to cast out fear, to overcome the barriers of human differences and the wiles of the devil.

Prayer: Lord, Help me to relate to your children in love. Amen.

“Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.” (1 Cor. 12: 27-31)

God made us part of His Body and equally important to the functioning of the whole. The most important thing is to discover who we are and play our role with love and joy, without wanting to compete among us or take the place of others. The liver cannot perform the function of the kidney and the hand cannot do the part of the heart, and so on. When we realize the depth of this word and the importance that exists in the interaction of the Body of Christ, we begin to give more value to ourselves, to others and to respect more the choice of God for His children. Instead of competitors, we become cooperators with Jesus here on earth. The Lord once told me, “Do not feel belittled, do not compare yourself, because in my kingdom there is no competitors, but workers and sowers.”

Prayer: Lord, I praise you for making of me part of your family on earth. Help me to be helpful to it. Amen.



“The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, ‘He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever’. He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!” (2 Cor. 9: 6-15)

Everything we do for God must be with love and joy, including our financial offerings. Without love for God’s work, the offering loses strength, because only when we truly love, we can feel joy in contributing so that His kingdom grows here on earth. When we sow, we can expect the growth and multiplication of this seed for ourselves. It is God Himself who gives us a seed and it is He Himself that makes it multiply so that our spiritual strength increases and others know Him and glorify Him through our attitude. Use your money to bless the work of

God, not with self-interest but with the joy of knowing that other lives will have a chance of being gained for Jesus as you were, and to grow in the truth.

Prayer: Father, in Jesus' name, take selfishness out of me and teach me to be a sower of your blessings. I want to take part on your harvest with joy. Amen.

I will put you in charge of many things

42

“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much” (Lk. 16: 10)

God gives us a small work to do to see if we perform it with fidelity, as He gives us financial and spiritual resources to see if we use them wisely. If we are faithful in the little that He gives us, He will put more into our hands, but if we don't know how to use what He gives us, we will not receive anything beyond this, for we declare ourselves unable to manage. If we earn a little and not even this little we know how to manage, what's the use of asking Him to give us more? If we have gifts and skills that we don't use to bless anyone, why ask for more? If we don't open our hands to give, why do we just want to receive? No matter the size of the crown that He puts in our heads, what matters is if we know how to reign. The bible tells us in the following verses (Lk. 16: 11-13) that, unless we deal faithfully with the human and material resources based on the teachings of Jesus, we will not know to deal also with the resources and the spiritual treasures. This can also be confirmed in 1 Cor. 15: 46: “But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual.”

Prayer: Father in the name of Jesus, teach me to be faithful to you, starting with my tithe. Amen.

“No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day... Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away.” (Jn. 6: 44; 37)

Jesus’ call is a great mystery to us, because by our own sinful human nature we don’t want to seek Him. When we feel in our hearts the desire to be in His presence, it is because He already planted this desire in our heart. Therefore, the Father puts in our spirit the desire to seek the Son, Jesus. And Jesus says that everyone who comes to Him in no way will be neglected, that is, who goes to Him is always welcomed and He doesn’t forsake him anymore. God implants in us the desire to be His, so that through us this seed can be placed in the heart of others, for the Father’s purpose is that all may be saved. Therefore, the greater the light of Jesus in you, the more lives will know Him.

Prayer: Lord, thank you for choosing me. I am willing to be an instrument to bring others to you. Amen.

“But the Lord will have compassion on Jacob and will again choose Israel, and will set them in their own land; and aliens will join them and attach themselves to the house of Jacob. And the nations will take them and bring them to their place, and the house of Israel will possess the nations as male and female slaves in the Lord’s land; they will take captive those who were their captors, and rule over those who oppressed them. When the Lord has given you rest from your pain and turmoil and the hard service with which you were made to serve, you will take up this taunt against the king of Babylon: How the oppressor has ceased! How his insolence has ceased!” (Isa. 14: 1-4)

God always has a promise of victory and justice in our lives. The world goes round, and what oppresses us today will not oppress us tomorrow anymore, because the Lord promises us dominion over the oppressor. The enemy only rules over us while we do not understand the reason of the captivity. When we understand the situation and hand it over to God, we are released.

Prayer: Lord, show me the cause of my problem and I determine now that this captivity will leave my life forever, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Promise of victory

45

“You are those who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel” (Lk. 22: 28-30)

Jesus honors those who participate in the struggles for the establishment of His kingdom on earth, for they are His true disciples. Those who had suffered with Him had a promise of a place of honor beside Him in the next coming of the Lord. He makes us the same promise. Those who participate in the Lord’s struggles also inherit His reign of power, peace, justice and joy and receive authority to judge evil. Table speaks of communion, intimacy, to share something among friends. Jesus calls us to have intimacy with Him so that we can eat and drink from His abundance.

Prayer: Father, in Jesus’ name, give me strength to resist temptation and deliver me from it. Teach me to be persevering, cheerful and full with faith and hope. I want to be more than conqueror. Amen.



“‘Come, follow me’, Jesus said, ‘and I will make you fishers of men.’” (Mk. 1: 17 – NIV)

Along the Sea of Galilee, Jesus met fishermen, simple and rustic men like Simon, Andrew, James and John, and made them a bold proposal: to be fishers of souls for His kingdom. The interesting thing is that He used a metaphor, taking advantage of their natural ability. It’s the same to say to an obstetrician, “You will give *spiritual birth* certificates from now; you will bring to the world another sort of babies.” What does this mean for us? When we put what we have in Jesus’ hands, He turns into something bigger to bless other lives and bring them into His kingdom. It doesn’t matter what you know to do. In Jesus hands, your gift acquires a tremendous value and becomes a spiritual strength to heal, deliver people from bondage, create and restore.

Prayer: Lord, teach me to fish souls for you and use my natural and spiritual gifts for your work. Amen.

“The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” (Jn. 10: 2 -5)

Jesus is the Shepherd and the door through which we should pass to take possession of the kingdom of God. Who declares Him the Lord and Savior over his life has the right to move to a new world where the impossible becomes possible. The sheep are sensitive to the voice of the shepherd, and His presence with them is enough to calm them from all their fears. Who hears the voice of Jesus knows that He is the only one who can give peace and guide his heart. He goes ahead, showing the way through His example. The closer we are from our Shepherd, the more we get used to His voice, and more we will know the true path.

Prayer: Jesus, I need and want to hear your voice clearly. Help me to hear it. Amen.

“For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my spirit upon your descendants, and my blessing on your offspring. They shall spring up like a green tamarisk, like willows by flowing streams. This one will say, ‘I am the Lord’s’, another will be called by the name of Jacob, yet another will write on the hand, ‘The Lord’s’, and adopt the name of Israel. Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.” (Isa. 44: 3-6)

This was a promise about the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that would come to the world with the birth of Jesus. It is the Holy Spirit that satiates the spiritual thirst and floods the heart with gifts to bear fruit of justice. The outpouring of the Spirit is not only for believers, but to their offspring, because the Lord’s mercy extends to a thousand generations of those who fear Him and keep His covenant. Therefore, our loyalty is not only important for our own spiritual growth, but it is a fertile seed that we are sowing for our posterity. What you do today, you will reap tomorrow.

Prayer: Lord, turn everything that is wilderness in my life into garden. Amen.

“Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.” (Zeph. 3: 14 - 17)

This was a prophecy about the judgment of God over the enemies of His people, Assyria and Babylon, and the joy of the Lord when Israel came back free again to Jerusalem. The people were taken captive because they sinned, worshiped other gods and turned away from God, but by finishing the trial, they would laugh again, because the intimacy with Him would be restored. Even though we go through trials, the Lord reveals His power today to deliver us from our enemies and His love to keep us close to Him again. Jesus desires this eternal union with us.

Prayer: Thank you, Lord, for set me free from my enemies and for putting a song of victory in my lips. Amen.

Come, Spirit of God

50

“For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” (Act. 2: 39)

God promised the baptism with the Holy Spirit not only for that generation that knew Jesus, but for those to would come centuries later and would accept Him as their Lord. All who believe in Jesus, not only receive the Holy Spirit within them to guide them and teach them (water baptism), but also receive the baptism in the Spirit, which is an extra force coming from God, and empowers a person to live His life here on earth. The baptism with the Holy Spirit not only includes the spiritual fatherhood of God the Father, but His authority, power and all the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness and self-control. May we live and walk in the Spirit every day.

Prayer: Lord, strengthen your Spirit in me so that I may show your glory and your power on earth and be holy and humble instrument in your hands. Amen.



“This was their reply to us: ‘We are the servants of the God of heaven and earth, and we are rebuilding the house that was built many years ago, which a great king of Israel built and finished.’” (Ezr. 5: 11)

Solomon built the temple, but the Babylonians overthrew it and took the people into captivity. When they were freed, they met face to face with the task of rebuilding. Such is our life. When Jesus frees us from the hands of the devil, we are brought into His kingdom, and we begin to rebuild everything that was devastated by the enemy. It is not always easy and fast, but we have to start and move on. God helps us through His Spirit, His angels and His children.

Prayer: Lord, help me to rebuild what was devastated in my life and give me patience, wisdom and perseverance. Amen.

“For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’” (Rom. 8: 15)

We are children of God, we were redeemed to Him; so, we no longer need to fear the enemy. Jesus has placed in us His Spirit of love and courage that ensures us victory. If we cry out to the Father, He comes and rescues us and shows us the truth. His true love casts out all fear. Cry out for love of God and expel all fear. Enough of threats!

Prayer: Eternal Father, free me from the yoke of fear and the lies that it brings. Make me know the security that there is in your love. Amen.

Epilogue

My experiences with Jesus

I hope the Lord has spoken to you in all these passages and, every day, you can be transformed by them. But let's finish this book speaking about the word '*Amen*.' It means '*So be it*.' We mustn't forget why we use it in the end of our prayers. The word '*Amen*' should be understood as a way to say that we accept His word in our lives as true and active and we submit to it. It is a word of praise to the power and majesty of God, confirming the veracity of our prayer according to His word, and magnifying the Lord and Sovereign of all things, who will decide and judge fairly what we pray.

"Lord, we praise you and thank you for all that you mean to us and for having left us your pure, true and faithful word. May your name be exalted forever. Amen".

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Blessed are those who wash their robes [In the blood of the Lamb], so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates." (Rev. 22: 13-14)

My experiences with Jesus

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