

The Bible Banner



August 2022



I am Weak, but HE is Strong

Once there was an elderly man who was giving very little, but it was truly sacrificial. He had a younger friend who was always making fun of him. *"Such need in the world, and yet you think that with your few dollars you will make a difference! Old friend, what you give is only a drop in the bucket."*

But the old man with rejoicing in his face turned to his friend and said, *"Yes, all that God expects of me is my drop and He will see to the filling of the bucket."* *"So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but **God that giveth the increase.**"* 1 Corinthians 3:7

South-of-the-Border Black Bean Salad

1 can (15 oz, 425 g) black beans, rinsed	1 can (15 oz, 425 g) corn, drained
1 orange bell pepper, chopped	1/3 cup green onions, sliced
1 Tbsp olive oil	1/2 tsp cumin
1 tsp garlic powder	2 Tbsp cilantro
1/2 tsp salt, or to taste	1 pint homemade salsa

Mix together all except salsa. Chill. Add salsa immediately before serving.

Red Salsa

3 large garlic cloves, pressed	1 medium onion
1/2 cup cilantro [coriander] leaves	1 tsp organic sugar
2 cans (15 oz, 425 g) whole tomatoes, drained	1 Tbsp lime juice
Salt, to taste	Pinch of cayenne, optional

Process until lightly chopped, but not until soupy. You may also add a bit of bell pepper or green onions. If you would like to can this, bring to boil and simmer 10 minutes. Ladle into prepared jars and leave 1/4 inch head space. Process 15 minutes in a hot water bath canner (10 minutes in a pressure cooker); this is for pint jars. This recipe makes approx. 3 cups.



PROFITABLE TRADITIONS

Cultivate Kindness – *"And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water... verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward."* Matt. 10:42 There is more to this "cup of cold water" than appears on the surface. In Eastern lands the water is drawn up from a well in the court or fetched from a distance. The housewife brings in a supply in the morning and lets it stand ready for use. As the day goes on the water gets warm. It would be easy for her to give a cup of this water to a thirsty friend or stranger, but a "cup of cold water" implies the kindly thought that would lead her to take the trouble to draw it or fetch it straight from the well, perhaps in the heat of the day. So often we give what amounts to tepid water to save ourselves extra work. But I believe it is the "cup of cold water" that shall in no wise lose its reward. **The principle would seem to be that going out of our way, making sacrifices to help or encourage others will have a sure reward.**

Why not go out of your way to help someone today?

Quotable Quotes

Patrick Henry's Will

"I have now disposed of my property to my family. There is one thing that I wish I could give them and that is faith in Jesus Christ. If they had that and I had not given them one shilling, they would have been rich: and if they had not that, and I had given them all the world, they would be poor indeed."



Editor's Note—Strength Made Perfect

A converted Hindu gave the following address to a number of his fellow countrymen: "I am, by birth, of an insignificant and contemptible caste—so low, that if a Brahmin should chance to touch me, he must go and bathe in the Ganges for the purpose of purification; and yet God has been pleased to call me, not merely to the knowledge of the Gospel, but to the high office of teaching it to others. My friends, do you know the reason of God's conduct? It is this—if God had selected one of you learned Brahmins, and made you the preacher, when you were successful in making converts, by-standers would have said, it was the amazing learning of the Brahmin and his great weight of character that were the cause; but now, when any one is converted by my instrumentality, no one thinks of ascribing any of the praise to me: and God, as is His due, has all the glory."

"For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence." 1 Corinthians 1:26-29



This is the lesson that God sought to teach Elijah after his "blazing" Mount Carmel experience followed by Jezebel's threat on Elijah's life. I Kings 19:11,12 records, *"And he [God] said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake: And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice."*

"Not in mighty manifestations of divine power, but by 'a still small voice,' did God choose to reveal Himself to His servant. He desired to teach Elijah that it is not always the work that makes the greatest demonstration that is most successful in accomplishing His purpose. While Elijah waited for the revelation of the Lord, a tempest rolled, the lightnings flashed, and a devouring fire swept by; but God was not in all this. Then there came a still, small voice, and the prophet covered his head before the presence of the Lord... He now knew that a quiet trust, a firm reliance on God, would ever find for him a present help in time of need."

"It is not always the most learned presentation of God's truth that convicts and converts the soul. Not by eloquence or logic are men's hearts reached, but by the sweet influences of the Holy Spirit, which operate quietly yet surely in transforming and developing character. It is the still, small voice of the Spirit of God that has power to change the heart." {Prophets and Kings, pg. 168, 169}

Although both Moody and Spurgeon are considered great evangelists, they both testified that one of their most successful sermons was the "worst" one, where their tongue got tangled so bad that they felt it a failure. Spurgeon actually kept tabs as best he could and was able to trace 41 conversions to the tongue-tied sermon! Moody's was equally successful. The power is in the word of God, not the instrument. *"...This is the word of the LORD...Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts."* Zechariah 4:6

This reminds me of the story of a missionary who was scheduled to preach to a large crowd in Australia, when he lost his voice. He stated: *"What can you do with a missionary who has no voice? We had come to the last night of the [evangelistic campaign]... A group...gathered around me, and I asked them to pray as Paul did, that this thorn in the flesh might be taken from me. But we went on to pray that if it pleased God to keep me in weakness, I would rejoice in my infirmities in order that the power of Christ might rest upon me. As it turned out, I had to get within one inch of the microphone just to croak the gospel. I was unable to use any inflection of voice to express my personality. It was just a croak in a monotone, and all the time we were crying to God that his power would be demonstrated in human weakness. Well, I can honestly say that there was a far greater response that night than any other night. I've been back to Australia ten times now, and on every occasion somebody has come up to me and said, 'Do you remember that night when you lost your voice? I was converted that night.'"*

Indeed, *"The kingdom of God comes not with outward show. It comes through the gentleness of the inspiration of His word, through the inward working of His Spirit, the fellowship of the soul with Him who is its life. The greatest manifestation of its power is seen in human nature brought to the perfection of the character of Christ." {Ministry of Healing, pg. 36}*

God's *"grace is sufficient"* for us, because His *"strength is made perfect in weakness."* Therefore, the Christian may safely conclude, *"Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."* 2 Corinthians 12:9



Prophetic News Notes -- Beware

"And he [Jesus] charged them, saying, Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod." Mark 8:15 The name Herod comes from the same root as our word hero and heroic. Thus, this admonition to beware of the leaven of Herod could be in one sense warning against the leaven of hero worship. Indeed, the story recorded for us in the book of Acts chronicles that one of the Herods indeed allowed the crowd to go over the line in their "hero worship" of him. That Herod paid dearly for it. *"And upon a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat upon his throne, and made an oration unto them. And the people gave a shout, saying, It is the voice of a god, and not of a man. And immediately the angel of the Lord smote him, because he gave not God the glory: and he was eaten of worms, and gave up the ghost." Acts 12:21-23*

Although I do not participate in political questions, a similar dangerous trend is emerging that the watchman on the walls must warn against. Again, a mere man is being made into a god. What is perhaps most unbelievable and unsettling to me is that this trend is not limited to America where Donald Trump served as president. I have seen similar signs in other foreign countries. Although I was unable to track down all the pictures I have seen, Trump has been advertised as "the way", "the truth," "savior," etc.* Fox news headlined *"Pastor criticizes now-removed Fort Oglethorpe billboard comparing Trump to Jesus."*¹ The billboard quoted Romans 8:17 adding the words *"Joint Heirs."*



The ad for a book on Amazon states that *"It speaks about End Time Prophecies and Biblical revelations regarding 'President Donald J. Trump, the Son of Man. The Christ.'"*² There have also been dreams and visions reported among evangelicals about this man. Yet, when I once saw Trump questioned concerning basic Christian topics, like whether he asks God for forgiveness for his sins, his answer in short was *"I don't think so...I don't bring God into that picture."*



While Trump has undeniable charisma, it might be of interest to note what spiritualists and Luciferians teach of their "christ." A former New Ager revealed, *"The Alice Bailey teachings say that the Christ of the New Age will not be a specifically Christian person, but rather a figure having the qualities of a politician, sociologist, and transreligious spiritual leader."*³

Quite a few months ago, a friend of mine, who was at the time exposing other spiritualistic teachings, told me that in their research they found (to their surprise) that the spiritualists were all backing Trump. Recently, someone shared with me a video quote from a channeler that shows this trend continues.

The channeler says they receive messages or Q-drops from the "Q" of QAnon. The channeler stated that Trump is the archangel Uriel (meaning "flame of God"). She also states that among others *"Christians... have been duped and lied to..."* and we need a

*"consolidation and a convergence of all the belief systems coming together..."*⁴ A link with Uriel could conceivably partially accomplish this. Because according to Wikipedia "Uriel" has connecting links with Anglican and Orthodox tradition, Esoteric, Kabbalistic, and Gnostic teachings, as well as links with quite a few movies, video games and that which is mythological, supernatural and paranormal.

Quite a broad popularity. Obviously, we cannot believe all that spiritualists have to say, since they work for "the father of lies," (although sometimes they have acknowledged truth to discredit it as in Acts 16:16-18). But nevertheless the Christian should be wary of that which Satan and his spiritualists strongly support.

While we recognize that God is the final judge of character and motive, we should rely on and heed the word of God that warns, *"Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, And not holding the Head [Jesus Christ], from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God." Colossians 2:18,19*

Much more could be shared, but for now, let the Christian beware, for indeed, as John wrote, *"Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists: whereby we know that it is the last time."*⁵ 1 John 2:18

* <https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/trump-christ-billboard-st-louis/> https://www.huffpost.com/entry/trump-tower-billboard-mumbai-homeless_n_586813c3e4b0d9a5945bb091

1-- Billboard screenshot <https://fox17.com/news/local/pastor-criticizes-now-removed-fort-oglethorpe-billboard-comparing-trump-to-jesus> 2-- <https://www.amazon.com/President-Donald-Trump-Son-Man/dp/1977249248> 3-- *Deceived by the New Age*, Will Baron, pg. 214 4-- statue screenshot <https://news.artnet.com/art-world/indian-man-worships-donald-trump-statue-1782381> 5-- No link to this video lest someone fall, because the channeler obviously does not work for God as evidenced by her foul language, hypnotic voice, & corrupt doctrine



A FATHER'S EXAMPLE

Once there was a small boy who was consistently late coming home from school. His parents warned him one day that he must be home on time that afternoon, or he would be punished. But nevertheless, he arrived later than ever. His mother met him at the door and said nothing.

At dinner that night, the boy looked at his plate. There was a slice of bread and a glass of water. He looked at his father's full plate and then at his father, but his father remained silent. The boy was crushed.



The father waited for the full impact to sink in, then quietly took the boy's plate and placed it in front of himself. He took his own plate of tasty tidbits, and put it in front of the boy, and smiled at his son.

When that boy grew to be a man, he said,
"All my life I've known what God is like by what my father did that night."

Indeed, Jesus took the penalty for our sin.

"And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation... For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." 2 Corinthians 5:18,21



The Great Physician

"And Asa in the thirty and ninth year of his reign was diseased in his feet, until his disease was exceeding great: yet in his disease he sought not to the LORD, but to the physicians." 2 Chronicles 16:12 How many today also bypass the Great Physician and seek help from man. *"Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? ..."* Jeremiah 8:22

What would happen if we actually put The Great Physician to the test according to what we know from the scriptures?
According to WebMD, **"Physicians generally have six core skills:**

"Patient care. Physicians have to provide compassionate, appropriate, and effective care to promote health and treat health problems in their patients.

Medical knowledge. Physicians must be experts in established and new biomedical, clinical, and cognate sciences and how to apply this knowledge to patient care.

Practice-based learning and improvement. Physicians must always investigate and evaluate their own care and look for ways to improve.

Interpersonal and communication skills. Physicians must be able to communicate effectively with patients, their families, and other health professionals."

"And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick." Matt. 14:14

Expert surgeon *"And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;"* Gen 2:21

God's plan does not need improvement. He already caters to the physical, mental, spiritual, and EVERY disease. *"And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people."* Matt.9:35

There is no more effective communication than words that heal. *"He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions."* Psalm 107:20 *"The centurion answered and said, Lord, ...but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed."* Matt. 8:8

“Professionalism. A commitment to professionalism includes carrying out professional responsibilities, sticking to ethical principles, and being sensitive to a diverse patient population

Systems-based practice. Physicians must be aware of and responsive to the larger context and system of health care. They must also be able to find and use resources to provide the best care possible.”

“For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”
Romans 10:12,13

“Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened? He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight.” John 9:10,11

As our test continues, we find that WebMD also asks, **“What Does a Physician Do?”**

“Physicians diagnose and treat injuries and illnesses.”

“He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds.” Psalm 147:3

“Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;”
Psalm 103:2,3 (See Leviticus 13 for diagnostics)

“Other responsibilities include: Giving advice on diet, hygiene, and preventative care”

“All the commandments which I command thee this day shall ye observe to do, that ye may live, and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the LORD swore unto your fathers.” Deut. 8:1 “... thou shalt eat the herb of the field,” Genesis 3:18

‘And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.” Exodus 23:25 (Also Genesis 1:29, Deut. 23:13--hygiene)

“Examining patients”

“Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; try my reins and my heart.” Psalm 26:2

“I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins,...” Jeremiah 17:10 (Note: The word “reins” is where we get our word “renal” from. It refers to “the kidneys” which remove wastes and extra fluid from your body, as well as maintaining a healthy balance of water, salts, and minerals—such as sodium, calcium, phosphorus, & potassium—in your blood. The spiritual applications of the word used here are endless. Example: God testing to see if we “hate the evil (waste), and love the good...” Amos 5:15.)

“Prescribing medications”

“The LORD was ready to save me:... For Isaiah had said, Let them take a lump of figs, and lay it for a plaister upon the boil, and he shall recover.” Isaiah 38:20,21

“Ordering, giving, and interpreting diagnostic tests”

(See Leviticus 13) “And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off: And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.” Luke 17:12-14

“Taking and keeping medical histories”

No one keeps a medical history as extensive as the Great Physician, “Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.” Psalm 139:16

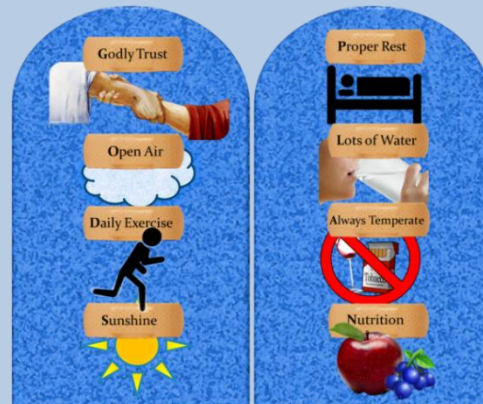
“Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee...” Jer. 1:5

“Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ? ... And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did.” John 4:29,39

God is the Greatest Physician even today. Consider this example. “A certain missionary found herself seriously ill in the outpost where the Lord had stationed her. To add to her sorrow, her check had not arrived and she was forced day after day to do without the good food she needed and to live on a miserable diet of oatmeal and canned milk. In spite of everything, the lady missionary got better, and after 30 days of steady oatmeal diet, she finally got her check and was able to get something different on the table.

“During her illness she had ‘a little, sneaking suspicion’ that the Lord was not doing her right. When furlough time came, she told of her great trial to an eager audience. At the close of the meeting, a kindly doctor inquired as to the nature of her ailment. On hearing what the digestional malfunction was, he said, ‘Well, if your check had arrived, you would not be here talking to me today. And the diet we always prescribe for that trouble is a 30-day oatmeal diet.”

Truly, “they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.” Isaiah 40:31 Why not trust the Great Physician and try His chosen remedies, today?



Wombats are short-legged, muscular marsupials that live in Australia. The word marsupial describes an animal that has a pouch [pocket] to carry its baby in after it is born. Since wombats eat plants, they are called an herbivore. Its diet consists mostly of grasses, herbs, bark, and roots. Wombats dig extensive [long and fancy] burrow systems with their rodent-like front teeth and powerful claws. Their tunnels often have multiple entrance “doors” and sleeping rooms. God created the wombat with a backward pouch. The advantage of this backward-facing pouch is that when the wombat is digging, it does not get dirt in its pouch and all over its babies. Isn't God's unique design of the wombat amazing?

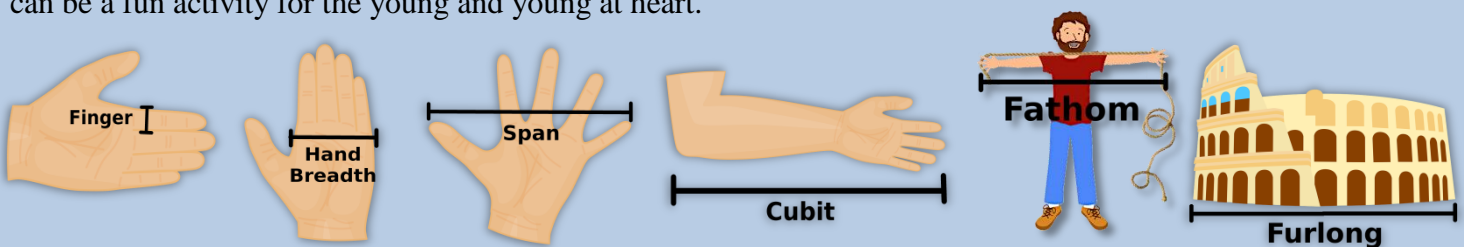


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Proverbs 18:10



Study to Show Thyself Approved — Bible Measures and God's Greatness

Bible measures are so simple, picturable, and logical and the “ruler” is always available. Here we picture them from small to large. Below are some of the verses where you can find them. Measuring like this can be a fun activity for the young and young at heart.



Jeremiah 52:21--Exodus 37:12---Exodus 39:9----Deuteronomy 3:11-----Acts 27:28-----John 6 :19

“Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, ... Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, [measured heauen with his spanne], and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?”

Isaiah 40:10a,12 KJV and [1549 Matthews Bible]

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