



Just A Minute With Scripture

Groaning for Our New Body

Have you ever gazed into heaven to contemplate getting your new, glorified body? Oh, the wait seems so long. Sometimes we may even audibly groan, a noise we may make when the pressures of life are applied, such as the sufferings, tribulations, and the glorious, but challenging work God left us here on earth to do.

What a day it will be, when we are finally free of the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual affects of Satan’s plan of evil. Our limitations, mistakes, and life challenges...gone! Paul learned: *“For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us...waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.”* (Rom. 8:18, 23b)

Once we are *“caught up together”* with our Lord in the Rapture, we will be clothed with our eternal housing. (I Thess. 4:17) The death of this earthly body is not to be our focus. Our spirit and soul will just return to God to wait for our forever encasement, an incorruptible, spiritual body, specifically designed to function in eternity. (I Cor. 15:42-54) *“O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (I Cor. 15:55-57)*

Our sufferings are called *“light affliction”* and *“but for a moment”* (II Cor. 4:17), and designed to work for us, producing gratitude to our Father. He has provided all things, even a perfect resurrection body. *“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”* (I Cor. 15:58)

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God Deeply Loves You!

The Father offered His Son to be sacrificed to pay for the sin of every person. In love, Christ left His throne of glory to die on the cross in our place.

We have God’s own imputed righteousness by believing. He accepts Christ’s blood sacrifice as payment for all your sin: *“Now it was not written for his (Abrams) sake alone, that it was imputed to him; But for us also, to who it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.”* (Romans 4:23-24)

Feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments.



Study-Devotional of the Book of Galatians

This is a study-devotional to explore Galatians in order to expand understanding. Read the targeted verses and meditate upon them; then, answer the questions below. A dictionary can help.

Verses this Month: *Galatians 2:19-21:*
¹⁹"For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. ²⁰I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

1. Verse 19 states that "through the law" Paul was "dead to the law." What is dead and how did it happen by the

law? Why would this be important?

2. Describe how Paul is "crucified with Christ." Does *Romans 6:6* help?

3. How would you "live unto God?" To what kind of life is this referring? Look at the context and read *Romans 6:4,19* for additional insight to describe it.

4. Could "the life which I now live in the flesh" refer to Christ's resurrection life? Explain. How can you "live by the faith of the Son of God?" Do you do this now in your own life? Give some examples?

5. Why does it mention two things that Christ did for us at the end of verse 20? How does this help us understand the motive of living unto God?

"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." (I Cor. 15:52)

Questions & Answers With Deborah

Question 1: Why does God allow bad things to happen?

Satan usurped this world for himself, when he lured Adam to sin; all creation was impacted. (Gen. 3) In great love, God created man with free will. Adam's choice to disobey God caused sin to reign, which had a negative affect on the world. (*Rom. 5:21*)

God is allowing this for a time, but also offered His Son to save us: "And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience." (*Eph. 2:1-2*)

Bad things happen because of this sin, Satan's influence, and our choices. One day, God will make all things right. For now, He is our help. (Cont.)

"Always Confident"

Has anyone ever asked you why you are confident? Scripture teaches that our Father is an honorable, trustworthy God, who keeps His promises: He never lies: "In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began." (*Titus 1:2*) We also know God's "ways are higher than" our ways (*Is. 55:8-11*) in wisdom and power: "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us. Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen." (*Eph. 3:20-21*)

As we meditate on what we read believing, it will enable the Spirit to develop a "fully persuaded" (*Rom. 14:5*) attitude in us. We can be confident in our future resurrection life, because God says when we physically die and our spirit and soul leaves this earth, we will be eternally with Him in heaven. "Therefore we are **always confident**, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) We are **confident**, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." (*II Cor. 5:6-8*) **Consider This:** Do you have this kind of confidence? If not, seek/search for it in the Scriptures.



How to Be Edified in the Spirit by Erin Young

As believers we are sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise. Nothing can separate us from God's love. However, we will remain carnally minded and make unwise choices, unless we are regularly edified in the Spirit, by the renewing of our mind. *Romans 8:6: "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."*

How can we edify ourselves and grow in the spirit? By studying God's Word daily as He intended. *II Timothy 2:15: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."* To be carnally minded means to rely on one's own works. To be spiritually minded, means to study and rely on God's Word. *Romans 8:1-4: "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."*

Once you realize who you are in Christ, it will take a huge weight off your shoulders. Do not fall into the delusion that your works are good enough. *Galatians 1:6: "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel."* You are saved by the cross.

Questions & Answers

With Deborah (Continued)

Question 2: How can I live godly when I am so limited in understanding?

God does not expect us to understand/attain everything in *Romans-Philemon* before we start to live unto God. Learning is a life-long process, so we are to live what we know and walk by faith the best we can. Paul says: *"Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus."* (*Phil. 3:12*)

God desires for us to continue to learn, which is what Christ apprehended us for, and to press forward toward the mark. (*Phil. 3:14*) We are accountable, but also privileged to apply what we know in the details of life. This will teach us. What we learn and are convicted of, from the Scriptures in our inner man, is our rule or guideline for daily living. (*Phil. 3:16*)

Question 3: I just realized that sometimes I look like a hypocrite. Why is this? I dislike seeing phonies in Church.

A hypocrite is someone who boasts of having certain beliefs, principles, or feelings, yet outwardly lives contrary to it. Some put on a 'Christian face' but have an ungodly lifestyle or behavior. Much like Pharisees, *"...their works they do for to be seen of men..."* (*Matt. 23:5a*) Yet others may be unaware of their sin, don't care, or are not yet convicted by Bible Truths about an issue. Additionally, saints can be caught in sinful behavior, not knowing how to stop, to live godly.

The answer is living and growing in the Word. None of us are perfect; we all still have sin in our flesh. Others may look at us, examine our imperfect lives, and judge us as hypocrites. Humbly, a saint can acknowledge his shortfalls and need to trust Christ's wisdom/power to work in him. When he does, it's being real and a strong witness that gives God the glory.

Who and What We Are in Christ by Gene

This is an extension to my previous article which clarified good works. Immediately upon salvation, we are known by many different names and titles. To begin with, believers are (adult) children of God (*Romans 8:16-17*), heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ (*Romans 8:17*). Most notably, we are called to be saints of the Almighty God (*Romans 1:7a*) and persons sanctified (set apart) for God's holy purposes. For example, God desires us to be His soldiers (*2 Timothy 2:3-4*), and servants of righteousness (*Romans 6:19*).

We (believers) are God's laborers in this world – primarily sharing the gospel of grace/Christ with those who don't believe, in order to save some (before the Lord Jesus Christ takes us home to Heaven). Believers are much like 'flight attendants' handing out 'parachutes,' or 'sailors' distributing 'life jackets/vests' to those who are perishing without God in a world that is perishing. We also edify (encourage) one another as believers in/with our continued spiritual growth.

Holy Scripture says: *"And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation."* (*II Corinthians 5:18-19*) Our own Apostle Paul states: *"For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak."* (*Ephesians 6:20*). Equally, all believers are to be 'ambassadors for Christ' and 'ministers of reconciliation,' spreading the good news – the gospel of grace/Christ to all non-believers!

**"For We are Laborers Together
With God..." How Glorious!
(I Corinthians 3:9)**



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Note: For all Publications the King James Bible is used. Verses may be made bold or numbered for emphasis.