



Let's Get Better! Let's Do Better! Let's Be Better!
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David's Devotional

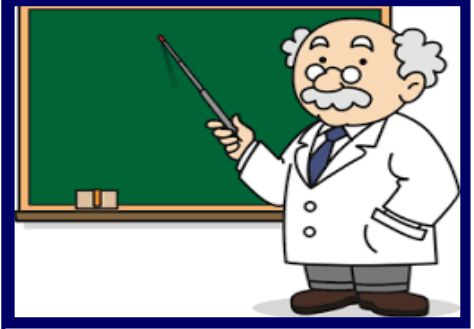
Does It Matter What We Do?

"And Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of David his father.... In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee" I Kings 3:3-5

Solomon loved the Lord. He walked in the statutes (*laws*) of David his father. God offered Solomon anything he wanted! WOW! If a poor man offered us that, we would realize his resources were limited so we could not ask for much. If a millionaire offered us that, we would realize we had a greater amount of resources to choose from. If GOD offered us that, we would realize our resources would be LIMITLESS! Solomon really could have had ANYTHING HE WANTED! Do you remember what he chose? Wisdom to rule Israel! Since he did not ask for riches, fame, or glory God gave him the wisdom he sought after plus riches, fame, and glory! Solomon enjoyed a peaceful kingdom for 40 years. He had everything he needed and anything he wanted. However, he stopped walking in the statutes of David his father. He married many women and worshiped their gods instead of the one true God!

"And the Lord was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the Lord God of Israel... Wherefore the Lord said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is DONE of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee..." I Kings 11:9-11

In chapter 3 God offered ANYTHING to Solomon because he kept God's statutes. In chapter 11 God takes EVERYTHING away because he stopped keeping God's statutes. It really does matter what we do! *David Conley*



An Interesting Quote:

"You cannot manage time; you can only manage yourself."

Peter Drucker

"Making the best use of the time, because the days are evil."

Ephesians 5:16 (ESV)

There are 24 hours in a day. It does not matter if you are rich or poor, healthy or sick, famous or unknown, the clock keeps on going. It cannot be managed!

It is about managing ourselves. Our time is constant; what we do with it varies. Make the best use of it because the days will soon end. Eternity has no time, but what happens there depends on what we do with the time we have here.

Did You Know?

Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday which celebrates the victory of the Maccabees over the larger Syrian army (167 B.C.) This year it is November 28th - December 6th. It also celebrates the rededicated Temple in Jerusalem. Jesus celebrated Hanukkah. It was called "The Feast of Dedication" in **John 10:22**. Jesus recognized the customs, traditions and holidays, but He did not confuse them with things God commanded. Let's not get them mixed up either!

What Happened?

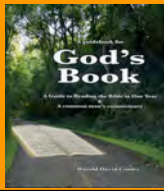
Thanksgiving!



The grandchildren and their parents came to the house the Tuesday before Thanksgiving to have a meal and enjoy our time together. We were thankful!

Yes, the Christmas Tree is up! There are no presents under it, but, God willing, that will change. We are thankful, so we plan to give. Thanksgiving leads to giving!

Hebrews 13:15-16 *"Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."* (ESV)



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"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven"
Ecclesiastes 3:1



Mountain or Mole Hill

Daddy took me to see the milking house at Abramson's Dairy Farm where he worked.

After the long trip to the facility, we entered a giant structure. In the floor was a long canyon that stretched from one end of the building to the other. It took forever to walk its length. We didn't go to the other side, in fact, it was so wide I could not see how you would even get to the other side! I clung to Daddy's pant leg as I peered into its depth. If I should fall into this ravine I would never be found!

Many years later the Abramson's trusted Allen's Air Conditioning, Inc. (where I had the pleasure of working for 23 years) to install their new central system. I learned that the old milk house was still standing, though it was not in operation. Receiving permission to visit the facility, I got in the truck to make the drive.

It was so close that I should have walked! The building was not much larger than most sheds! The "ravine" was little more than knee deep! I chuckled as walked the length of the "canyon" in just a few steps. I laughed when I simply hopped across the width of the canal.

That is what our problems and circumstances are like. To our limited vision, perspective, and knowledge they are overwhelming. To God, who is all seeing, all encompassing, and all knowing, these things are really very simple! Our understanding is so limited. We simply cannot trust it! God gave us the answer:
Proverbs 3:5 *"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding."*

When we see a mountain, God sees a mole hill!

David Conley

**"I will, be
thou clean"**

Mark 1:41

**What a remarkable
word from the Lord!**

Jesus traveled through Galilee preaching in their synagogues and towns. Everyone heard about the miracles. They believed the doctrine he was teaching.

A man with leprosy came to him. He begged Jesus to heal him. The man kneeled before Him, showing he recognized His authority.

The man said, "If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean." He had no doubt that Jesus COULD heal him; the only question was WOULD he do it!

Jesus was "moved with compassion". Jesus, the Son of Almighty God, who had power over unclean demons and over diseases, was emotionally moved by this man's need. Jesus knew the only thing this man questioned was whether or not Jesus was WILLING to help.

Jesus TOUCHED him! When everyone else was RUNNING from this man to avoid the dreaded leprosy, Jesus was moving TOWARD him to touch him! Then Jesus uttered those powerful, remarkable words:

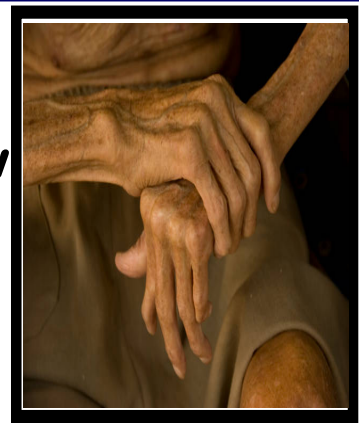
"I will; be thou clean."

There is no doubt in our minds what God can do if He is willing. We simply need to ask! Jesus said if we ask God in His name (or by His authority), He will respond to our needs.

It is true that God will not always be willing to give us everything we ask for. Why? Many times we ask for things that is not in our best interest. God knows that! He loves us too much to give us everything we ask for!

Let's ask God to bless us with what He is willing to bless us with! Trust Him to know!

David Conley



A Funny Thing Happened ...



The preacher stopped at a small gas station in the middle of the country in south Mississippi. He spoke to the two men seated on the bench outside by the front door. Just then a black limousine pulled into the station. The passenger in the back seat was dressed in white. One of the men on the bench told the other man that it was the Pope! Sure enough the Pope exited the car and approached the store. His arm was in a cast. He spoke kindly to the two men. They asked what was wrong with his arm. The Pope said, *"I'm ashamed to admit it, but I broke it when I fell off the commode!"* After the Pope left, one of the men asked the other. *"What is a commode?"* The other shouted, *"How should I know. I'm not catholic!"*

The preacher thought to himself, *"Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men."* **I Corinthians 14:20**