

HOW SHOULD WE LIVE

4/2/18

There are numerous interesting promises and blessings relating to salvation, spiritual service and worship. The following is a simple outline of the starting points which all saved people begin their servitude to God. In every other walk of life there are biases that work for and against us, some fair and some unfair, some favourable and many not so much, so. However, the church is not bound by cultural inequalities, nor any other natural imbalances.

*All major blessings and promises are equally given to all of God's people and are Spiritually based. **ROM 8:11** But if the **Spirit** of him that **raised** up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that **raised** up **Christ** from the dead shall also **quicken** your mortal *bodies* (protect and give life to) by his **Spirit** that dwelleth in you.*

*We are all given the same ongoing spiritual protection, opportunity and blessing. **1COR 10:13** There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be **tempted** above that ye are **able**; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be **able** to bear it. There is nothing in this world or in your 'personality' that can overtake you, or cause you to fail if you keep obeying the simple principles of the Spirit and its rejuvenation..*

God does all the hard work, but we are expected to participate in a genuine way... the Spirit needs to be put into action... no matter what our skill or confidence levels are.

***1COR 1:7** So that ye **come behind** in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: This takes faith and prayer, and a studied awareness of how to go about these things. God keeps tidying up as we go along.... Like a parent tidies up before and after a developing child.*

***ROM 8:26** Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. **27** And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. **28** And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. We see God balancing out our ignorance and weaknesses once again... when we walk in the Spirit according to God's principles.*

*God has set the same goal for all Christians.... No favours for some and not for others. Young, old, smart, dumb, all nationalities are offered the same Spiritual power and blessing. **JOH 15:1** I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. **2** Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may **bring forth more fruit**. The common expectation is that we will grow and develop from whatever level we are at... with God removing many of the barriers as we go.*

***3** Now ye are **clean** through the word which I have spoken unto you. We are again reminded that God tidies up around us as we make sincere moves to serve him.*

***4** Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. **5** I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth **forth much** (more than before) **fruit**: for without me ye can do nothing. We are encouraged on the best approach to get the best possible life that is within our genuine grasp. Prayer, fellowship, reading, serving God's people and sharing our testimony are the most fruitful ways of covering the most ground.*

***6** If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast *them* into the fire, and they are burned. There is a real and practical warning that needs to be in our minds at all times... salvation is not a game, nor is the calling of God a small thing!*

***7** If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. We are again reminded of the personal gains on offer as we keep developing in the Lord.*

***8** Herein is my Father glorified, **that ye bear much fruit**; so shall ye be my disciples. We are not expected to just maintain our salvation, but rather, to keep stepping out and growing in the Spirit. This is the testimony and blessing which God delights in, as well as us.*

We are reminded that we have entered into a salvation contract that is equal for all people. It isn't a hobby agreement nor a casual interest; it is a commitment to eternal living and needs our full respect and serious attention. The above notes simple outline of how we should live and the many blessings and joy that will come from making good spiritual choices.