

Trumpet Sounds



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I Shall Not Want

Rev 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

Ps 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

These two Scriptures are very powerful together. Rev 3:20 tells us that when we accept Jesus as our Savior or Shepherd that He will come into us and sup with us. To **sup** is the word **deipneō** to dine or feast that is, take the principal (or evening) meal: - sup, supper. To sup, therefore, is the main meal...our main sustenance. Think about what a meal or food does for us. It keeps us alive, nourishes us and puts into our bodies all the nutrients, vitamins and minerals that sustains and protects us. The food actually becomes part of our body's functioning ability.

We then see in Ps 23 that we have **no want**. The word **want** is the Hebrew word **châsêr** to lack; by implication to fail, want, lessen: - be abated, bereave, decrease, (cause to) fail, (have) lack, make lower, want. We have no lack.

We seem to think that Jesus' power left when He did, so we petition Him to intervene, when He has given His power to us: **John 14:12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.**

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:

We have all the power within us, yet we still plead hoping God will hear us and do something. That may work for baby Christians, but we are not expected to remain babies. If we do not grow in what we have been given we are Christians in name only as our power has atrophied. Anything not in use atrophies.

Throughout our Christian experience our faith goes through trials. We try our faith by learning that God's Word is true. Until then, we flounder in unbelief as to whether God hears us at all. **James 1:13-17 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither**

tempteth he any man: 14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. 15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. 16 Do not err, my beloved brethren. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

We have an enemy that tries our faith like any bully will. Life and situations with their passions try our faith. Our faith builds as we build it. It strengthens as we strengthen it.

James 1:2-7 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. 4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. 5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wa-

vereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. 7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

We will not be without trials, but through them we realize that everything we need, God have given us. The power is in us. If our faith battery is running low it is up to us to recharge by spending time supping in the Word of God and nourishing the faith within. Maybe you are starving and just did not know that you neglected to sup with Him. The supper bell is sounding in this article. Are you listening?

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Delegated Authority

"I'm just waiting for God."

"It's all in God's timing."

"Sometimes the answer is, 'NO'."

"I don't understand."

This kind of thinking goes on and on as the excuse for not seeing answers. However, faith is not in seeing, but believing in the unseen, so faith is not what is being exercised in those comments. The most accurate comment we can make is, *"I don't understand."* Therefore the solution to the problem is getting the understanding.

I remember when I got my first two-wheeler bicycle. It had training wheels because I had not yet learned how to balance from riding a tricycle, so this required more on my part to stay upright, yet not altogether for the training wheels. There came the day when my dad, with screw driver in hand, took the training wheels off. I was nervous that I would fall, but he put one hand on the seat and ran a short distance with me and the bike, until one day when I was riding and his hand was not there. I WAS RIDING. I was riding a bit sloppy, but I was riding my bike on my own. He was still there watching, but I was balancing, pedaling, steering and staying upright myself. My dad bought me the bike, gave me the bike, taught me how to ride the bike and gave me his permission to ride it. No longer did I need the trike, bike with training wheels or my dad's hand on the seat keeping balance for me. I CAN RIDE A BIKE. My

dad is in heaven with Jesus and I can still ride a bike. I am not waiting for my dad to do another thing because he gave me all I need to ride.

I think by now you are getting the analogy, but if further understanding is needed here are some of the answers to the opening statements made:

"I'm just waiting for God." *"It's all in God's timing"* Here is God's answer: **2 Cor 6:2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)** The word for salvation is: **sōtēria** rescue or safety (physically or morally): - deliver, health, salvation, save, saving. NOW means present...immediate. The very word for salvation in Hebrew is **yeshû'âh** (Hebrew for Jesus) *deliverance*; hence *aid, victory, prosperity*: - deliverance, health, help (-ing), salvation, save, saving (health), welfare.

This is not riding the trike or having training wheels, but balancing in the Word of God...and riding. The only time "Jesus takes the wheel" is when we are not sure of our direction and we could use a consult. **John 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.**

James 1:5-7 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth

to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. 7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

Now for the other comment: *"Sometimes the answer is, 'NO'."* **2 Cor 1:20 For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.** The Bible is very clear on our delegated authority. Another Scripture to consider is: **James 4:3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.** (Asking amiss is asking badly, which could mean it would make a bad situation worse for the interference.)

We have God's delegated authority not a magic wand ordering whatever we desire regardless of the consequences. Just as there are safety rules when riding a bike, there are safety rules using our authority. God is still in charge of watching over his Word to perform it. He is not watching over our twisting His words for foolish desires to spoil us in our excesses.

Do you realize if you are still waiting for God, the next time you will see Him is when He comes back for His bride unless you go to meet Him first.

That bride **will have** oil in her lamp and the ability to ride the bike as well.

Vexation Of Spirit

In the first two articles in Trumpet Sounds you can see a pattern of being responsive of the call to grow. We must remain in the mindset of learning and growing rather than thinking we have all the basics we need to know.

Matt 18:3 Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.

We have to convert into trusting and believing as a child. A child is ever learning and growing. It does not mat-

ter how old we are in age or experience, we never arrive to the place of being full enough that we are no longer hungry. **Eccl 1:9 The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.**

This attitude came from Solomon who also wrote: **Eccl 1:14 I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and, behold, all is vanity and vexation of spirit.**

Solomon was vexed by vanity which is emptiness. He remarks, in that frame of mind, "Been there, done that, bought the T-shirt."

He finishes, however, on this note: **Eccl 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.**

I will, however, go further and say that growth will keep you excited and far from vanity and vexation of spirit.

Crooked Genes

A gene is a unit of heredity which is transformed from parent to offspring and is held to determine some characteristic in the offspring. In the realm of science it is defined the basic physical unit of heredity; a linear sequence of nucleotides along a segment of DNA that provides the coded instructions for synthesis of RNA, ribo-nucleic acids, which, when translated into protein, leads to the expression of hereditary character.

The reason I looked this up, other than being a research nerd, was from something I got when praying for someone's child...now an adult. The phrase "crooked gene" came to me to pray in that instance.

Along with good genes have crept some that are crooked. It is the crooked genes that provoke battles within our hearts. Whether the crooked genes are abuses, addictions, timidities and fears...whatever they are, they are crooked and lead us onto crooked paths.

Prov 2:11-15 Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee: 12 To deliver thee from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaketh froward things; 13 Who leave the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness; 14 Who rejoice to do evil, and delight in the frowardness of the wicked; 15 Whose ways are crooked, and they froward in their paths:

From childhood I remembered a little poem:

There was a crooked man, and he walked a crooked mile. He found a crooked sixpence upon a crooked stile. He bought a crooked cat, which caught a crooked mouse, And they all lived together in a little crooked house.

Crooked genes mess with our own God DNA identity. We can be overwhelmed by crooked genes that we lead crooked lives and walk crooked paths.

God, Himself, had to be delivered from the crooked genes man credited Him throughout the whole Old Testament. In the testament of old, God was the oppressor, tempter, tester, destroyer. Job's words ring out: ***Job 13:15 Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him...***

God wrapped Himself in the flesh of a man and introduced Himself to mankind. He cast out the crooked gene credited Him by calling the oppressor, tempter, tester and destroyer a devil and a demon and cast them out in over 60 instances in the Bible. The times demons or devils were credited in the Old Testament are 0 times. It was always credited to God. Fake news was accurately quoted from the lips of man yet inaccurate in the identity of God confusing Satan with God. Many times today God is still credited by crooked tongues who did not get the Jesus memo. We forgive the men of Old before

Christ, but today we take every piece of information through Jesus' filter.

Satan is ever sowing tares among good wheat, but it is up to us to recognize what is crooked from the straight and cast out the crooked before we start thinking, walking and living crooked lives.

We have been given the Word to show us light from darkness and life from death. We also have been given the authority and power to tread on serpents and scorpion and all the power of the enemy. There is no reason for us to live in crooked houses once we have tasted Truth.

Has anyone remarked on a flaw and told you that you are your father's child or your mother's child? Does the fruit not fall far from the tree? Which tree? There is the tree of Eve and the Tree of Life. There is a straight path and a crooked one. The direction we choose is the destination of our arrival.

If you do not like where you are today, you have the power through God's Holy Spirit to make the necessary changes: ***Heb 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.***

Be You; Everyone Else Is Taken (Oscar Wilde)

We are unique and peculiar with a bit of weird sprinkled in. One thing the world teaches is we are typical off the rack, one size fits all. Not true at all. We are designer originals and not one of us is exactly alike. That is why we are so special.

It is so backward to think we are just another ubiquitous copy of our species yet have the desire to obtain one of a kind, designer originals in the things we want. We may look off the rack, but we are not replaceable: ***Ps 116:15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.***

The word ***precious*** in that Scripture is the Hebrew word ***yâqâr*** meaning ***costly*** and ***valued***. We are needed here. We are valued and costly to God and His purpose. You and I are not imitations of anyone or anything else. Each person has value beyond our imagination.

Just like an expectant parent, God made a nursery in which to plant His children and like a good parent sacrificed His life for us...each separate one of us. We know this because Jesus said He would even leave the 99 to go after the one who strayed away. Yes, even the rebellious, and for the most unlovely of us He came and gave His

life's blood to win back.

If we are busy minding someone else's business, who's minding ours? Likewise if I am trying to be someone else who will be me. I am the best one at being me that I know. You are the best at being you and no one else can take your place.

All we can do is model what is good in Christ Jesus for others to see and follow the good, yet remain in our own identity and purpose.

"Be yourself; everyone else is taken."

To Thine Own Self Be True

Lies have become such a default pattern in the world today that I do not think we recognize it in ourselves: *"I swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth..."* That is a pledge of truth but break it down for the liar:

- ◆ *"I swear to tell the truth"* – Lies of commission. If someone tells you something that is not a fact then we call this a lie of commission. This type of lie is telling someone something that is simply not true.
- ◆ *"The whole truth"* – Lies of omission. A lie of omission is a lie in which someone deliberately withholds pertinent details about something in order to skew someone else's idea of the truth or leading one into a misconception. Although a lie of omission is not technically a lie because it contains no false information, it is still referred to as one by being deliberately misleading.

- ◆ *"And nothing but the truth"*. Sometimes people will tell you something completely unrelated, which is a character lie, for example: If someone at work stole some money from the till, then when questioned about it could respond, *"I have worked here for 23 years!"* That is unrelated to the question but steering it to them as a higher character that would be an unlikely thief.

To thine own self be true, though not a Scripture, is scripturally sound. It has to do with doing what is right and honest. Sometimes we have all excused our fault comparatively as not being that bad, thus we justify lying to ourselves rather than owning the fault and making the amends necessary to put ourselves right again. When we get into a pattern of defending excuses or untruths, we are in conflict with our own identity and purpose. To defend what is false is changing who we are. Our identity is eroded by these compromises over time and our thinking gets distort-

ed and confused. This leaves a hollow empty space in us. We are void...invalid...empty.

All people need a core value. As a Christian the core value for me is the Word of God. Why I am, who I am and where I am headed is within the Word. There is a definite plan for my life. As unique and individual as each Christian is, the Word does not change that uniqueness but makes it more prosperous and sure.

There are so many false pits in which to fall with a nation in turmoil etc. that we must be true inside our hearts to who we are and for what we stand. The enemy will use everything possible to get us turned around from our purpose and truth. With that in mind, be ever conscious of your core value and truth. If you are faced with a difficult situation slow down your reactor, touch base with what you know is truth and follow it without excuse or deviation, in order to finish the pledge...*so help me God.*

Cannibalism Today

Gal 5:13-15 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. 14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 15 But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another.

Cannibalism is the act of devouring ones own species. Maybe it is just a saying in Southern Illinois, but I have heard people remarking, *"I'm all ate up!"* We eat ourselves up in worry and anxiety mostly over things that "could happen". Of course then, like with Job: ***Job 3:25-26 For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me. 26 I was not in safety, neither had I rest, neither was I quiet; yet trouble came.***

Job was "all ate up" worrying what COULD happen and rehearsed his fear out loud...self-fulfilling the proph-

ecy. ***James 3:6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.***

The word for nature here is the Hebrew translation ***genesis*** meaning nativity, which is to say the beginning of birth. Our words birth. Our tongue is the most unruly member of our body setting on fire the course of birthing into existence. With our mouth we build up or tear down ourselves, our children, spouses, family, churches, pastors, friends and foes as well as nations. We do this all without the slightest thought even though many of us know this:

Prov 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit (reward) thereof.

James 3:10 Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.

With our own words we have the poten-

tial to cannibalize everything around us yet shake our heads in wondering why everything is going to hell in a handbasket! The third chapter of James tells us the culprit, but we disregard the Scriptures and just keep babbling away as if we had no clue.

Instead we are commanded to call things ***that are not as though they were*** not rehearsing that, "It is what it is". We then proceed to incorporate addends worsening the situation.

We have to put a stop to the cannibalization going on in our nation today. Think before you speak. Are you about to devour our nation with negativity or call things the way your prayers would want them to be.

Think of your tongue as a pen and you are going to write or birth something. Author something good of life:

Ps 45:1 My heart is inditing a good matter: I speak of the things which I have made touching the king: my tongue is the pen of a ready writer,

AMEN!

Community: Jesus With Skin

A community is described as a feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals. In a community even though we do not have the exact same struggles or joys, we share in the struggles and joys of one another since we all experience these things in our own way.

Eccl 4:9-12 *Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. 10 For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. 11 Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? 12 And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a three-fold cord is not quickly broken.*

Remember the story about the little boy who was afraid and crawled into his father's bed. He knew that Jesus was with him but for that moment needed Jesus with skin.

Even though we have Jesus with us always, we too have a need for Jesus

with skin.

The early church was Jesus with skin: **Acts 2:46-47** *And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, 47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.*

Heb 10:24-25 *And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: 25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*

Matt 18:20 *For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.*

1 Cor 1:9 *God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Most of the early church meetings started from house to house. Because of

what was birthed in the homes, the church grew. They would meet in the temple court yards and share bread both physical and spiritual in home gatherings.

An eye is nothing without belonging in the head. A finger is nothing without being on a hand...or a hand without the arm or arm without the shoulder etc. etc. We are nothing without our attachment to the body...community.

There is a song with lyrics that came to mind while writing this:

*People,
People who need people,
Are the luckiest people in the world
We're children, needing other children
And yet letting a grown-up pride
Hide all the need inside
Acting more like children than children*

Maybe you are an undiscovered island that has more to offer others than you have imagined. It is time for you to be found, accepted, seen, heard and supported. There are likewise people for you to find, accept, see, hear and support. It is not as scary as you have supposed but quite welcoming...home.

Purpose Driven

Matt 4:4 *It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.*

That Scripture is purpose driven and all inclusive. Read it with that in mind:

- ◇ *It is written,*
- ◇ *Man shall not live by bread alone,*
- ◇ *but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.*

It was spoken to Satan at Jesus' time of temptation during His vulnerable 40 day fast. Sound familiar in your life when you try to do the right thing or remove a bad habit and the temptation is the strongest? If the excuse crossed your mind, "Well, but that was Jesus." Let this also cross your mind: Jesus was in a flesh and blood body that required food and drink just like ours. Unlike us, however, He had His natural existence in heaven as

God's precious and adored by all Son, yet here He is on this planet, in the wilderness, hungry, thirsty, physically drained, unaccepted and ridiculed...alone. This is the moment Satan captured to tempt Jesus.

Jesus had a purpose driven life. He was not here to serve His needs but serve His Father. He did not leave heaven without being given the tools for His journey.

We are like Jesus in that we are placed on this planet with tools for a purpose, however, whether we are driven to the purpose or put the tools in use is the question we need to ask ourselves.

How many times have we purposed to be more diligent in our service to God yet distracted away by such little things? **James 1:14-15** *But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. 15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.*

Look how those dominos, one right af-

ter the other, fell until they were all fallen. See the order of the fall:

- ◇ *tempted,*
- ◇ *drawn away of our own lust, and enticed.*
- ◇ *brings sin:*
- ◇ *sin, full circle brings death.*

We might credit the enemy with the temptation but to be **drawn away** is under our own power to stop or continue. We cannot build up a resistance without starting somewhere.

Going back...To thine own self be true. What is the truth about your core Christian faith? Jesus said, **MAN shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.**

This tells me that we need to know God's Words, apply them and live them. We also need to speak God's Word to the temptation when it comes and live out God's purpose in life.

Choose Life!