

## **FEBRUARY DEVOTIONAL. 2014**

**A Prophetic Word for you.**

**1 Corinthians 13:9.**

**'Christian Advancement is not Automatic!'**

'So, as you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him', Colossians 2:6.

**Additional Reading; Hebrews 2:1-13. ~ 2 Peter 1:1-11.**

**Let us pray beloved;** "O Heavenly Father, forgive me if I am not doing enough to send my spiritual roots deeper into You. I want not just enough to live on but enough also to spare. Help me be a Christian of Your new creation, born again into salvation by Your grace and mercy of that blessed unconditional love which overflows in my being and my spirit within now being of Your temple of the living God, by of faith of which I was willing to accept, *'here I am O Lord Your servant hears Your voice'*, of my Father by Your sacrifice O Jesus my savior and beloved, in **Jesus** name, amen".

This months Word we move onto look at another characteristic of pacesetter, God chaser with the Holy Spirit our guide, the realization that grace has to be used before more is given!

**John 1:16** says; *'and of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace'*.

Christian advancement is not automatic; it occurs only as we team up with God. A Christian being born again has been described as a person who responds to all the discoveries he/she makes in their developing relationship with Christ (The Messiah). Brethren it is essential that we respond to Christ. When we do we will find wholeheartedly a spiritual joy that He reveals Him self to us.

One person once said; *'we are what we respond to, nothing more and nothing less'*, quite a statement I would think if we are living the faith lifestyle!

Brethren, though God enables us to grow in our Christian life, staying in the walk of His righteousness and not stumble away to the temptations of the world again that we now only are part of, we do have a part to play being of His blessed disciples saved from the god of this age! For being of gathering by prayer of His wisdom and knowledge learning more of who we are now in Christ Jesus, we now see of our duty is to respond without fault or become weary and to faint that we trust in Him of His faithfulness that He reveals Himself to us, in Jesus name. So therefore let us stand upright in faith to bring Him the glory for the joy of the Lord bestows upon us, revealing all things to knowing we are becoming of the new learning man, to understand that our Christian lifestyle anew is not automatic, but given by His grace and compassion, amen.

So beloved, let us gain wisdom and understand this; let us have done with the idea that all we need to do is sit back and let our Father God act in our lives! Brethren we must avail ourselves of the divine resources and that involves developing certain habits and cultivating certain practices as we are, *'now living and walking in the pathways of our Lord's righteousness and faith'*, in Jesus name, amen. **Philippians 3:7-15.**

Let us relax in our spirit of our being and read of the Acts of the Apostles reading about the early Christians: **Acts 2:42 (N.I.V.B).** Notice of the words; *'they devoted themselves'*.

May we have understanding that if conversion is the first law of the Christian life then cultivation is the second! Many Christians start well perhaps having that thought after repentance that *'Christian advancement IS automatic!'* But soon the initial enthusiasm fades and they settle for respectable mediocrity, still having roots laid in the world one is not now part of and all because perhaps, some have doubt about *'what is truth'*, they fail to draw on the resources of God trusting wholeheartedly at the moment in Him due to their lack of sound teachings perhaps by their church leaders that they have that touch of doubt to seek out the answer to *'what is truth!'* But many may have that mindset after repentance believing all is

done, *'I am saved now!'* So thereby think all Christian advancement comes automatically to them, people like that become like the vine of the olive tree if it is not watered then it won't grow into the way God has graced them with His mercy to being a vessel of the living God to serve and abide in the Constitution of the Gospel God's handbook to righteous living away from the god of this age of sin, in Jesus name.

Beloved, we may ask our self the question; *'How shall we escape of the old learned man in the flesh, if we ignore such a great salvation?'*

Read-**Hebrews 2:3. (N.K.J.V).** Note the word neglect, the Christian life of many believers is impoverished, not because of a sinful lifestyle, but because they neglect to put into operation a few basic practices that would help stimulate the growth of their spiritual roots.

Christian advancement then is shown not to be automatic just because we have repented of our sins to be forgiven as a sinner; we have to grow beloved in Christ, away from the god of this age who rules the world till the coming Day of the Lord on Faithful and True, in Jesus name, amen.

To make a blessed advancement in our spiritual growth to be blessed by His will for us to succeed, we may through prayer come to see of God's hand upon us as we see with faith and wisdom that, God is continually seeking fruit in our lives, and that fruit is produced to the extent that like the vines being planted by the waters we encourage our roots to grow it is the Living Waters of His Holy Spirit those roots that draw of nourishment from the nurturing of the intimate close relationship with our Father, praise be God.

Beloved, if our spiritual roots draw only from the surface waters of life's circumstances, *we will not bear fruit or be of the good harvest God sends out the laborers His disciples to reap!*

I speak to all who follow in His footsteps to righteous living, take heed and mark it well: *'the more deeply our roots go down with our faith and love for our Christ the Savior of our soul, the more fruit and greater reaping of a harvest will be produced above ground raising it up to His glory as He sits on His throne seeing, all things then are pleasing in His sight'. 1 John 3:20-24.*

***'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God; That I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams. And on My menservants and on My maid servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; and they shall prophesy. I will show wonders in Heaven above and signs in the earth beneath: blood and fire and vapor of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and noble day of the Lord. And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved', Acts 2: 17-21.***

***'You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore', Psalm 16:11.***

**JESUS IS LORD**