

Walking in Favor

Sabbatical Word
2006-09-17

Gen 12:1 The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you.

Gen 12:2 "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." NIV

Luke 14:33 So then, any of you who does not forsake (renounce, surrender claim to, give up, say good-bye to) all that he has cannot be My disciple. AMP

The First Step of God's Favor Is to Establish Himself as Your Source

Deut 8:17 You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." 18 But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth . . . NIV

Matt 19:16 Now a man came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?"

17b . . .If you want to enter life, obey the commandments."

18 "Which ones?" the man inquired.

Jesus replied, "'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, 19 honor your father and mother,' and 'love your neighbor as yourself.'"

20 "All these I have kept," the young man said. "What do I still lack?"

21 Jesus answered, ". . .go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

22 When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.

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Matt 19:23 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "I tell you the truth, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. 24 Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." NIV

Luke 5:9 For [Peter] was awestruck by the size of their catch, as were the others with him. 10 His partners, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, were also amazed.

Jesus replied to Simon, "Don't be afraid! From now on you'll be fishing for people!" 11 And as soon as they landed, they **left everything and followed Jesus.** NLT

Luke 5:27 Later, as Jesus left the town, he saw a tax collector named Levi sitting at his tax-collection booth. "Come, be my disciple!" Jesus said to him. 28 **So Levi got up, left everything, and followed him.** NLT

Luke 14:25 Great crowds were following Jesus. He turned around and said to them, 26 "If you want to be my follower you must love me more than your own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters — yes, more than your own life. Otherwise, you cannot be my disciple. 27 And you cannot be my disciple if you do not carry your own cross and follow me.

Verse 33 So no one can become my disciple without giving up everything for me. NLT

Acts 2:36 "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

38 Peter replied, "**Repent and be baptized**, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. . . .

Verse 40 With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." **41 Those who accepted his message were baptized**, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. NIV

Acts 2:42 They **devoted themselves** to the **apostles' teaching** and to the **fellowship**, to the **breaking of bread** and to **prayer**.

Acts 2:46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts . . . NIV

Luke 18:26 Those who heard this said, "Then who in the world can be saved?"

27 He replied, "**What is impossible from a human perspective is possible with God.**"

28 Peter said, "We have left our homes and followed you."

29 "Yes," Jesus replied, "and **I assure you, everyone who has given up house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the Kingdom of God, 30 will be repaid many times over in this life, as well as receiving eternal life in the world to come.**" NLT

Heb 11:8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. NKJV

Heb 11:9 By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; 10 for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. NKJV

Gen 18:1 The LORD appeared again to Abraham while he was camped near the oak grove belonging to Mamre. One day about noon, as Abraham was sitting at the entrance to his tent, 2 he suddenly noticed three men standing nearby. He got up and ran to meet them, welcoming them by bowing low to the ground. 3 "My lord," he said, "if it pleases you, stop here for a while.

Verse 9 "Where is Sarah, your wife?" they asked him.

"In the tent," Abraham replied.

10 Then one of them said, "**About this time next year I will return, and your wife Sarah will have a son.**"

Now Sarah was listening to this conversation from the tent nearby. 11 And since Abraham and Sarah were both very old, and Sarah was long past the age of having children, 12 **she laughed silently to herself.** "How could a worn-out woman like me have a baby?" she thought. "And when my master — my husband — is also so old?"

13 Then the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh? Why did she say, 'Can an old woman like me have a baby?'" 14 Is anything too hard for the LORD? **About a year from now, just as I told you, I will return, and Sarah will have a son.** [2nd time in this conversation God says that.] 15 Sarah was afraid, so she denied that she had laughed. But he said, "That is not true. You did laugh."

16 Then the men got up from their meal and started on toward Sodom. Abraham went with them part of the way.

Gen 18:17-19

17 And the LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing, 18 since Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? 19 For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice, that the LORD may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him." NKJV

Isa 6:8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" NIV

Jer 1:12 Then the LORD said to me, "You have seen well, for I am watching over My word to perform it." NASU

Job 23:11 "For I have stayed in God's paths; I have followed his ways and not turned aside. 12 I have not departed from his commands but have **treasured his word in my heart.** 13 Nevertheless, **his mind concerning me remains unchanged, and who can turn him from his purposes? Whatever he wants to do, he does. 14 So he will do for me all he has planned. He controls my destiny.** . . .NLT

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The first purpose - Fellowship

Second Purpose - to accelerate His Destiny

Thirdly - to upgrade Abraham's relationship with Him.

- take him into his confidence.

- to expand his sphere of influence.

Rev 1:8 I am the Alpha and the Omega , the Beginning and the End , says the Lord God, He Who is and Who was and Who is to come, the Almighty (the Ruler of all). AMP

Gen 18:17 And the LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing, 18 since Abraham shall surely become . . .[what I said you would become.]

Eph 1:23 And the church is his body; it is filled by Christ, who **fills everything everywhere with**

his presence. NLT

Eph 3:19 May you **experience the love of Christ**, though it is so great you will never fully understand it. Then **you will be filled with the fullness of life and power that comes from God.** NLT