

Restored

Wisdom for the Ages: Wisdom Restored. Message Magazine's Online Devotional for Monday, February 19, 2018

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"Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who obtains understanding. For her benefit is more profitable than silver, and her gain is better than gold. She is more precious than rubies, and none of the things you desire can compare with her. Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. Her ways are very pleasant, and all her paths are peaceful. She is like a tree of life to those who obtain her, and everyone who grasps hold of her will be blessed" (Proverbs 3:13–18, NET)

Transcendent Correction

Adam and Eve needed to be chastised by God after they sinned. Thus, they were barred from the Tree of Life until they accepted His desired outcome of His discipline in them—holiness. Now, all who embrace God's instructions, discipline, refinement under trials, and know He has only our good at heart, will have a right to the Tree of Life when Jesus comes.

Our theme text comes right after the passage that describes God's loving chastisement. Just as a caring father must correct his own son, God corrects His children. God's correction transcends earthly rectitude, however. It works the peaceable fruits of righteousness that lead to eternal life with God. Once we learn to accept and embrace this fact, we will give thanks for God's goodness.

We'll Be Glad He Did

We will be happy that God's correction made way for us to find the fullness of His wisdom. We will value it as we understand it more and will recognize that silver, gold, and precious jewels pale in comparison to God's wisdom. Yachts, mansions, sports cars, millions of shares of highly valued stocks and bonds, vacations to the most exotic destinations in the world cannot compare with God's wisdom to those who embrace it. For once we have acquired all of the world's wealth, it just takes one seemingly random accident, end-stage diagnosis, strong-armed robbery, or heart attack to take it all away. But if we receive God's correction, which leads to reception of His wisdom, no power on earth or under the earth can take it away, except our own decision.

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We must choose everyday to embrace wisdom and seek for her as we would earthly treasure. So when we do this by faith, we will receive the reward. Here's what the Bible says: "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city" (Revelation 22:14). The payment for sin is eternal death. The payment for righteousness by faith is immortality and eternal life. Truth is, God gave all of heaven's treasury, in the person and work of Jesus Christ, so we can be restored and eat from the Tree of Life that bears 12 manner of fruit, and whose leaves are for the healing of the nations. Embrace wisdom, and embrace Jesus with the life He gives. A word to the foolish is wasteful. A word to the wise is sufficient.

Recovery Principle: Use The Touch Of Faith

Message Magazine's Online Devotional for Monday, May 2, 2016

Today's Scripture Focus: [Luke 8:43-48](#)

We are focusing on sin recovery principle number two of 12: "We believe that only God's power can restore us to sanity. His power is infinitely greater than our own."



As usual, Jesus had had a long day of healing and delivering people from the bondage of devils. He spent all of His time either in ministry or devotional time preparing for ministry. He understood the purpose for which He was called, and while in the flesh, He more than fulfilled it. He came to seek and save the lost.

A woman, who had been drawn by the Holy Spirit to Jesus, finally got a glimpse of Him. I imagine it must have been awe-inspiring. At last, the Man she had heard so much about, was almost within her reach. She was drawn to Him because she had an issue, for twelve long years that caused hemorrhaging. In Jewish society, she was considered unclean, and one who could not carry on everyday activities in the general population because of her ailment. How must she have felt knowing that she was almost within reach of Jesus? How must it have made her feel knowing that she had betrayed her quarantined existence to get just one simple touch of His garment?

The time had come. She began to further exert the saving faith God had already begun using in her. She knew deep down inside that if she could just reach out far enough, she could be completely healed. She did it! She probably crawled through the crowd and with every ounce of energy, extended her arm and touched Him. She touched the border of the Master's clothes. Suddenly the electrifying virtue of God was transferred into her being. The power communicated in that single transaction was able to summon planets out of nothingness. That power could say to the darkness "Let there be light" and light would appear dispelling every dim quarter (Genesis 1:3). The virtue of Jesus Christ healed her of her plague. Jesus knew that His power had been drawn upon to heal someone with saving faith. Amidst all of the hustling and bustling about, He knew the difference between the desperate touch of faith and the careless brushing by of the faithless. God honored the faith of an otherwise hopeless woman and she was made whole.

Do you have seemingly hopeless circumstances clouding your thoughts? Does it seem that year after year has passed and no reprieve is in sight? Be

encouraged child of God. Extend the faith that God has given you and receive the healing virtue of Jesus. He is still in the prayer answering business today. It only takes a touch, a faith-filled touch. Reach out your hand of faith and receive the love, power, and soundness of mind God ordained for you before the world began (2 Timothy 1:7).