



Northside Proclaimer

Proclaiming The Word Of The Lord

1 Thessalonians 1:8

Northside Church Of Christ Welcomes You!

October 11, 2015

Before the Foot Hits the Floor

W. Frank Walton

“I, O LORD, cry to you; in the morning my prayer comes before you” (Psa 88:13).

I read an article where the author stated that he endeavored to say a morning prayer to God for help, while in bed, “before the foot hits the floor.” What a great habit to begin the day with God!

Note that David said, “I remember you upon my bed” (Psa 63: 6). This is a wonderful discipline to immediately start framing our outlook for the day by first turning to God. David, the spiritually-minded man after God’s own heart, began Psalm 63 thus: “O God, you are my God, early will I seek you” (v. 1). Before the duties and demands of the day begin rushing in to crowd our mind, we need to fortify our mind by beginning the day with God.

Please note the Scriptures that advocate the morning priority of seeking God by prayer, worship, and meditation on His Word:

“I rise before dawn and cry for help; I hope in your words” (Psa 119:147).

“O LORD, in the morning you hear my voice; in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch” (Psa 5:3).

“I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress (Psa 59:16).

“Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love that we may rejoice and be glad all our days” (Psa 90:14).

“I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning” (Psa 130:5-6).

“Let me hear in the morning of your steadfast love, for in you I trust. Make me know the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul” (Psa 143:8).

“When you walk, they [the commandments] will lead you; when you lie down, they will watch over you; and when you awake, they [the commandments] will talk with you” (Prov 6:22).

At the beginning of each day, we make choices of how we will conduct ourselves and react to various demands and temptations that face us. When we awake upon our bed, what a marvelous habit we can cultivate by seeking God’s help to be faithful and strong, “before the foot hits the floor.”

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Announcements

- Remember the shut in's.
- Pray for the church and one another.
- Remember the spiritual sick among us.
- Call or email Bryan to add announcements, thanks.
- If you'd like to volunteer to help with Bible studies with our fair contacts, please see Bryan G.
- Susie Easter had surgery and is home.

Chronological Bible Reading Plan

Oct 11 Matt 8:1-13, Luke 7

Oct 12 Matt 11

Oct 13 Matt 12:22-50,
Luke 11

Oct 14 Matt 13, Luke 8

Oct 15 Matt 8:14-34, Mark 4-5

Oct 16 Matt 9-10

Oct 17 Matt 14, Mark 6,
Luke 9:1-17

How To Mature As You Ought to? By Bobby Thompson

Depend on God daily: Matthew 6:11

Daily let God say something to us: Psalm 119:11, 105, 2 Timothy 2:15

Daily say something to God: 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

Daily say something for God: 1 Peter 3:15

Daily do something for God: Titus 2:14, 3:14

Daily give Something to God: Romans 12:1-2

Daily recall God's goodness: James 1:17

Spiritual Maturity by David Maxson

But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. (1 Corinthians 4:3-4)

Jesus said that we are not to do our righteous acts before men to be seen by them, but that we should be more concerned about what our Father "who sees in secret" thinks about us (Matthew 6:1-2). This is a sign of spiritual maturity. We've made real progress when we're more sensitive to what God thinks of us than what others think of us.

I've got a long way to go in this area. Honestly, there are times when I am much more concerned about human praise than Divine praise.

What about you?

- When you do a good deed do you privately hope someone will notice?
- Are you obsessed with hiding certain parts of your life from others while barely thinking about God's awareness of your sin?
- Does criticism for doing right consume you or are you able to deflect criticism because you know that God is happy with you?
- What drives you the most: earthly success or spiritual success?
- How often do you think about heaven? When is the last time you seriously thought about it?
- How much do you "pray in secret?" When is the last time you spent meaningful time with God in private communion with him?
- How often during the day do you think about God? Is he a real, personal, and ever-present part of your conscious thoughts during the day?

Father, help us to do the right things for the right reasons. Give us a pure heart that will want nothing more than a relationship with you.