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Sunshine
In Your
Soul

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Sunshine In Your Soul!

By: Andrew Roebert

We all desire to know the light of God in our lives. We all need to know what it means to have sunshine. Light is one of the basic components of life, which we cannot do without. It is the same with our souls. We need light in our lives, light in our hearts and light in our souls. It is possible to know and enjoy the light that only God can give within our hearts and as such we can know what it is to have sunshine in our souls.

THE GOOD PERSON

If we are endeavouring to do what is right and good we can know light in our lives.

***Proverbs 13:9 The good man's life is full of light.
The sinner's road is dark and gloomy.***

God's desire is that those people who want to live good lives can enjoy a life that is full of light. When we have light in our souls we can enjoy full lives and we can be full of joy. Notice that there is the possibility of being full of light. As we grow we can enjoy more of this light shining in our lives.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE SOURCE OF LIGHT

The Holy Spirit wants to bring the light into our lives. He wants to give us fullness of joy. Have you ever experienced your electricity going off and having to find a candle or the electrical switch box in the total darkness? It is interesting to see that under such conditions, we can stumble and bump into things even within our own homes. Life can be like living in a dark house. Even though we know the house, it can still be a bumpy experience. That is why we need God's light in our lives.

The Holy Spirit is the Person who wants to walk beside us and bring God's light into our situations.

John 8:12 *"I am the Light of the world. So if you follow Me, you won't be stumbling through the darkness, for living light will flood your path."*

EVER-BRIGHTENING LIGHT

We can enjoy the light of God in our lives, getting brighter and brighter.

Proverbs 4:18 *But the good man walks along in the ever-brightening light of God's favor; the dawn gives way to morning splendor.*

I was watching the sun as it came up one morning. The dawn was beautiful, but as the rays of the sun broke over the landscape, there was richness and a beauty that is difficult to describe. In the same way as we experience more of God's light in our lives, our beauty and value becomes more evident to others. It will be like sunshine in our souls. Something that we can enjoy and something that others will notice.

Matthew 6:22 *'If your eye is pure, there will be sunshine in your soul.'*

Matthew 6:22 *The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light. (NIV)*

Many of the things that contaminate our lives are things we have entertained in our minds. Let's work on keeping ourselves pure and uncontaminated, so that we can enjoy the light of God in our lives.

KEEPING OURSELVES PURE

When we get into things that are wrong we put things in the way of this light in our souls. But if we keep ourselves pure and endeavor to live clean lives we can enjoy this light.

LIGHT IN OUR HEARTS

'Our hearts' is an interesting concept. Our hearts represent the center of our being. I remember when we discovered my wife was pregnant. The first thing we did was to go to the Doctor. The Doctor performed a scan and showed us a tiny flickering dot. This was the heart of my daughter. The heart is one of the first things to develop and when the heart stops, we die. It is the most vital organ. It is right there in this most vital area that we need God's light. In the very center of our being.

Ephesians 5:8-10 *For though once your heart was full of darkness, now it is full of light from the Lord, and your behavior should show it! Because of this light within you, you should do only what is good and right and true. Learn as you go along what pleases the Lord.*

LIVING IN THE LIGHT

The effect of having the light of God in our lives should be visible. You can't hide a candle in a dark room.

Ephesians 5:8-9 *Live as children of light for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth (NIV)*

As a result of the light of God in our lives we should only do what is good and what is right and what is true. Our actions should consist of goodness, righteousness and truth. The fact that we have this 'sunshine in our souls' should be evident to all. We should live as children of light.

GOD'S LIGHT IS AVAILABLE TO US

God's light is available to each one of us.

John 3:19-21 *This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God.*

The fact of the matter is that light has come into the world. We can choose to live in this light.

John 1:4-5 *Eternal life is in Him, and this life gives light to all mankind. His life is the light that shines through the darkness.*

Job 22:28 *And the light of heaven will shine upon the road ahead of you.*

LET'S TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE LIGHT

God intended that we would be light bearers. People who carry His light into their areas of influence.

John 12:36 *Make use of the Light while there is still time; then you will become light bearers.*

What is this light? It is simple the presence of God in our lives.

1 John 1:7 *But if we are living in the light of God's presence, just as Christ does, then we have wonderful fellowship & joy with each other, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from every sin.*

Matthew 6:22 *If your eye is pure, there will be sunshine in your soul.*

THE REMARKABLE STORY OF *Svea Flood*

Dr Harold Sala (Used with permission
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*Other seed fell among thorns, which
grew up and choked the plants. Still
other seed fell on good soil, where it
produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or
thirty times what was sown.*

Matthew 13:7-8

Aggie Hurst knew she had Swedish parents who had given her to an American couple who raised her. When she went to her mailbox one day and found a Swedish magazine, she couldn't read the words; but one picture, however, caused her hands to perspire and her heart to race. It was a photo of a grave marked by a white cross and on the cross were words she did recognize—Svea Flood, the name of her mother.

Aggie jumped in her car and drove to the office of a friend who could read Swedish and asked, "What does this mean?" The story was about a missionary who had come to N'dolera, then part of the Belgian Congo in Africa. It was the story of an African boy who had grown up and built a school, leading the entire village to the Lord. It said more than 600 villages had been converted.

And how was Aggie connected to all of this? In his book *Fresh Power* Jim Cymbala tells the story, one of the most touching, profound dramas imaginable. It began in 1921 when a Swedish couple, David and Svea Flood, went to Africa, where they teamed up with another Scandinavian couple, the Ericksons, to reach a village for the Lord.



The pagan village chief, however, didn't cooperate. So the two couples were forced to build their tiny mud houses several kilometers away from the village. The only contact which the chief allowed was for a boy to visit them twice weekly selling them chickens and eggs. Svea Flood, however, focused her love and attention on this one boy and led him to Christ. One convert! Then tragedy struck.

Following a difficult pregnancy when she brought a baby girl into the world, she died of complications from childbirth. Jim Cymbala explains, "Inside David Flood, something snapped in that moment. He dug a crude grave, buried his twenty-seven-year-old wife, and then took his children back down the mountain to the mission station. Giving his newborn daughter to the Ericksons, he snarled, 'I'm going back to Sweden. I've lost my wife, and I obviously can't take care of this baby. God has ruined my life.'" (Jim Cymbala, *Fresh Power*, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, p.116).

For David, it was the end of the God-trip. He turned his back on God, eventually remarried and had more children, but had one rule in the house: "God is never to be spoken of." But God wasn't finished with him.

Here's the unbelievable chain of events. When the Ericksons both died of malaria, an American couple took the child, gave her an American name and brought her to the U.S. Aggie was that child.

After she read the article, she had a compulsion to go to Sweden and find her father. Walking into a filthy apartment, strewn with liquor bottles, Aggie approached a broken man lying in a dirty bed. "Papa?" she said. And he turned to her, crying, "I never meant to give you away!" Then the tears stopped and the old man turned towards the wall. Slowly Aggie recounted the story told by the magazine, that his wife, her mother, didn't die in vain, that the little boy who sold them chickens and eggs, grew up and became a powerful force for God, and that over 600 people in the village were now Christians.

The story doesn't end there. Today the man who was that same little boy is superintendent of the national church with well over 110,000 baptized believers.

When you grow weary in the battle and think that what you do doesn't count, that you are a failure, remember the true story of David Flood and his wife, Svea. God promised, "My word ...shall not return to Me void" (Isaiah 53:11, NKJV). The seed that was planted in the heart of one little boy resulted in a great harvest—one that David Flood couldn't see but one which God nurtured and brought to completion.

Scriptures

on

Finances

<https://christianpf.com/financial-scriptures/>

I asked some of the smartest Christian financial experts that I know two questions:

1. What Bible verse has impacted your finances the most?
2. And why?

I wanted to see what scriptures have had the biggest impact in their lives and give them an opportunity to share the reason as well. My prayer is that the assembling of these 29 financial scriptures is a blessing to you!

Richmond Howard

"I thank my God every time I remember you." Philippians 1:3

The most impactful verse for me has been Philippians 1:3, where Paul thanks the people for their partnership with him in the gospel. To me, this is the responsibility and great joy that all believers have—to partner with others so that the gospel would be sent out to the nations. This has been the biggest motivator for my wife and I to get our finances in order, to save diligently, so that we are able to give more freely. My goal at PF Geeks is to help people earn more, save more, and take control of their finances so that they can give generously to kingdom causes.

Sharita M. Humphrey

"The blessing of the Lord brings wealth, without painful toil for it." Proverbs 10:22

The reason Proverbs 10:22 has had such a positive impact on my life is because I've experienced in the past the sleepless nights worrying about my personal finances and how I would stay financially afloat. I had so much worry in my life trying to hold onto material possessions and trying to be everything to everybody. I realized that these things were only causing me ongoing stress and anxiety trying to keep up. Losing everything I owned years ago was a blessing because I realized that God's true blessings would not cause me so much sorrow to have. I started to do some reflecting and realized that what I thought was important really wasn't. All the material possessions would never make me happy, because there was so much inner work that I needed to do. I knew that I had to learn to trust God's words, that I had to become a better steward of my money and to learn that I can't take care of everyone. I have now completely changed the trajectory of my life and my financial future. There's true wealth and peace when you surrender your life to God. I'm now living a life that I never could have imagined. It's all because I decided to seek God first, to live on less and to spend with purpose.

Mary Hunt

"Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart." Psalm 37:4

(From Financial Experts)

Part 2

It was the turning point moment in my life—the day divided it into before and after. I'd spent every day of the first 12 years of our marriage running up horrible debt—the toxic unsecured kind. On that hot September day, I came to the end of myself. There was no more credit, both my husband and I were unemployed. No savings, no unemployment benefits, no hope. For the first time ever, I realized the problem was me, not my poor childhood, not that my husband didn't earn enough, not that I didn't get an inheritance or any other thing.

Up until that day, even though I'd grown up in a pastor's family and acquired a headful of biblical knowledge, I didn't really believe that God knew about my needs or cared about my wants. And I'd done a pretty lousy job of filling in for his lack of interest in those part of my life. Pathetic? Yes. But absolutely true. As I lay on the floor completely shattered—broken, all washed up—I poured out my heart to God. How can you forgive me? How can I go on? Bible verses I'd memorized as a kid washed over me with amazing clarity; verses on forgiveness and God's strength in my weakness; His sufficient grace. And the one that wrapped itself around me and made me understand that God does care is:

Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4

I hung onto that verse, and the others too, for dear life—and I have to this day. Here's what I have learned about Psalms 37:4. It's an "if then" proposition: IF I delight myself in the Lord, THEN he will give me the desires of my heart. Yes! It's true ... I can vouch for that.

For nearly 28 years now, I've been learning how to delight myself in the Lord. And you know what? He has given me the desires of my heart—and the more I delight myself in him, the more my desires change! What I desired on that turning point day is nothing close to what my desires are now. I know now and have proven with certainty that God knows about my needs—and has kept his promise to supply them, over and over and over again! But more than that, he cares about the desires of my heart. And I know he delights in giving them to me, his child, as well.

Scott Maderer

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:21

Because all too often I was putting my treasures into the things of the world and thus my focus and attention were there. It led to a constant feeling of discontent and frustration. Never being satisfied with anything I did. Instead I realized that I needed to put my treasures (and this was way more than just monetary ones) into things of God.

That my focus was on making myself look better rather than finding ways to glorify God through my choices and actions. And as long as that was the focus I would never have success. As I really took that verse to heart it led to me being driven by contentment. Both content with all I have been blessed with by God...and driven to share and grow my gifts and blessings SO that God's glory could be reflected through my choices and actions. The focus was different and everything changed for me both financially and emotionally.

Bill Miller

“For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.” Romans 8:14

The verse that has most challenged me is the one that says the sons of God are being Spirit led (Romans 8:14). Once we come to know Christ, we have a choice to make and we have to make it over and over again, daily, sometimes hourly: will I be Spirit-led or flesh-led as I go through life dealing with God's provision? Will I even be patient enough to consult with Him before I step out in my own strength to respond to some financial challenge of the moment? My financial problems have always come from flesh-led strategies I got myself into. Likewise, over the years we've spoken to tens of thousands of Christian clients with financial problems and ALL of them were also experiencing flesh-led problems. If you think about it, our finances are really important to us, and if we're not careful we will give them more importance than we do to the things of God. We will grow discontent easily when our expectations aren't satisfied. We will covet in others what we think we ought to have or trust in our money instead of God.

Steve Moore

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” Matthew 6:33

To be honest, I'm not sure what motivated me to memorize this 44 years ago. I was a new Christian trying to find God's will for my life and make the transition from professional musician into broadcasting. How hard could that be? It turned out to be very hard and unlikely to be sure, but God specializes in unlikely and surprising things. I knew nothing about broadcasting. I had no education or background in it...just an interest. And it would be twelve years before I met Larry Burkett and learned that the Bible had quite a bit to say about managing money, staying out of debt, living a balanced lifestyle, and...acquiring “things”. Larry Burkett was a tremendous employer, friend, and teacher. Being around a man with this kind of faith, who lived what he taught to the very end, was inspiring and humbling. He exemplified the command of Matthew 6:33. He always “sought first the Kingdom” and as God added “things” to his life, he did his best (not perfectly) to serve God and treat others “as more important than himself.” But his goal was always obedience and service...never the pursuit of “the things” themselves. Obviously, there are lots of things that we need to make it through life, such as a home, a job, food...but God has already promised to provide those things because they are “needs.” Often it's the “wants” that get too much of our time, attention, worry, and focus. But too much attention to the wrong things can lead to misplaced priorities, debt, and missing God's best. Seek ye first the Kingdom of God means knowing Him and His will for your life. It means understanding (as best we can) the purity, compassion, and grace of God, which leads to others seeing Him in our lives. And when we do that, all the things we really need will come along in the process.

Dan Murphy

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.” Philippians 2:3-5

I chose this because, in my relationship with Christ, He has taught me to be a humble servant. When you're managing people's life savings and their future prosperity, I think humbleness is key. That is why my business is structured the way it is. I donate 20% of my revenue, I charge clients less than many advisors and I provide advice that is as open & transparent as possible.

Robert Netzel

“So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” 1Corinthians 10:31

The burning passion and purpose of the Christian life is the glory of God, and nowhere is this truer than when it comes to money and investing. We glorify God when we invest His money in companies that are aligned with His values and operate as businesses of blessing toward their customers, communities, workforce and the world. We dishonor God when we invest His money in companies that violate His values and do harm with their products, services and business practices. This verse reminds us to carefully and joyfully consider how we can bring honor and glory to the name of Jesus in everything we do, including how we invest.

Crystal Paine

“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the Lord Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.” Malachi 3:10

“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” Luke 6:38
From the time we were first married and barely making it, we have committed to tithe 10% of our income. Even when we didn't feel like we had that 10% to tithe, we committed to give it in faith. And I am here to tell you that we have always had a roof over our head and food on the table. In fact, many times, we saw God stretch the 90% left far beyond what even made sense on paper!

As our income has increased, our heart is to be conduits and to live our lives with open hands. It feels like the more that we give, the more God opens up opportunities for us to give. And there is so much joy and fulfillment that comes from living your life with your arms outstretched!

Mark Parrett

“Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?” Luke 16:10-12

According to this, God gave you resources to invest because you need to prove out some mettle with something as eternally vapid as money in order to be shown trustworthy with... I dunno... MEN'S SOULS (aka true riches). If this is the case, then money is put into our charge in order to be deployed for the advancing of the Kingdom. The idea that we could please the Father by kicking back a few bucks His way is offensive, at best. Now how does this impact spending and giving? It adds virtually infinite freedom and accountability to our money. Whereas the owner gives out of his pile and uses the remainder for whatever he wants, with no accountability to anyone but himself, the steward is a manager for the King's assets. So the fact that you saw it as the best use for 10% of these assets to go into the giving bucket has zero implications for what you think the best use of the next 50% of these assets should be. You'll be held accountable for all of it – because you don't own any of it. It could all go into the giving bucket. Or not.

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THE *Secret* THINGS

By: Andrew Roebert

There are many things that we do not understand. There are many times that we may ask the question 'why'. As Christians there are things that baffle or perplex us. There are things that are meant for us to know and understand and there are those things that should be left to God. There are things that cannot be fully understood by human reason. Things that are hidden and kept from our view. When we begin to grasp how great God is and leave the hidden or unsearchable things to Him, we can enjoy those things that He has made clear to us.

THE MYSTERY

God is divine and we are human. As such there are aspects to God that we will never understand or grasp. God sees things from a different perspective and He is not limited to human understanding.

Isaiah 55:8-9 For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.

God lives in an eternal time frame and we live in a temporary, momentary time frame. Our minds cannot fathom every aspect of God.

THE HUMAN NEED FOR EXPLANATION

Human beings have an insatiable desire for knowledge and explanation. The human mind says that there has got to be a rational explanation for everything.

Job 5:9 He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed.

I have heard people say that there must be a scientific explanation for everything. We live in a realm of cause and effect, so we constantly want to know and understand. This is a quality that God has placed within us. But when it comes to God there are things that are beyond our understanding and grasp.

SOME THINGS WE WILL NEVER UNDERSTAND

In the course of life I have discovered that there are many things I cannot understand and explain. This is especially true when we look at the things of God. Some things are so clear and other things seem so unexplainable. There are things that God has not made clear. We have got to come to terms with this fact.

Deuteronomy 29:29 There are secrets the Lord your God has not revealed to us.

As I was growing up I had many questions that my father could not give satisfactory answers to. There were things that I wanted explanations for that could not be explained to my satisfaction. Until one day my father explained to me about the secret things of God. Today I have peace with the fact that there are certain things that I will never understand and grasp from my human perspective. Things that I have to just place in God's hands and leave there

THE HIDDEN THINGS

There are things that are kept from our knowledge, understanding or view. Things that we just cannot see. These are what I call HIDDEN THINGS.

Daniel 2:22 He reveals profound mysteries beyond man's understanding. He knows all hidden things, for He is light, and darkness is no obstacle to Him.

There are things that are actually hidden from us. Things that God has not intended for us to know or understand.

Acts 1:6-7 And another time when he appeared to them, they asked him, "Lord, are you going to free Israel from Rome now and restore us as an independent nation?" "The Father sets those dates," he replied, "and they are not for you to know. (Living)

Some things are just not for us to know, they are the hidden things.

THINGS THAT HAVE BEEN REVEALED

This is the real joy. God has reveal so much to us. God has made so much available to us. We can take the things that He has revealed and make them our own.

Deuteronomy 29:29 The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may follow all the words of this law. (NIV)

We are directed and encouraged diligently to enquire into that which God has made known: things revealed belong to us and to our children. This is the exciting part and the part we should focus on.

GOD'S DECISIONS

God is sovereign. God makes His decision'S and they are His decisions. We will not always understand or be able to see God's hand in things as we look at things from our human understanding and perspective.

Romans 11:33 Oh, what a wonderful God we have! How great are His wisdom and knowledge and riches! How impossible it is for us to understand His decisions and his methods! (Living)

Romans 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable His judgments, and His paths beyond tracing out! (NIV)

We may try to trace out God's paths, but some we will never discover.

SOME THINGS WE CAN ASK GOD TO EXPLAIN

There are things that God meant for us to understand. Things that He has revealed to us.

Deuteronomy 29:29 "There are secrets the Lord your God has not revealed to us, but these words that he has revealed are for us and our children to obey forever. (Living)

Then there are things that God wants to reveal to us. This is where the aspect of revelation comes in. These are things for us to discover and see, perhaps for the first time.

Jeremiah 33:3 'Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.'

And then there are things that will remain unanswered.

GOD IS GREAT

There is so much about God that we will never understand from our human understanding. You may well have questions streaming through your mind right now. God, in His greatness has left some things hidden and others remain as mysteries.

Psalms 145:3 Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; His greatness no one can fathom.

Isaiah 40:28 Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no one can fathom.

THE ALTERNATIVE

Acts 1:6-8 So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

When the Holy Spirit comes to live within us we have an alternative. The Holy Spirit wants to make Jesus real to us. The Holy Spirit wants to make the presence of God a reality in our lives. If God's presence can be a reality in our lives, we will understand just how awesome God is and we will understand how that we will not grasp the dimensions of God. Because God is real to us we will be able to understand that some things are hidden, some things will remain mysteries and some things have been revealed to us. The presence of God in our lives can bring meaning to those things that we will never understand.

THE Wonders OF GOD

By: Andrew Roebert

God is a GREAT GOD! He is the creator of the universe, yet He is interested in us and cares for us. He is a great God because He desires that we would be reconnected with Him. He offers us eternal life so that we can spend all eternity with Him. Yet He is intimately aware of our very hopes and fears. He cares for us and He watches us. He loves and extends His grace to us. We truly serve a wonderful God. For these reasons, He does not tolerate it when we place other things before Him. We want to look at THE WONDER OF GOD!

NO ONE COMPARES TO GOD!

In all of God's greatness, there is nothing and no-one that can compare to Him. He is the beginning and the end of all things. Nothing that life has to offer can compare to Him. He is glorious and full of wonder. As the old hymn writer wrote: 'The things of the earth grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace!' There is nothing that you can compare God too. He is greater than the greatest human or the greatest human achievement. He is surer than the highest mountain. He is greater than our greatest understanding of how big the universe is. We always want to reduce God to manageable terms that we can understand and comprehend.

Job 36:26 'How great is God—beyond our understanding!'

Never reduce God to the 'box size' that suits you. Here is the definition of the word great from the dictionary: 'notably large in size, large in number or measure, remarkable in magnitude or effectiveness!' And yet He is much greater than this. No one compares to our God! He is exceeding great and He is exceeding mighty! We use human language and words to describe Him, but they remain human words of limitation, but it is the best we can do to describe One for whom no words can begin to describe.

HE WAS AND HE IS AND HE ALWAYS WILL BE!

We live in a world where everything was created. We are obsessed with origins and how it all started. We are created beings. We are constantly led to believe that everything came from something else. When Moses met with God at the burning bush, he discovered the truth about God:

Exodus 3:14 And God said to Moses, I AM WHO I AM and WHAT I AM, and I WILL BE WHAT I WILL BE; and He said, You shall say this to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you!

We live in a world of the temporary and the transient. We were created, GOD IS! Our minds cannot even comprehend this concept of God. We think in momentary and temporary terms. God is eternal and everlasting. We cannot grasp this concept. For us, everlasting means long-lasting. He is not long-lasting, He is ever-lasting (eternal), and there is a great difference. He was and He is and He always will be!

Psalms 46:10 Be still, and know (recognize and understand) that I am God!

GOD IS INFINITE!

God knows no end. He is immeasurable and inconceivable and He knows no limitation. We are limited in every way; God is limitless in every way. Our lives are dictated by a beginning and an end. There is no end to God. Everything about our lives is limited. We create measurement to help us understand limits. We create time measurement to help us manage and measure the limits of time. We understand everything in terms of time and distance. God knows no time or distance. How does a limited mind grasp the unlimited?

Romans 11:33

'Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unfathomable (inscrutable, unsearchable) are His judgments (His decisions)! And how untraceable (mysterious, undiscoverable) are His ways (His methods, His paths)!'

GOD IS SELF-SUFFICIENT!

To be self-sufficient means to be able to maintain oneself without outside aid. Everything comes from God and He does not lack anything. There is no limitation or lack in God. We are not self-sufficient, we depend on many things for our existence. We need air to breathe, we need food to live, and we need light to see. God, on the other hand needs none of these things. The Bible tells us that He is light. In a very real sense we need 1000's of things to work perfectly, in order for us to have just one normal day. We are highly dependant and far removed from being self-sufficient. Perhaps one of the hardest things for us humans to understand is the fact that God does not need our help. The truth is we need His help and the wonder of it all is that He chooses to use us! AW Tozer said the following: 'Let Him be the God in our minds that He is in His universe!' We cannot trust in ourselves, because we are flawed and weak, He is strong and He is flawless. We need God! That is the basic human problem and until we discover this we walk in deception – we are deceived!

As a child I wanted to know what the highest number was. I wanted to understand the limits. I asked many people what the highest number was and one someone gave me the right answer. They said there was no highest number, because no matter how great the number, 1 could always be added to it. The same is true of God, there is no limit, and more can still be added! Infinite does not mean a lot or a great deal, it means unlimited and endless! EXAMPLE: We may think that 'the opportunities are endless', when we mean there are lots of opportunities, when in fact with God they are endless! We speak of 'unlimited wealth' when wealth can be measured and this makes it limited. Measurement describes limitations. God cannot be measured – He is limitless. Yet, how often we limit God!

WHAT IS *The Key to hearing* GOD'S VOICE?

GotQuestions.org

Most people want to hear God's voice when they are facing a decision. If only God would speak to them and tell them which choice to make or which direction to embark upon. Many people will claim to have heard God's voice, saying "God led me to do this," when in fact it was simply their own thoughts and desires that led them in a particular direction.

The primary way that God speaks to us today is through His revealed, written Word. When we want to hear God's voice, the Bible is where we should look. Most of the will of God for our lives is already fully revealed in its pages, and it is simply a matter of our obedience to it. All of Scripture is the will of God, but there are a few places in Scripture that specifically use the term will of God, which may be especially interesting to a person who wants to hear God's voice:

1 Thessalonians 5:18: "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

1 Thessalonians 4:3: "It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality."

1 Peter 2:12–15: "Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people."

Other passages also let us hear God's voice, even if they don't use the phrase the will of God. But, just taking the three above passages, we know that a Christian should always give thanks in every circumstance, avoid sexual immorality, and live an exemplary life. If a Christian does not follow these clear dictates given directly by God through inspired Scripture, why should he or she expect to hear more information from God? If you want further direction from God, obey what He has already told you. A heart willing to listen and obey is the key to hearing from God.

The primary way that a Christian hears God's voice is through reading and studying Scripture and then obeying and applying what the Scripture says. People often rely upon "the leading of the Holy Spirit," which is spoken of in Romans 8:14. In context, the passage speaks of the Spirit's leading us away from sinful activity and into a confidence in our relationship with God as Father. The Holy Spirit will never lead contrary to Scripture. If a person is considering having an affair, the Spirit will only lead in one direction—toward marital fidelity. The Spirit might very well bring a verse like 1 Thessalonians 4:3 to mind for the person being tempted.





When the Spirit leads, He is not imparting “new” information as much as He is impressing on our hearts the truth God has already revealed in Scripture and applying it to our situation. If a person says, “God told me” or “The Spirit led me to do such and such,” and the action taken is contrary to Scripture, we can be sure the person is mistaken.

We can also hear God’s voice as God speaks through other people. “Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed” (Proverbs 15:22). Good counselors or advisers can help us see a situation with new eyes. Again, the Bible is key. Biblical preaching and biblically sound Christian material can be put in the “advisers” category. The Word of God is the control. If a bunch of counselors advise a person to do something contrary to Scripture, then they are all wrong, no matter what their credentials; however, if the advisers help an individual understand and apply Scripture, then they can be helpful. Godly advisers can often see areas that an individual is blind to. A group of advisers may discern that the person seeking to hear God’s voice concerning a particular plan is in reality seeking approval of his own personal agenda.

Another way to hear God’s voice is to pray and ask for wisdom: “If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you” (James 1:5). When a Christian is facing difficult circumstances and needs to hear from God, the Christian should ask for the wisdom that God promises to give. This wisdom will ultimately come from God, but it may come through the word of a friend; through a sermon, article, or book; or from the inner prompting of the Holy Spirit. Once again, the written Word of God is the standard by which all thoughts, actions, ideas, and feelings must be judged.

In this day of self-proclaimed prophets and the promotion of “new revelations” from God, people often mistake the voice of God for their own thoughts or the suggestions of other people. If you are hearing God’s voice, then the message will always be in accord with Scripture. We should all take great care not to misrepresent God. Instead of saying, “God told me this,” a better approach would be to say, “I think God may be saying this—what do you think?”

People often want to hear a specific word from God when He has already spoken in a general sense. For instance, a person may be deliberating the choice of whether to take the family on a short-term mission trip or on a vacation to the beach. Perhaps a specific word from God is unnecessary. What is really called for is wisdom. Which trip will most benefit the family? Which trip will most benefit the kingdom of God? The family will benefit by building the kingdom. The kingdom will benefit from a strong family. Either one could be a good choice. Other factors such as expense and the current state of the family should be considered. (Are the kids selfish and entitled so they need to see how other people live? Has the family been under a lot of stress and needs to get away and relax? Are the costs comparable? If not, which can they afford?) If they go to the beach, they look for opportunities to share their faith and be an encouragement to other believers. If they go on the mission trip, they look for ways to build bonds with each other and enjoy themselves as a family. Both options are good. Neither is inherently sinful. In the end, the husband and wife come to some agreement and throw themselves into it wholeheartedly, trusting that, if the decision is wrong, God will somehow make it clear to them that they should do something different. How will He do this? Probably not through an audible voice but through a combination of circumstances, advice from other people, evaluation of their priorities based on God’s Word, and a lack of inner peace from the Holy Spirit.

I HAVE A *Light*

By: Andrew Roebert

It is wonderful to know and experience 'light' in our lives. Often times we are surrounded by so much darkness. God offers us an alternative way to live. He offers us His light in our lives. As a result we do not need to stumble around, but we can walk with confidence because we have the light in our lives.

I HAVE A LIGHT

Light is a fundamental component of life. Light is necessary for all living things. The very first thing that God created was light. The very first instruction from God, recorded for us in the Bible is the instruction: 'let there be light'.

Genesis 1:3 Then God said, "Let there be light."

This is the first recorded thing that we know God said. God understood how important light would be. You and I can know His light in our lives and be a source of light, in return, for others.

THE LORD IS MY LIGHT

Jesus told us that He was the 'Light of the world'.

John 8:12 Jesus said to the people, "I am the Light of the world."

John 9:5 I am the light of the world.

If we want God's light in our lives we need Jesus to become our light. When this happens there is a reward.

John 8:12 Jesus said to the people, "I am the Light of the world. So if you follow Me, you won't be stumbling through the darkness, for living light will flood your path."

If we are endeavoring to follow Jesus, we can walk in living light!

Psalm 27:1 The LORD is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear?

MAKING DARKNESS BRIGHT

When God's light becomes a reality in our lives, things begin to change. We all experience dark times or go through seasons of difficulty or darkness.

God wants to step into all of this and transform the darkness into light. If we will allow God into our lives He will make the transformation.

2 Samuel 22:29 O Lord, You are my light! You make my darkness bright.

Psalm 18:28 You, O LORD, keep my lamp burning; my God turns my darkness into light.

Perhaps today you are facing some form of darkness. Give it to God and ask Him to change the darkness into light.



It says 'WHEN' I sit in darkness and not 'IF' I sit in darkness. Darkness may come but God wants to be our light in those times.

LIGHT ILLUMINATES

One of the great qualities of light is that it illuminates things. When the light comes on we can see clearly. Light also reveals value. When we look at a diamond in light we see its wonder and beauty. At the same time light also exposes things. When we look at a diamond in the light we can detect any flaws within it. God's light has the same effect in our lives. Light also shows us direction. God wants to lead and direct us with His light.

Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

CARRIERS OF THE LIGHT

As a result of knowing and experiencing God's light in our lives we can be a source of light to others. We need to take advantage of the light that God is offering is so that we in turn can become a source of light to others.

John 12:36 Make use of the Light while there is still time; then you will become light bearers.

Jesus came to earth to bring light to a world that had become full of darkness.

John 12:46 I have come as a Light to shine in this dark world, so that all who put their trust in Me will no longer wander in the darkness.

Today, you and I can reflect this same light into the sphere of our lives and in the process other people will be able to see the light.

THE LIGHT OF GOD'S PRESENCE

How can we live in this light? Firstly, we need to accept Jesus – the source of life into our lives. Secondly, we need to pursue and enjoy God's presence in our lives. In this way we will be able to have a lifestyle of 'walking in the light'.

Psalm 89:15 Blessed are those, who walk in the light of your presence, O LORD.

Notice that those who do this are blessed.

Isaiah 2:5 let us walk in the light of the Lord.

A PROMISE

I pray that you will discover the joy of knowing that you have a light and that this light can change what you may be going through. Perhaps today you are facing some form of darkness. When we face these times it can be very difficult. But I have a promise for you today!

Micah 7:9 God will bring me out of my darkness into the light, and I will see His goodness.

Claim this for yourself and let's begin to believe God for His light in every aspect of our lives!

SHINING FROM THE INSIDE

If we know the light of God in our lives it is as if a light goes on within us and we can shine from the inside. God wants to step into the lives of those who have become discouraged and disheartened and He wants to turn their light on.

Psalm 18:28 You have turned on my light! The Lord my God has made my darkness turn to light. (Living Bible)

Notice this next verse:

Micah 7:8 When I sit in darkness, the Lord Himself will be my Light.

LET ME TELL YOU *About God*

By: Andrew Roebert

Do you desire to know and understand more about God? I have always longed to know more and to get to know Him better. Ever since I was a child I would enquire of my parents in order to find out more about God. As I have walked this road my love for God has grown and today I love Him more than ever and my longing for more of Him has simply increased. Let's look at this subject and at the same time let's believe that as a result we will love Him even more.

WE WILL NEVER FULLY UNDERSTAND GOD

In our quest to know more about God we must always remember that we will never fully grasp or understand someone so wonderful and great.

Romans 11:33 Oh, what a wonderful God we have! How great are His wisdom and knowledge and riches! How impossible it is for us to understand His decisions and His methods!

Isaiah 55:8-9 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts".

God sees things from a totally different perspective. He is all-powerful, all-knowing and although we may begin to understand we will always just be beginning.

HE IS ALL-POWERFUL

God is also the source of all power.

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth.

Daniel 2:20-22 Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for He alone has all wisdom and all power. World events are under His control. He removes kings and sets others on their thrones. He gives wise men their wisdom and scholars their intelligence. He reveals profound mysteries beyond man's understanding. He knows all hidden things, for He is light, and darkness is no obstacle to Him.



It is for this very reason that we must not limit God. Nothing takes God by surprise and nothing is beyond His reach.

HE IS THE SOURCE OF LIFE

Jesus told us that He was the life.

John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me".

Our source of life comes from God.

Acts 17:25 He Himself gives life and breath to everything, and satisfies every need there is.

We used to sing a song years ago with the following words: 'I've got the life of God in me'. Our life comes from Him and He is our source.

GOD IS SPIRIT

The Bible tells us that God is spirit.

John 4:24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.

John 1:18 No one has ever actually seen God, but, of course, His only Son has.

John 3:6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

In this very way the spirit of God can bring life to our spirits.

GOD WANTS TO BE A PERSONAL GOD TO EACH ONE OF US

Throughout the Bible we see how God spoke to people. God spoke to Adam in the Garden of Eden. God revealed Himself to Noah.

Genesis 6:13 So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people".

God was in relationship with Abraham.

Genesis 12:1-3 God had told Abram, "Leave your own country behind you, and your own people, and go to the land I will guide you to. If you do, I will cause you to become the father of a great nation; I will bless you and make your name famous, and you will be a blessing to many others. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you; and the entire world will be blessed because of you."

God was a friend to Moses.

Exodus 33:11 The LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks with his friend.

God wants to make His home with you and me.

John 14:23 Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey My teaching. My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him."

We can all have a relationship with God.

1 John 1:3 And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

GOD LOVES YOU

This is one thing that we can be sure of.

Jeremiah 31:3 I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness.

God loved us so much that He sent His son to die for us so that we could enjoy the gift of eternal life.

John 3:16 For God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son so that anyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

God's love is something that we were meant to feel, experience and enjoy.

Romans 5:5 for we know how dearly God loves us, and we feel this warm love everywhere within us because God has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with His love.

GOD IS A GREAT GOD

He is so great that no one can compare to Him.

Isaiah 40:18 How can we describe God? With what can we compare Him?

He is the God Who knows no limits. We may limit God but He is not limited.

1 Kings 8:27 Even the skies and the highest heavens cannot contain You.

Psalms 139:1-5 O Lord, You have examined my heart and know everything about me. You know when I sit or stand. When far away you know my every thought. You chart the path ahead of me and tell me where to stop and rest. Every moment You know where I am. You know what I am going to say before I even say it. You both precede and follow me and place Your hand of blessing on my head.

We have a great big wonderful God who loves us!

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