

**(For Monday, June 12, 2017) Is it time to go home?**

*“Then [when you return to him] the Lord your God will restore your fortunes and have compassion on you, and he will gather you again from all the peoples where the Lord your God has scattered you.”* (Deut.30:4, ESV)

One of the sobering things about this verse is the realization that The Lord himself scatters his people from time to time. This means He actually places us in the position of the Prodigal Son. Now why would he do that? Apparently, it is so that we can actually come home in a Spiritual sense. All of the Redeemed will “go home” someday to be with Our Lord. But just as the Holy Spirit is a foretaste of that heavenly dwelling, it would seem that in this earthly life, God provides moments of challenge for each of us so that we can “come to our senses,” (See Lk.15:17) and return home, thus experiencing the ecstasy of returning to the presence of God.

Are you in a place where you need to change direction and head toward home?

(Rev. James Barnhill blogs at [www.1thes511.net](http://www.1thes511.net))

**(For Tuesday, June 13, 2017) What’s your relative position?**

*“From the end of the earth I call to you when my heart is faint. Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.”* (Ps.61:2, ESV)

The further I go in my walk with The Lord, the more I realize how inversely proportional is our relationship. It was John the Baptist who proclaimed about Jesus, “He must increase, but I must decrease” (Jn.3:30), but he was really speaking for all of us. As long as a person remains confidently positioned on the throne of his/her own life, The Lord can never really take-over and lead that person to streams of living water and restore their soul. It is only when we come to a place of humbling, which is the clear admission that we are not in control of things – when we truly realize that we need a refuge that is so much higher than what we can create by ourselves – only then can God truly become our place of peace and safety.

So, are you still standing tall on your own, or are you willing to sit humbly at the feet of Jesus and let him take the point-position in your journey through this life?

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**(For Wednesday, June 14, 2017) Is God taking the ‘Do Not Disturb’ sign off your doorway?**

*“And apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on my of my anxiety for all the churches.”* (2Cor.11:28, ESV)

The striking thing about this verse is the admission by Paul that he suffers regular anxiety about someone. The Redeemed are promised the peace of Jesus which passes all understanding (Jn.14:27) . But there are times even in the life of those who are walking daily with The Lord when we suffer great anxiety about one thing or another. Surely, Jesus teaches us not to worry about the physical needs of this life (Mt.6:25) , but that seems to be different from the anxiousness that we feel on occasion when God lays something on our heart that needs addressing in order that his name might be glorified.

Has God called you to a moment of anxiousness recently? Could He be drawing your attention to something in your own life or in one you love that needs to be changed?

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**(For Thursday, June 15, 2017) Are you being called to do something really big for God?**

*“And as they were untying the colt, the owner said to them, ‘Why are you untying the colt?’ And they said, ‘The Lord has need of it.’” (Lk.19:33-34, ESV)*

This passage has always struck me with amazing power. It’s both an astonishing example of faithfulness even in the face of unreasonable requests, as well as a demonstration of how even the smallest earthly action can have immense results in God’s Kingdom. The Disciples were instructed by Jesus to do something that made no earthly sense, when he told them to go and ‘borrow’ that colt. But they obeyed anyway. And in simply raising that horse, the colt’s owner was certainly not doing anything out of the ordinary in his world. Yet nothing else that person ever did would mean anything near as much as providing for Our Lord the means of his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, fulfilling the key Messianic Prophecy of Zechariah 9:9.

So, what small act of faith will The Lord call you to do in these days that will end up making the Angels in heaven rejoice?

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**(For Friday, June 16, 2017) Are you witnessing with full authority?**

*“And he was teaching daily in the temple. The chief priests and the scribes and the principal men of the people were seeking to destroy him, but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people were hanging on his words.” (Lk.19:47-48, ESV)*

The power in the words of Jesus come to the forefront of the Salvation account in these verses. Yet, since Jesus has delegated his authority to the faithful in the Great Commission and through the coming of the Holy Spirit, it would seem that you and I also share in this “spell-binding” ability wrapped up in speaking the eternal truths of God’s Word. When a Christian man or woman is willing to live their life as a witness to this truth, and then to faithfully proclaim that truth, even in the face of great challenge and adversity, the power which resides in that witness and speech is truly staggering.

Are you living your life and speaking your mind and heart with the full authority which has been given to you?

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