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Home of The Spiritual Sword Lectureship

Radio Program The Truth in Love WHBQ-AM 560 / FM 98.5 Sundays, 8:00 a.m.

SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY ACTIVITY

SUNDAY

Bible Study	.9:30	a.m.
Worship		
Worship	.5:00	p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study......7:00 p.m.

Volume LXIII

April 24, 2022

Number 17

ON THE HOME FRONT

At this writing it is 176 days until the Spiritual Sword Lectureship begins. The theme is Powerful Passages of the Pentateuch. But a more important date to the director of the lectureship, Bradley Smith, is May 13th, 18 days from now is his wedding day. The wedding will be held in Murray, KY. We wish Lauren and Bradley best wishes.

Today we heard three outstanding lessons presented by Michael Wyatt. The Bible class looked at the book of I Kings. The Sunday morning sermon examined "Forgiveness." The evening sermon was on "Forgiveness and Acquittal"

Until next week.

Ron Wallace

How To Thank God When His Answer To You Is NO!

What do Moses, Ahab, Balaam, and the disobedient prophet all have in common? They all failed to understand that when God says no, He means it! And, it could be one of His greatest blessings offered—and it should be graciously received! Unfortunately we live in a me-centered, got to have it right now" world and miss the blessing of what may be behind God's response to our overtures. Let's take a closer look at this notion...

Mankind has a tendency to put the Sovereign God, Lord of all creation, in a fragile, make-believe' box that can restrain, placate, pacify, and limit Him until we are ready for Him to do our bidding! How foolish and misinformed we are! The truth of the matter is that we have failed miserably to acknowledge and embrace the reality of the omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient, omni-benevolent, all-wise sovereign God who holds all power in His hands! And by the way, our sovereign God is **not** Santa Claus nor is a cosmic grandfather looking to perpetually shower gifts on undeserving, spoiled mankind.

The fascinating accounts associated with these Bible characters reveal the true nature of God and how He addresses issues/concerns in the hearts of men. Does God know when and how to give "good gifts" to His children? Indeed He does! And by the same token, when He says no does He mean it? You bet He does! In light of the reading and working aspect of this edition, I am not going to provide you with the Biblical citations associated with the aforementioned Bible characters . . . I will leave that up to you. But what I want to leave you with are some lessons we can glean from Jehovah when He blesses us with a no response to our prayers:

Be thankful for having spiritual ears to hear!
Be thankful you are not smart as God! (If you think you are, ask Job . . .)
Be thankful you don't always get what you ask for when you ask for it!
Be thankful for God's patience, long suffering, grace, and mercy!

There are some great spiritual nuggets in these passages. I hope and pray you will make the time to dig them out! I want to close this short treatise by reflecting upon an intense conversation I had with a brilliant student when I served as Dean of Students at Lipscomb University. This student was altogether heart-broken and frustrated that he had not been accepted into medical school in Memphis. I vividly recall the anger, bewilderment, and "why me" mentality that presented during that conversation. I don't remember a lot of what I shared during the interaction but I do recall asking this brilliant young man what if God had something better for him than being a medical doctor? Would he give thanks for that? If you were to fast-forward to 2022 and look at what God has done in this man's life, you would clearly see why God said NO at that time! The numbers of people who have become Christians ... the numbers of people who have rededicated their lives to Jesus ... the numbers of people who will be in Heaven because of this man's ability to make the greatest lemonade ever ---from the disappointing lemon of not going to medical school. And to let you knowhow awesome God is --- He still allowed His manservant to earn a Doctorate in Philosophy. And if you were to ask this man if he is grateful that God said no to him those many years ago ... I know what he would say!

Never forget, our heavenly Father knows what's best for us. Let's live that way and trust him implicitly ---- and especially when he says no!

To God be the glory!

Dr. Bill Davis, Think Magazine March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 II Chron. 1-3	2 II Chron. 4-6	3 II Chron. 7-9	4 II Chron.10-12	5 II Chron.13-15	6 II Chron.16-18	7 II Chron.19-21
8 II Chron.22-24 Slappy Mether's Day	9 II Chron.25-28	10 II Chron. 29-31	11 II Chron. 32-34	12 II Chron. 35-36	13 Ezra 1-4	14 Ezra 5-7
15 Ezra 8-10	16 Neh. 1-4	17 Neh. 5-7	18 Neh. 8-11	19 Neh. 12 - Esther 2	20 Esther 3-6	21 Esther 7-10
22 Job 1-4	23 Job 5-8 *Jennifer Kundeti	24 Job 9-10	25 Job 11-14	26 Job 15-18	27 Јов 19-21	28 Job 22-25
29 Job 26-28	30 Job 29-31 *Stanley Wallace OFFICE CLOSED memorial DAY	31 Job 32-34				*BIRTHDAY **ANNIVERSARY If your birthday or anniversary is not recognized on our calendar, we do not have it on file. Please call the church