



The Lord's Mountain Mover's **NEWSLETTER**

"If you have the faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you."
(Matt. 17:20)

May 2015

Issue 0019

A SWEET SAVOUR OR A STRONG STENCH?

"And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. And the LORD smelled a sweet savour..." (Gen. 8:20-21) KJV

This post-deluge offering by Noah is the first sacrifice noted since Cain and Abel had made their offerings to God. It is also the first time that God is noted as being pleased with man's sacrifice by it being called a "sweet savour." It was a good offering made in its fullness, "*every clean beast, and of every clean fowl.*" Nothing unclean and nothing left out.

Noah and his family had just experienced God's mercy by living through the flood. His response, whether God driven or not, was to express his gratitude for what God had done. Since the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior the animal sacrificial system has been done away with and replaced with a personal sacrifice of the heart, mind and soul of those who also have received God's mercy.

In Roman's 12:1 the Apostle Paul reminds us that our lives are to be a sacrifice pleasing to God, "*Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.*" Our lives are to be a continual sacrifice toward God in everything we think, say, and do. We should live out this attitude with a right heart towards God, others, and in what we do.

Jesus encountered a situation that dealt with the service of a wrong heart in the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. "*Now as they were traveling along, He entered a village; and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home. She had a sister called Mary, who was seated at the Lord's feet, listening to His word. But Martha was distracted with all her preparations; and she came up to Him and said, 'Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to do all the serving alone? Then tell her to help me.'* But the Lord answered and said to her, "*Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things; but only one thing is necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her.*"

Martha was busy doing things she felt the Lord needed and would be pleased with, but her heart was not right in her service. Her service was a burden to her and she was displeased with what her sister was doing, or not doing. Our service to the Lord should be a pleasure to Him and to ourselves. Remember God loves a cheerful giver! We should be God inspired, God directed, and God fulfilled in our service to Him, regardless of what others are busy doing. Let's choose the "good part" with a good heart. Let's make our offering to God a sweet savour and not a smelly stench. What are you feeling inside as you present your body as a living sacrifice? Is it acceptable to God?

In His service,
Pastor Pete

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THE WORD IN MOTION message

Lesson one dealt with the issue of forgiveness; lesson two dealt with the promise of life after death for those who know who Jesus is and that they are in need of a Savior; lesson three was about good works. This month we will move on to the fourth lesson that Jesus taught while hanging on the cross. That lesson is the intimate and personal consequences of our sin.

Lesson Four (Matthew 27:46)

“About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, ‘ELI, ELI, LAMA SABACHTHANI?’” that is, ‘MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?’

Jesus had been on the cross for about three hours when darkness came over all the land. It was about noon and the darkness would last for about three hours. It was at the end of the darkness, around the ninth hour, that Jesus cried out, *“Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”*

What was Jesus feeling that made Him cry out like this? I believe He was experiencing something that He had never encountered before. I believe that it was at this point where the sin of the world was laid upon Him. For the first time in His life He was experiencing the loss of fellowship with His Father, our Father. Sin had the same effect on Him in that moment that it has had, and continues to have, on all of mankind. It severs our fellowship with God. Isaiah 59:2 says, *“But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.”*

King David also knew the effects of sin on his relationship with God. He knew that his sin was against God and that consequences were devastating. He felt it so deeply that he cried out to God and said, *“Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.”* (Psalm 51:11)

The longer and more intimately we know someone, the greater the despair or emptiness is when they are gone. Think of the person you miss the most in your life. Remember how much that person was a part of your life, all the things you shared, the time you spent together. The instant they were gone you felt the loss, there was a great void in your life. Despair replaced joy. You felt like the whole world came crashing down on you, like your very breath was gone. There was a cloud over your head, a darkness that you could not explain or understand. You tried to reach out, but they were gone. The question of how or why did not matter at that moment, all you knew was that they were gone!

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As time passed by, the pain decreased. You learned to live without them. No one ever filled that place in your heart that was left by that person. You learned to live with the loss, you went on with your life. The memories of that relationship eventually faded, you accepted the loss.

Jesus said He came to save the lost. Has the sinfulness in your life created the sense of being lost? Have you ever developed an intimate relationship with God to where you actually experience a separation in fellowship with Him when you sin, or even contemplate sinning? Or are you like the one lamb who wandered away from the ninety-nine? Standing all alone, so lost we don't even realize it? Did you ever notice that the lamb wasn't crying out, there was no bleating? It had wandered so far away from the shepherd that it did not even know that it was lost. The shepherd had to go and retrieve this poor lost lamb. Are you that lamb?

Has your sinfulness hardened your heart and made your relationship and fellowship with God nothing but a distant memory? Have you grown cold and callous to what was once the greatest friendship you ever had?

Let's remember that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ suffered the loss of fellowship with the Father on our behalf so that we would never have to experience it again. I pray that we may touch the pain He felt at that moment and cry out to the Father that His face may shine upon us once again with favor and grace. I pray that we strive to not only maintain our fellowship with God but that we also desire to know Him more and more. That the very thought of sinning causes us to hear that cry, "*Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?*"

Is Jesus' cry from the cross reminding you of the consequences of sin, is He calling you back to the fold? How are you responding?

In His service

Pastor Pete

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BE A BARNABAS (Acts 4:36)

Bitter or Better

Going through difficult times in our lives can affect our attitude and how we respond to others or in situations that occur. While incarcerated there is a common expression passed around within the Christian community. Jail/Prison can make you bitter or it can make you better. If you have heard this before, then maybe you need to be reminded. If you haven't heard it before, please be sure to pass it on to others, which will help you to remember it.

“See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled;” (Hebrews 12:25)

It's not just being stuck in jail or prison that can make you bitter; it's circumstances of each moment that can affect our attitude. Therefore, even as a free person, we will run into situations that need to be handled with the right attitude. Where ever we at, our attitude needs to be one of grace. How do we do this?

In Hebrews 10:19-25, the author reminds us of the gift of grace that has been given to us. We are called to draw near to God with a sincere heart, not having an evil conscience, exercising our faith; to remember our hope and the reason for it; to figure out ways to stimulate one another to love and good deeds; and finally to be encouraging.

It can be hard to keep the right attitude all the time. Situations arise, and our perception can give us programmed responses. The difference is what has been given to us, fellow believers. The grace of God that has taken away all our sin and made us clean in the eyes of our God. Remembering that God is working all things together for the good of those who love Him, shaping us and molding us into the image of Christ, our Model. That God would be glorified in everything. (Romans 8:28-30)

Having this attitude of grace should affect us in a way that is like a virus in the evil program of bitterness that defiles when shared with others. The world can be a bitter place; it's no wonder with all the sin that is around us. But we can pluck that root out one moment at a time by remembering Christ and putting on the right attitude leading us to the right kind of responses.

My prayer is that you and I would keep Christ in the forefront of our minds on a regular basis. Let's be the one who make hard times happen for the better and not for the bitter and let us also encourage others to do the same. Let's do this to glorify our God! Amen.

Be blessed in Him,

Brother Daniel Rodney

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Our Prayer Requests for God's Children

Greetings to all our brothers and sisters in Christ who receive our newsletter through the mail. Due to financial constraints we have to revise the way we do our prayer requests. Starting with this issue we will be posting and maintaining all prayers requested on the Internet so your brothers and sisters all over can continue to pray for your petitions and praise God for the ones He has already answered.

We are encouraged by the work that God has already done through so many people praying for the needs of those they do not even know. What a privilege we have to go before the throne of God with our requests and the requests of others. Let's keep praying and seeking His will for our lives and the lives of others. If you have a prayer request you would like added to next month's newsletter and/or posted on the ministry website, please fill out the form below and mail it to us. We look forward to hearing from you and standing in the gap as a prayer warrior.

April & May's Prayer List

R. WhiteThat the Lord will open doors for suitable housing upon his being paroled.

Alice S.....Chesapeake VA – prayer for personal issues.

Sheila.....Prayer for her health issues, finances, and God's direction for personal decisions.

Greg.....Praise report; God is in control, using me, and I am being blessed by Him. Woo Hoo!

Helen &
Hazel C.....Prayer for their dialysis treatments and recovery from health issues.

Kenny J.Requests prayer for steady employment.

Gabriel SHis mom, Rosie, his Uncle and brother who need prayer for recovery from health issues.

Stephen.....Prayer for change in career course.

JustinPraise report; finished EMT school and looking for work.

Joshua.....Continued prayer for personal issues.

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The C.U.R.E...Prayer for God's guidance and provision.

Greg FPrayer for answered prayer in his period of fasting.

J. JacksonNeeds prayer for his court appeal and his family members. Also for F. Cruz – that he will have God in his life.

BenjaminGuatemala, Praise report for Bibles that their church has received. Asking for prayer for his family, the church that they might finish the floor, the windows and doors.

Barbara MPray for her marriage and family

Jamie PFavor with the Parole Board and upcoming hearing.

Linda DContinued recovery from health issues

Rich HLiving situation and employment

Sandy (Bill A's
Sister)Pray for her continued recovery from health issues

Vance V's
SisterPray for her health, just found a lump on her liver

Robert BPray for God's direction and provision in his life.

Wes &
Ashley B.....Pray for the birth of a healthy baby boy.

George &
Amy.....Lift them both up in prayer

Todd S.....Prayer for his continued strength in putting his life in order.

TJ LPray for his health issues

Bob P.....Needs prayer, was just diagnosed with stage two and four cancer in lymphatic system

Brian D.....Needs prayer for recovery from surgery

Joanne R.....Her and the rest of the family need your prayers as they continue to deal with the loss of a child to cancer.

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Sue C.....Prayer for the elderly man she is taking care of and her own physical and financial issues.

Jose

Rodriguez.....Pray for his ex-wife as she deals with an abusive relationship. Also prayer for his parents (dad's recovery from surgery and mom's health issues)

Larry K.....Asks for prayer for Lisa and her daughter. They need your prayer for God in their lives and peace in their home. He also has a praise report that God is setting the church in order where he is at and that the spirit is moving in the hearts of fellow believers.

Sebastian M....Asks for your prayers for his two adult children who need the Lord in their lives.

Pray forFamily and friends of those who were killed or injured in the Nepal earthquake.

Pray for.....Christians who are facing the loss of their lives for their faith in Jesus Christ.

Cliff S.....Prayer for his upcoming eye surgeries.

Darrell R.....Prayer for his health and life issues.

G. GortonPrayer for housing and work upon his release.

Pastor Gray.....Pray that the Lord will continue to guide and strengthen him as he brings the light of the gospel to those who are still trapped in darkness of sin and false gospels. Prayer for all those who are following inn his faithful footsteps.

Thomas M.....Pray for his upcoming review by the board and release back where he belongs. Also pray for his dear friend George that his health holds up.

Sebastian M....Prayer for his continual growth in Christ. Prayer for his children's salvation and wellbeing.

The Lord's Mountain Movers - Prayer request

Person requesting prayer _____

Pray for: _____

Nature of request: _____

Place request on Ministry website Yes No

Place request in Newsletter Yes No

(Use back of request if necessary. You can also use blank paper)

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