

# Wednesday Word of the Week

## Perfection

April 15, 2015

Origin: Middle English (in the sense 'completeness'): via Old French from Latin perfectio(n-), from perficere 'to complete' (see perfect).

### Definitions:

\*The condition, state, or quality of being free or as free as possible from all flaws or defects

\*A person or thing perceived as the embodiment of perfection

\*The action or process of improving something until it is faultless or as faultless as possible

I always like to share my thought process and communication with the Lord in receiving these words. I believe it helps everyone to get closer to the Lord by showing He has a plan. It also helps me to remain humble in showing my vulnerability (which, if I am honest with myself and the Lord, I could use a lot more of). Today's word is no different.

When I received this word I was not fully thrilled about it. The reason being that when I receive these words it is usually for me to process for my walk as well as for you, the reader. Perfection (and not God's way of perfection) is a stronghold for me that I have been working on to give to the Lord. With my need to strive for perfection comes issues with control. This conflict manifested in my life this past week and blew up over the weekend. Can you see what the Lord is doing? He gave me this word because sometimes I forget that this is an ongoing issue with me. He brought it to the forefront of my mind (yet again) to focus on His will and not my own.

When I read the definitions of this word, I immediately thought of Jesus Christ. I also remembered that by the Spirit of the Lord we are able to come to this place of perfection (God's way). Let me state that again. By the Spirit of the Lord are we able to come to this place of perfection. It is an ongoing process that can only happen by our obedience to listen to the Holy Spirit and do whatever it is He says. This does not happen by our controlling or manipulating our environment to our liking. We have to learn patience and total dependence on the Lord. This does not mean we have to accept things as they are when they are against the Lord.

It does mean that we pray and ask the Lord to first change us so we can hear what He says about whatever the situation may be. What I have found is that a majority of the time those things that bother me in my surroundings are things I have no control over.

I can't change someone else's behavior but I can pray to the Lord to turn someone's heart to Him. When I do this I am less stressed because I completely hand the situation over to Him. Then I am no longer trying to

control the situation because I begin to see God's love for that person and I come to a place of peace. This may have to happen over and over and over again but our God is very patient and merciful. Let Him be Him and let us be who He made us to be: vessels of His love and promises.

### **BIBLE VERSES:**

**Colossians 3:12-17** - Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. 14 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. 15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. 17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

**2 Corinthians 5:20-21** - Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. 21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

**Psalms 18:30** - As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the Lord is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him.

**Psalms 19:7-11** - The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; 8 The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; 9 The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. 11 Moreover by them Your servant is warned, And in keeping them there is great reward.

**Hebrews 10:12-25** - But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, 13 from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool. 14 For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified. 15 But the Holy Spirit also witnesses to us; for after He had said before, 16 "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them," 17 then He adds, "Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." 18 Now where there is remission of these, there is no longer an offering for sin. 19 Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way

which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, 21 and having a High Priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

**1 John 2:3-6** - Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. 4 He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. 6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

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