John - Commentaries by Paul J. Pascoe

CareLines: Volume 3, Faith

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MARCH 28

And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen Him, and it is He that talketh with thee.

John 9:37

The man who was born blind had never seen the one who had put clay on his eyes; but Jesus sought him out and said, “Thou hast seen him.” The point is that you can see the Son of God only with the eye of faith. The blind man saw Him before he laid eyes on Him; others laid eyes on Him but did not see Him! In answer to the simple question: “Who is he Lord?” Jesus adds, “It is He that talketh with thee.” Having received the answer that he eagerly anticipated, the healed man immediately answers: “Lord, I believe” and worships Him.

CareLines: Volume 2, Worship

JOH 9:38

Lord, I believe. And he worshipped Him.

John 9:38

The blind man in this chapter went from knowing about Jesus as a “man” to believing in Him as his “Lord.” And when he found Jesus as Lord he worshipped Him. The same will be true of you. When you know Jesus as Lord of your life you will want to spend time in worship. He is worthy of it.

CareLines: Volume 7, Eternal

Before Abraham was, I am.

John 8:58

This verse is just one example of the fact that Jesus was and is God. This statement made the Jews mad to the point of wanting to stone Jesus to death. But the Lord was there before Abraham, before Noah, before Adam. The worlds were made by Him. He is the ever-existing, eternal, holy God. He called Himself “I AM” to Moses, and He uses the same title with the Jews. Jesus is God.

CareLines: Volume 7, Freed

If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

John 8:36

(continued from yesterday)

I brought the hummingbird back into the house, so tiny and helpless in my hand. Rolling her onto her back we saw that an old, dusty cobweb had wrapped around her leg and foot. With tweezers we carefully picked it off, took her outside, and let her go. She flew away across the yard. Jesus is the only one who can give freedom from Satan’s bondage. Are you feeling trapped? Call out to the Lord. He will set you free.

CareLines: Volume 3, Don’t Go

SEPTEMBER 17

Will ye also go away? . . . Lord, to whom shall we go?

John 6:67,68

The first question was asked by the Lord. You can almost hear a tone of deep sorrow to think that His disciples would leave Him. The Lord’s question was answered by Peter, with another question. In English we call this a rhetorical question because it needs no answer. You know

what it is. Is there anyone else in the world to whom you can turn except Jesus? He alone can satisfy the needs of the human soul. There is no one else to go to.

CareLines: Volume 3, Fragments

SEPTEMBER 10

Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost.

John 6:12

When I was still at home, we always had one day a week when we had leftovers for supper. My mother would reheat the fragments that remained, and we would have a complete meal on them. I wonder how many times we let the “little” messages from God’s Word fall to the ground and pay no attention to them when in fact they would make a complete spiritual meal for us. Think about the little things today. You’ll be surprised what a feast there is in them. It may take some effort, even stooping to the ground, but you’ll fill your basket.

CareLines: Volume 3, Doubt

MARCH 11

What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where He was before?

John 6:62

Many people were scrutinizing the teachings of Jesus to determine if He was indeed the Christ. After Jesus made some remarks that were difficult to accept, some of His followers left; the response of Jesus is recorded in the above verse. The thought is that the difficulties of our faith have to do with our lack of comprehension of the person of our Lord. We may doubt a remark that is made by our brother; but do we doubt when we hear or read a statement from the lips of Him who is now seated at the right hand of the throne of God in heaven?

CareLines: Volume 2, Our Will

JOH 5:40

Ye will not come to Me, that ye might have life.

John 5:40

Our will gets in the way. The Lord has a hard time with us because we think we know better. We want to do what we want to do. We want to go where we want to go. There are so many situations where our will hinders the Lord’s will in our life. In our verse today those that the Lord was talking to wanted to find “life” but they wouldn’t come to the Lord to get it. Is that you? Salvation and a full, happy life are only possible by turning from your will and coming to the Lord.

CareLines: Volume 3, Service

JOH 4:36

And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal.

John 4:36

Wouldn’t you like to gather fruit unto life eternal? What a tremendous privilege to preach the gospel and lead lost souls to the Saviour. A friend of ours has just returned from a trip to Russia where he took Bibles to the believers there. He was in Moscow on the Monday morning after Mr. Gorbechev was (temporarily) deposed. Not knowing what was happening, but seeing army tanks around the square, Brian lost no time in handing out tracts to the soldiers. They received them gladly. Pray that some of them will accept Jesus as Lord.

CareLines: Volume 2, Worship: JOH 4:24

JOH 4:24

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

John 4:24

In the verse prior to our verse today God is seeking worshippers. The seeking of God here expresses the longing of God's heart for one who truly worships Him - one who willingly gives from the heart because he is thankful for what he has been given, one who worships from a heart full of love for God, one who is so overcome with God's work of salvation that praise just flows from his mouth. Worship in spirit and in truth is in contrast to ritual and formality. Daily sacrifices, offerings of incense, tithing, observance of the law and regular attendances at the temple could all be done without a true heart for God. God longs for the true worship of your heart today.

CareLines: Volume 2, Service: JOH 4:34

JOH 4:34

Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me.

John 4:34

The Lord's whole life was one of devoted service to His Father. The end of that service was a service that no other could do. He bore the punishment for our sin, died, and shed His blood. His was the ultimate sacrifice. "He became obedient unto death, and that the death of the cross." That's how well He served. Are we willing to do the same? Our hearts' desire should be to do His will - whatever that may be. We have the example. God wants us, as His children, to follow that example.

CareLines: Volume 7, Repentance

God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way.

Jonah 3:10

In Jonah's day the city of Nineveh, from the king down to the lowliest servant, repented and turned to God in response to the preaching of the prophet Jonah. God spared judgment at that time. Today the great majority have no time, belief or respect for God and we see little repentance. Paul wrote that "evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse." God is about to judge the world with catastrophe upon catastrophe. And in spite of it all, it is recorded in Revelation, "They repented not." If you are away from God, turn to Him in repentance today.

CareLines: Volume 7, Violence

Let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands.

Jonah 3:8

Recently, near our home, two young criminals kidnapped their police escort, drove 50 miles, handcuffed him to a tree, and stole his car with his guns. The 19-year-old wanted to shoot the deputy, but the other man, age 24, wouldn't let him. A friend of mine, who at one time worked for the police department, told me that a teenager is much more dangerous when armed than an older person. He said they see so much violence and killing on TV by those who get away with it that they won't think twice about killing someone themselves. If we entertain ourselves by watching violence, we too will be influenced by it. Following today's verse is very important.

CareLines: Volume 3, Service

SEPTEMBER 21

Whatsoever He saith unto you, do it.

John 2:5

This is simple faith in action. Jesus' mother said this to the servants at a wedding feast after they had run out of wine. If they had raised questions every time the Lord told them to do something, they may have continued without wine. But in simple trust they obeyed - and there was wine. When Jesus gives you something to do, do it. You don't need to ask "Why?" or say, "But . . . ." Just do it, and there'll be a blessing.

CareLines: Volume 2, God's Will: 2

JOH 2:5

Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it.

John 2:5

Sometimes the Lord may direct us to do something that does not make too much sense - like filling the water pots with water when wine was what was needed! Obedience to the Lord is always the way to blessing and happiness. But how can we know the Lord's will for us?

1. The Bible reveals God’s thoughts for man’s life. It gives general instructions for our conduct.

2. The Spirit of God gives us guidance concerning the daily decisions of life; we can go to the Lord in prayer asking for help and guidance in our decisions.

The Spirit of God will NEVER guide us contrary to the Word of God. Once you have a sense of the Lord’s will for you - “Whatsoever He saith unto you, do it.”

CareLines: Volume 3, Lord Knows, The

JOH 21:17

Lord, thou knowest all things.

John 21:17

These are the words of Peter. He was distressed that the Lord would ask him three times about his love. Peter had doubted the Lord’s word when He told him that he would deny Him three times. Now Peter learned a lesson that we all need to learn -whenever our thoughts differ from the thoughts of the Lord - we are wrong. For every occasion when we think that our way would be better this time, we’ll end up with the painful confession, “Lord, thou knowest all things.” For every doubt that comes into our thoughts there will be the triumphant confession, “Lord, thou knowest all things.”

CareLines: Volume 3, Garden, The

APRIL 19

But Mary stood without at the sepulcher weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulcher.

John 20:11

And what did she see? Two angels, not the Lord. Her tears continued - angels were not what she was looking for. Someone had taken her Saviour. She hears a voice behind her. She hears some questions but she didn’t recognize who spoke to her until she heard, “Mary!” She turns - and sees the Lord Jesus. Her response? “Rabboni!” which means, “My great Master!” She had found Him! The garden of rest had become the garden of resurrection. Jesus was ALIVE. Joy returns. Jesus had conquered sin, the grave, and Satan. He is indeed our great Master. Rabboni!

CareLines: Volume 3, Garden, The

APRIL 12

The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulcher.

John 20:1

Mary’s heart had never left the garden. Over the years Jesus had won her affections and although the Sabbath routine had to be kept, I’m sure Mary’s heart was not in it. In heart she was still in the garden, at the mouth of the sepulcher. Her Lord had died. What would she do? As soon as custom would allow she came back to the garden. This is devotion. Nothing would come between her and her Lord - even if He was dead. Are we that devoted to Him? Is the remembrance of His death that drawing power that brings us together every Sunday morning?

CareLines: Volume 2, Devotion: 1

JOH 20:11-13

But Mary stood without at the sepulcher weeping. . . . They say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord.

John 20:11, 13

Mary Magdalene felt a great loss when Jesus was taken from her. Hers was not the loss merely of an acquaintance, or a friend, or the “master”. No, it was “my Lord.” Think about it! You may know Him as your Savior and believe in Him. But knowing Him as “my Lord” means much more. It means giving your life to Him, doing His will, not yours, and following close beside Him. Not because you have to or because Christians are supposed to but only because you want to.

CareLines: Volume 2, Service: JOH 1:8

JON 1:8

What is thine occupation?

Jonah 1:8

Jonah had to account for himself and state his occupation. He actually didn't answer that particular question, but he did identify himself as fearing God. Working for the Lord is a wonderful experience. There is little that gives more happiness than service for Him. A servant of the Lord who won't do the job the Lord has asked him to do will be unhappy. Jonah found himself in terrible circumstances because he ran away from what God wanted him to do. Be like Jonah on his second attempt to do God's service - not on his first.

CareLines: Volume 7, Rejection

We have no king but Caesar.

John 19:15

No king but Caesar! What a rejection. The King of kings was standing right there and heard these words from His own people. No king but Caesar! Jesus came unto His own and His own received Him not. No king but Caesar! The Lord of life died on a cross because the people owned no king but Caesar.

CareLines: Volume 3, Belief

MAY 13

He that saw it bare record, and his record is true . . . he saith true, that ye might believe.

John 19:35

John saw everything that he wrote in his gospel. His record is true. It's written from the viewpoint of Jesus as the Son of God. John's account of the life of Jesus as a man shows Him as God's Son in human form. It's true. It really did happen. And John wants you to believe it. He was probably more in tune with Jesus than the other disciples, and he shares some things that the Lord did and said that are not recorded in Matthew, Mark or Luke. What a beautiful story - and it's all true!

CareLines: Volume 3, Garden, The

APRIL 5

Now in the place where [Jesus] was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulcher.

John 19:41

The last time Jesus was in a garden it was a time of intense mental suffering - in the garden of Gethsemane. Now we see Him in a garden of rest. All is over now. Judgment is done, the price of sin paid for. The Lord's body was laid to rest by loving hands. Is this it? For the disciples it was. But through the Spirit within us we know that it was not. Something wonderful and very marvelous was about to take place. The power of death was about to be broken.

Low in the grave He lay,Jesus my Saviour.

CareLines: Volume 3, Cross, The

MARCH 15

They shall look on Him whom they pierced.

John 19:37

Here's another Old Testament prophecy fulfilled in part when Jesus died. I say in part because its complete fulfilment is not until the Lord comes to set up His earthly kingdom. Then those on the earth will wonder why He has wounds in His hands and feet. "Those that I received in the house of my friends!" What a condemnation. How blessed for us who have already looked and believed. Think about the spear and the nails today. Think about the cost of our salvation.

CareLines: Volume 3, Cross, The

MARCH 8

One of the soldiers with a spear pierced His side.

John 19:34

It seems that man could not satisfy his hatred of Christ. But the very spear that pierced His side drew forth the blood to save. Amazing plan of salvation. The blood of Jesus, shed after He had died, cleanses from every stain of sin. The question of sin has now been settled. God's righteous requirements have been satisfied. Now man can once again enjoy a relationship with God, without fear.

CareLines: Volume 3, Cross, The

JOH 19:33

But when they came to Jesus . . . they brake not His legs.

John 19:33

A few verses later we find out why they didn't break the Lord's legs. It was no coincidence that Jesus died before the soldiers came to break the legs of those on the crosses. The Jews, in their Passover celebration, were not allowed to break any of the bones of the sacrificial lamb. So Jesus, in fulfilling the type, did not suffer any broken bones - just a broken heart. Jesus died voluntarily. He gave up His life. No one took it from Him.

CareLines: Volume 3, Obedience

NOVEMBER 8

The cup which My Father hath given Me, shall I not drink it?

John 18:11

Jesus asked Peter this question. Peter had tried to stop the band of soldiers from arresting Jesus, but the Lord had been given the work of the cross to do and do it He must. He was truly "obedient unto death." Nothing could stop the work on Calvary, and Peter had to put his sword away and watch in helpless disbelief as his Lord was taken to trial, and eventually to Calvary's cross.

CareLines: Volume 3, Safety

APRIL 10

Of them which Thou gavest Me have I lost none.

John 18:9

Each believer comes to the Father through the Son (see John 14:6). And then God the Father plays an active role in our safe keeping. "They shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my Father's hand. My Father which gave them Me, is greater than all: and no man is able to pluck them out of My Father's hand." John 10:28,29. The ultimate place of safety is the Lord's hand and the Father's hand. Are you in them?

CareLines: Volume 3, Our Lot

MARCH 19

The cup which My Father hath given Me, shall I not drink it?

John 18:11

When I was 33 years old, I was struck that this was the age of Jesus when He was crucified. At 33 it seems that so much of life is still ahead. He was truly cut off in the midst of His days. Many people are upset with their lot in life: their national origin, their physical appearance, their inabilities, or a handicap or disease. We might forget that all that we have and are is part of the cup which the Father hath given us. Shall we not drink it? The issues of life become clear when we bring the Lord into the picture.

CareLines: Volume 2, Restoration

JOH 18:27

Peter then denied again; and immediately the cock crew.

John 18:27

Peter had really “blown it” this time. After promising allegiance to his Lord he now had denied Him three times. The crowing of the rooster served only to remind him that the Lord said this would happen. Peter was through, finished, washed up, right? Wrong! The Lord restored Peter and gave him a great work to do. Confess your faults (and your sins), ask for His help, and DON’T GIVE UP.

CareLines: Volume 3, Sanctification

JUNE 3

Sanctify them through Thy truth: Thy word is truth.

John 17:17

The Lord Jesus was praying to His Father when He mentioned the words in our verse today. His desire for those who belonged to Him was that they should be separate from the defilement of this world. Hebrews 10:10 describes our spiritual position because of the work of Calvary. But our verse is referring to daily separation in the nitty-gritty details of life. We can do that through reading the Scriptures. When you pour water through a sieve, even though it doesn’t retain anything, at least the sieve is cleaned. So you can clean your mind and heart with the Word of God. READ!

CareLines: Volume 7, Joy

Your joy no man taketh from you.

John 16:22

The joy that comes from knowing Jesus and having Him walk beside me every day cannot be duplicated. Man attempts to live life without God but he has no real peace. Without peace there is no joy. And without joy there is no real living. We pray that all those who read this calendar have the joy that cannot be taken away - the joy that Jesus gives to those who love Him.

CareLines: Volume 2, Good Cheer

JOH 16:33

In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

John 16:33

The world still cares nothing for Christ. But the powerful influence of the god of this world has been overcome. Satan may cause us to go through tribulation because of our faith, but remember that Jesus conquered Satan at Calvary. Each believer has Jesus as his Captain in glory and the Spirit living within his heart. Satan cannot conquer that combination.

CareLines: Volume 3, Fruit

AUGUST 24

Every branch that beareth fruit, He purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

John 15:2

Each spring I attempt to prune off the sucker shoots that have grown on my fruit trees during the previous year. Some of them grow two feet in one season. If left on the trees they would drain the trees so that the fruit would be smaller and less of a crop than it could be. In spiritual things it’s much the same, only God is the pruner and we are the trees. He wants the best crop that He can get. So He prunes off the extra things that have grown into our lives.

CareLines: Volume 3, Love

AUGUST 23

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

John 15:13

The greatest demonstration of love was at the cross. It wasn't the nails that held the Lord on the cross but His great love for us. His love cannot be outperformed. No one has or ever will show such love as Jesus did when He died at Calvary. When was the last time that you thanked Him? Let's do it today from a full heart.

CareLines: Volume 3, Joy

AUGUST 15

These things have I spoken unto you, that My joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

John 15:11

Jesus brought a message of joy. He gives a life of peace. He promises a future of happiness and perfection. He tells us of a pathway of blessing and He wants us to have a full and joyful life. No one else has or ever can give what Jesus gives. The world offers fame, fortune and fulfilment. But the end of a Christless life is eternal darkness. How much better to have a life here of joy and an eternity with Christ in heaven.

CareLines: Volume 2, Fruit Bearing

JOH 15:5

He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit.

John 15:5

This verse really continues the thoughts of yesterday. There will be fruit, in fact much fruit, in a Christian's life if he labors in accordance with the Lord's guidance through the Scriptures. The abiding mentioned in our verse today is talking about communion or fellowship with the Lord so that we know what He wants. A Christ-filled life can do nothing except bring forth fruit.

CareLines: Volume 3, Prayer

JUNE 25

If ye shall ask anything in My name, I will do it.

John 14:14

God answers the prayer of faith asked in the name of His dear Son, our Lord Jesus. Note some items of interest in connection with prayer; your prayer must be asked:

- in faith;

- in Jesus' name;

- according to God's will;

- without doubting.

CareLines: Volume 2, Fellowship: 1

JOH 14:23

Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love Me, he will keep My words: and My Father will love him, and We will come unto him, and make Our abode with him.

John 14:23

Near the Royal residence at Osborne, in the Isle of Wight, England, were almshouses. While visiting an old lady in one of these, a gentleman asked her: "Does the Queen ever visit here?" "Oh, yes," was her reply, "Her Majesty comes to see me!" Then the gentleman asked, with a twinkle in his eye: "And does the King of Kings ever visit here?" "Oh, no sir," was her immediate response, "He never visits - He lives here!"

CareLines: Volume 2, Peace: 2

JOH 14:27

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you. . . . Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

John 14:27

This is a real comfort in a world where everything is unstable. The economy, the stock market, employment, the physical earth, the world powers - everything is shaky and uncertain. Now let the Lord's words sink into your heart. Don't be troubled. Don't be afraid. Why not? Because in Christ we have a peace and a stability that cannot be moved. He's the Rock, a refuge in the time of storm. Peace, young friend. Have peace.

CareLines: Volume 2, Lord's Coming, The: 1

JOH 14:3

I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

John 14:3

It's getting closer every day! In fact it's incredible that we're still here. As I write this page we have only 3 hours left before the UN deadline is reached for Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait. Will there be war? Is this Armageddon, as some Christians are fearing? Is this the end of the world? No! The Lord Jesus has to come first. And He will come, just as He said He would. For many it will be a surprise. Are you ready?

CareLines: Volume 2, Prayer: 2

JOH 14:14

If ye shall ask any thing in My name, I will do it.

John 14:14

This sort of makes you think that you've got a blank check and you can fill it in for whatever you want, doesn't it? Well, you do - almost. Don't expect God to give something that would be against His standards of right and wrong. For instance, you know that I despise alcohol. Would you ask me to donate $100 to help bail out a brewery that needed financial assistance? Of course not. Then ask God accordingly. He's not going to compromise His standards - but He LOVES to give - when we ask Him.

CareLines: Volume 3, Spiritual Understanding

NOVEMBER 19

What I do thou knowest not now: but thou shalt know hereafter.

John 13:7

Peter didn't understand why the Lord was washing his feet. He was teaching His disciples a spiritual lesson - not a physical one - and without the Spirit inside them they couldn't understand. In a practical sense we often do not understand what the Lord is trying to teach us through a trial of some kind. But if we spend time in His presence in prayer - afterwards we'll understand, and there will be blessing from it.

CareLines: Volume 3, Remember

APRIL 26

Whither I go ye cannot come.

John 13:33

Jesus longed for companionship in His hour of sorrow; His feelings are expressed in the Psalms: "Lover and friend Thou hast put far from Me" and "I looked for some to take pity, but there was none; and for comforters, but I found none." However, He knew that they were not able: He said that they "cannot come." He was that high priest entering alone into the holiest of all, offering the sacrifice of Himself for the sins of the people. Though His suffering is now over, He still looks for those who would associate themselves with His death. He says, "This do in remembrance of Me."

CareLines: Volume 3, Death

APRIL 7

Whither I go, thou canst not follow Me now; but thou shalt follow Me afterward.

John 13:36

None but Jesus could lay down His life that He might take it again. All others who entered into death were taken captive by it. Jesus boldly entered into the fortress of death and conquered it, setting its captives free. Jesus told Peter that he would follow Him into death afterwards. Jesus settled the question of sin and took the sting out of death; and so Peter was able to face death without fear. For the lost, death is the "King of Terrors"; for the saved, there is no terror in going to be with our King!

CareLines: Volume 3, Love

MARCH 13

When Jesus knew that His hour was come that He should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved His own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end.

John 13:1

A translator's footnote on this verse points out that "to the end" wrongly appears to refer to time; whereas "going through with everything" is implied. In other words, He loved them to the full extent that love could go! He knew that His disciples would forsake Him within a day; but with love immeasurable, He said within Himself: "I'll gladly die for each one of you; I'll pay your debt of sin because you could never pay it; but before I do that, I'm going to get down on my knees with my basin and towel and wash your feet." Could His love have gone farther than that?

CareLines: Volume 2, Service: JOH 13:15

JOH 13:15

For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.

John 13:15

Jesus set us a perfect example. How many times we fall short! But He has not made the example impossible to follow because we have the Spirit in us that gives us the power to succeed. Try today to follow Jesus' example. He cared for His own and washed the contamination of the day's travel from their feet. You too can wash the contamination of the world from other people's feet by the Scriptures and encouraging them in the Lord's things.

CareLines: Volume 2, Service: JOH 13:16

JON 13:16

The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him.

John 13:16

Christ was hated; we will be also. He was misunderstood; so will we be. He came to serve; we should too. The Lord is our perfect example. What a privilege to copy Him in every way. We can never make a mistake if we copy the Lord Jesus in everything. He has sent us to do His work. We are not greater than He, but we can and should do the work that He has fitted us for and called us to do.

CareLines: Volume 2, Love: 1

JOH 13:34

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another.

John 13:34

A new commandment! The Old Testament also told its adherents to love - to love their neighbor as themselves. But they couldn't keep it. Inside the Christian, though, is the God-given capability to keep this new commandment. Yes, the new life given when you believed on Jesus can and does love. And it loves without expecting anything in return. The Lord would not ask us to do something that is not possible to do. He has given the power to put His new commandment into practice. Let's do it!

CareLines: Volume 2, Service

JOH 13:17

If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

John 13:17

Happiness comes from simply doing what you know to be God's will. When God makes something plain to you, then do what He has shown you, without doubting. I know from experience that the Lord gives strength for what He wants you to do and there is tremendous joy and peace in participating in the work of the Lord.

CareLines: Volume 7, Seeing Jesus

Sir, we would see Jesus.

John 12:21

Two Gentiles had come to Jerusalem to worship during one of the Jewish feasts. But it seems that they had a secondary reason for their visit. They wanted to see Jesus. This is what we desire for each of you - that you would want to see Jesus. Life is so busy with things that are not really that important compared with seeing the Lord. Don't forget to spend time with Him each day in quiet reading and prayer so that not only will you see Him but you will become more like Him.

CareLines: Volume 3, Cross, The

DECEMBER 13

Now is My soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save Me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour.

John 12:27

Here we see the manhood of the Lord Jesus. As a man Jesus would say, "Father, save Me." As God He would say, "But that's why I came. I must go through with this. I am the only one who can pay the immense cost for sin." And so He did -on Calvary's cross. Our salvation cost Jesus EVERYTHING.

CareLines: Volume 2, Humility: 1

JOH 12:3

Mary . . . wiped His feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odor of the ointment.

John 12:3

Yesterday we noticed just how much Mary's gift cost her. On top of that she then stooped down to wipe Jesus' feet - normally servant's work. The result was that the whole house was filled with the aroma. Acts of sincere devotion on our part not only please our Lord but often result in blessing (encouragement) to those around us.

CareLines: Volume 2, Devotion: 2

JOH 12:3

Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus.

John 12:3

Mary's love and devotion to her Lord led her to give of her ointment. Perhaps this may seem a small thing. Did you realize that the value of the spikenard was approximately one year's wages? Would you or I be willing to make any sacrifice that would come close to matching this?

CareLines: Volume 2, Service

JOH 12:26

If any man serve Me, him will My Father honor.

John 12:26

Service for the Lord Jesus brings joy to God the Father's heart. You will be honored by the Father for your work for the Son. Of course your labor for Him must be in line with Scriptural principles. You can't expect a prize if you don't play according to the rules. Serve the Lord with all your energy. Leave the results to Him.

CareLines: Volume 2, Service

JOH 12:26

If any man serve Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there shall also My servant be.

John 12:26

Service for the Lord requires obedience and dedication. First, obedience in worship. We must follow the Lord to the place of worship chosen by Him. Second, obedience in conduct. We need to act just like the Lord did when He was here. Lastly, service may require that we lay down our lives. We must be willing to give up EVERYTHING for Him - even our life. That’s true service.

CareLines: Volume 2, Salvation: 3

JOH 11:27

I believe that Thou art the Christ, the Son of God.

John 11:27

What a tremendous confession. Martha hit the nail on the head with this one. And there has been no change. This confession is still absolutely necessary in the conversion experience. Romans 10 verse 9 tells you to confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord. God wants to hear your verbal confession that His Son, Jesus, is the Lord of your life. Then, if you believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved!

CareLines: Volume 2, Eternal Life

JOH 10:28

And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish.

John 10:28

This is a real comfort. Have you ever wondered if you might lose your salvation because of some sin that you committed after you were saved? Lay hold of this verse. Write it out and hang it on your bulletin board or by your bed. Confess your sin to the Lord - He’ll take care of that. But you CANNOT LOSE YOUR SALVATION. Jesus said, “They shall NEVER perish.” No, you are His forever!

CareLines: Volume 2, Life: 2

JOH 10:10

I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

John 10:10

Unsaved man thinks that he’s having fun if he can drink himself silly at a party. But the next day life, with its problems and frustrations, is still there. Jesus came to give the abundant life; life full and overflowing; a happy life; one in which there is Someone who really does care for us and wants to carry our sorrows and our burdens (for Christians do have them sometimes). Nothing that man offers can give the peace that a Christian has. A girl at college told me one time, “I wish I had the peace you have.” That’s only possible by trusting in Jesus. Do you have abundant life?

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