

WHICH FOUNTAIN ARE YOU?

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This verse popped up the other day as The Verse of The Day: “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer.” (Psalm 19:14) The question is, do you practice this verse? I fall short; how about you? This is tough. A few more questions. “Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.” (II Corinthians 5:20) How well do you represent your King? What about your witness? Do others see Jesus in your speech and actions?

My son and daughter-in-law worked at a restaurant to help pay for their college education. Neither one of them wanted to work on Sunday because the church crowd were the worst tippers, the hardest to please, and were often not nice people. They had just come from worship and in that short drive they had forgotten they represented Jesus.

David asks that in every utterance from our worship to plain old ordinary conversation we would flavor our words with God’s truth. We should be a positive influence for the cause of Christ, not a negative one. Which group of people would you prefer to be around?

Remembering Joshua’s instructions might help. “This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.” (Joshua 1:8)

David reminds us to seek God’s approval rather than human praise. You are either sincere or not. The Lord sees what others cannot see. David praises God for His creation. “¹ The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. ² Day to day pours forth speech, And night to night reveals knowledge.” (Psalm 19:1-2)

After celebrating God’s revelation in creation and scripture, David reminds us that true worship includes a life that is totally yielded to Him.

Where do we get our strength that provides the stability, protection, and strength His people cannot supply for themselves. “¹ I will lift up my eyes to the mountains; From where shall my help come? ² My help comes from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth.” (Psalm 121:1-2)

A life pleasing to God is built upon His sure foundation rather than human resolve. God rescues us, His people, from guilt, bondage, and ruin. God fulfills that saving role perfectly for us. You know as well as I do that we cannot save ourselves. This passage ends in confidence that the One who exposes sin is also the One who redeems, ultimately fulfilled in Christ, who died on the cross, giving Himself to redeem us, His people, for His own possession.

“Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit.” (Proverbs 18:21)
The tongue can build someone up and it can tear them down. “⁸ But no one can tame the tongue; it is a restless evil and full of deadly poison.” (James 3:8)

There is a saying, “Sticks and stones can break my bones, but words will never hurt me.” This is not true and never will be. I say that because cruel, hateful words go to the heart and are not easily forgotten. Sometimes it takes months or years for forgiveness to happen. In some cases, forgiveness never happens.

“⁹ With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God; ¹⁰ from the same mouth come both blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way.” (James 3:9-10)

Christians get mad just like non-believers do. So, what sets Christians apart from non-believers? The love for Jesus that’s in the Christian. Proverbs provides the following suggestions. “A gentle answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger.” (Proverbs 15:1) “A man’s discretion makes him slow to anger, And it is his glory to overlook a transgression.” (Proverbs 19:11)

Do not overlook the last two parts of the Psalm 19:14 passage “and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight.” In the Bible, meditate means to intentionally ponder, recite, and deeply reflect on God’s Word and works—filling the mind with Scripture to understand, internalize, and obey it.

“O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer.” In the Bible, a Redeemer is one who rescues, liberates, or restores another from bondage, sin, or loss—a role fulfilled by God in the Old Testament and ultimately by Jesus Christ in the New Testament.

The challenge is to put this verse into your everyday life as you represent Jesus. No one said it would be easy. However, as Christians we must seek God’s help and work on it. The tongue is controllable. It cannot be hateful and soothing at the same time. James has this question: “Does a spring send out from the same opening both fresh and bitter water?” (James 3:11) Which fountain are you? Have a blessed week.

O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TpELMk4-3n8&list=RDTpELMk4-3n8&start_radio=1