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Theme for 2019

'The God of Another Year, is a God of Wonderful and Amazing Grace. He is the God of Forgiveness and He is the God of Beginning Again.'

365 DAYS OF POSSIBILITIES!

"O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvelous works. I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High."

Psalm 51:15 (ESV); Lamentations 3:22-23 (NKJV); Psalm 9:1-2 (NKJV)



This Week's Thought - March 31, 2019

"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are." 1 John 3:1(a) (ESV)

<u>365 DAYS OF POSSIBILITIES</u>—I once watched a documentary in which crime investigators studied how people report crimes. What they found was that two people could witness the exact same car accident, robbery, or carjacking at the exact same time from the same location and see it totally differently. Their reports might even be contradictory.

This got me thinking about how two people can hear the same thing and hear it totally differently, too. For example, two people can hear God's Word, and one person, through that hearing, becomes convinced that God deeply loves and cares for them while the other person who hears comes to think and believe that God is uncaring and unkind. Why does this happen?

In addition to the drawing that happens when the Holy Spirit beckons us to Christ, the condition of our heart plays a huge role in how we see God. In Ephesians 1:18-19, Paul writes: "I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe."

This scripture from Paul reveals that seeing hope in the future God has prepared, believing He has a glorious inheritance for us, and that He has incomparably great power toward us is a head thing and a heart thing---all by faith. "For we walk by faith, not by sight." (2 Corinthians 5:7)

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What we all must know and see is that, we "see" God's truth with our heart. This is how two people can hear or read the exact same words in the Bible and perceive them completely differently.

With the eyes of the heart, you see Christ, either with the truth enlightening your perspective, or you see Christ darkly, through a lens tainted by the lies of the Adversary, by unbelief, by worldly perspectives, or through the shadow of life's disappointments. When you hear/read God's Word, the eyes of your heart will affect how you interpret it.

If there are times when you struggle with believing that God loves you, just look at the cross. A mere man would never die for someone he does not love. But when Jesus died for you, He does love you and there is no greater love!

"For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

On today, may the blessing of peace rest upon you...the blessing of joy abide within you...the blessing of success and favor surround you...the blessing of love flow out through you. May all the Blessings of the Lord be yours in abundance as you 'Encounter the Possibilities' this day will bring!!

Application: The Adversary wants to twist what God has told and promised you so that you perceive Him as harsh, unloving, condemning, judgmental, passive, or uncaring. But God is Love and every word on every page of the Word was written to convince you of His love and draw you to Christ.

<u>Prayer of reflection you might pray this week:</u> "Heavenly Father, use me to model grace, love and forgiveness. When I have questions or fears, let me turn to You. When I am weak, let me seek Your strength. When I am discouraged, Father, keep me mindful of Your love and Your grace. In all things, let me seek Your will and Your way. Assist me to live a holy life and to grow in goodness and grace that I may be strengthened throughout this Year – <u>365 Days of Possibilities</u>. I await Your Voice. This is my prayer in the matchless, wonderful and compassionate name of Jesus. Amen!"

"And then God answered: "Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what's coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn't lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It's on its way. It will come right on time." Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Pastor King