

The Plumbline

Scriptures to use for Searching your Soul

Edifying the Body of Christ (Eph. 4.10-16)
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Amo 7:7 Thus he shewed me: and, behold, the Lord stood upon a wall [made] by a plumbline, with a plumbline in his hand.

How is it with your soul?

Have we, this nation, hardened our hearts, have we crossed over the line of no return? Have we crossed the chasm, thinking we could spurn the Lord and turn back at the last moment and all would be well for us when we die?

Oh, how sad that we do not love the Lord our God with all our hearts, with all our soul, with all our might (Dt 6.5). This commandment is also stated clearly in the New Testament.

And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this [is] the first commandment (Mk 12.30).

My prayer is that each of us who know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior will come together in the unity of the Holy Spirit to worship the Lord Jesus Christ and serve Him with all our hearts, our souls, and our strength.

Plumbline: Hebrews 3.7, 8

Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness:

Perhaps there needs to be some soul searching as King David prayed:

Psa 139:23 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:

Psa 139:24 And see if [there be any] wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

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Co-laborers together for Jesus Christ

Come apart and rest (Mark 6.31)

Walking in the Light

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Rom 10:17 So then faith [cometh] by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

I often see in my mind's eye the journey of the Israelites return home from Babylon, a long and arduous journey. Why would they leave knowing what lay before them in the journey? It *seems* that this journey was at a time when their lives were made easier by those who had taken them captive, so why leave to return to a place of disarray, a place where all was destroyed and their lives were torn asunder?

Ezra was the son of Seraiah, the son of Azariah, the son of Hilkiah, a high priest, ready to go forth in obedience to the Lord God. He had a mighty work that lay before him – knowing the enemy, Satan, is always endeavoring to tear down the people of God in Christ Jesus.

Ezra's heart was turned to the Lord powerfully and was willing and ready to take the responsibility of leading a people back "home," a people who had walked in disobedience to the Lord, bringing in those of other places who worshiped not the God of Israel, those who brought with them many gods – against the Lord's commandments. This was not an easy task that lay before him, leading the people back "home."

But, Ezra was not looking for an easy work. He was not looking to hold a position of authority. He desired that he and the others could return "home" and there worship the only true, living God. He desired to go to Beth-El, the house of God, a place where the people would be one with their God to worship the Lord God together as a body under the authority of the Lord God Almighty.

We are talking about the "Church in the Wilderness" that went astray and has at this time repented, served their seventy years in bondage for disobedience, a people who returned to the only living God, ready to serve Him and Him alone.

I believe Ezra was hungry, longing once more for the people to come together in the Lord and to serve Him faithfully. How glorious to return to *Beth-El*, if you will. When will our hearts be hungry for worship, true worship of the only living God in Christ Jesus?

Psa 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.