



Mighty in the Word

*For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;
But unto us which are saved it is the power of God" (I Cor. 1.18).*

*Edifying the Body of Christ (Eph. 4.10-16)
The Wise Still Seek Him*

*of the
Lord
Jesus Christ*

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feel like He is listening, that He loves you, that He is with you? Know that we are not to live by our feelings, but we are to live by faith, trusting Him in all situations. Perhaps we need to stop and realize we, all too often, do not leave our burden with the Lord when we take it to Him. How many times have you taken your burden to the Lord – only to pick it up again, and carry it with you - not trusting the Lord with it?

There is an old hymn that encourages us on to trust the Lord to "Leave it There."

When your enemies assail and your heart begins to fail,
Don't forget that God in heaven answers pray'r;
He will make a way for you and will lead you safely thru;
Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

Chorus

Leave it there, leave it there,
Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there;
If you trust and never doubt, He will surely bring you out;
Take your burden to the Lord and leave it there.

C. A. Tindley

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Come apart and rest (Mark 6.31).

Take Your Burden to the Lord, AND Leave it There.

I recall preaching on this many years ago, and as I shared with the congregation, I remember showing how we carry a large bag on our backs, holding on to it with our hands as we walk. It is heavy and wears us down until we are bent as we walk. I spoke of taking our burden to the Lord, and removing it from off our backs, setting it down before the Lord, walking away so relieved, free of the burden, breathing more easily with a peace and joy. But then, there is this voice that reminds me I left something behind, so I turn to go back the path I was on – yes, to pick up my bag, my burden, lifting it up once again to take it with me.

Oh, why? Why can we not take our burdens to the Lord and **leave them there**. We are so distracted with the cares of this world, with the enemy who comes to us through those who enjoy his work and being a part of his destructive ways.

Come unto me, all *[ye]* that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall
find rest unto your souls.
For my yoke *[is]* easy, and my burden is light (Mt 11.28-30).

Satan knows how to distract us from living for the Lord, from seeking "first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness" (Mt 6.33). We need to seek the Lord, ask for forgiveness of our sins, repenting of them, that we might walk on with the Lord. When we look back, we are wasting precious time walking with the Lord. When we do not give our burdens to the Lord, we are not focused on what the Lord Jesus Christ is calling us to do each day. Satan knows it will keep us from walking with the Lord, will keep us from reaching out to others in the Name of Jesus, and keep us from ministering to others as the Lord directs us. It keeps us from hearing the voice of the Lord.

Also, it may be a time when our faith, our trust in the Lord, is not what it should be. Satan knows how to distract us and discourage us from the work of the Lord Jesus Christ – who calls us to worship Him, to live for Him, to serve Him in the midst of the turmoil that is so often in our lives.

I am reminded of Peter and Paul, those times they were in prison, and they chose to praise the Lord, to seek the Lord in their time of distress. Reading about their lives as they lived for the Lord and rejoice in the privilege of serving Him, reveals to me

how weak I am when discouragements come. Satan knows how to beat us down and cause us to take our eyes off of the Lord, how to begin singing, Woe is me. I am reminded of Psalm 137.1-4. Oh, how like the children of Israel am I.

By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion.

We hanged our harps upon the willows in the midst thereof.

For there they that carried us away captive required of us a song; and they that wasted us [*required of us*] mirth, [*saying*], Sing us [*one*] of the songs of Zion. How shall we sing the LORD'S song in a strange land?

How sad as we get so discouraged when the enemy comes in to discourage us, to distract us from walking with the Lord, causes us to take our eyes off the Lord Jesus Christ, causes us to forget the mercy and love of the Lord, to forget that to which the Lord calls us – and all for His glory.

"When the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him" (Isa 59.19). We need to trust the Lord that it is He that has gone before us; we need to rebuke the enemy and begin praising the Lord for His goodness, for His watch care over us. We need to know that the Lord is "there" for us.

I am reminded of Psalm 55.16-23.

As for me, I will call upon God; and the LORD shall save me.

Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.

He hath delivered my soul in peace from the battle [*that was*] against me: for there were many with me.

God shall hear, and afflict them, even he that abideth of old. Selah. Because they have no changes, therefore they fear not God.

He hath put forth his hands against such as be at peace with him: he hath broken his covenant.

[*The words*] of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war [*was*] in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet [*were*] they drawn swords.

Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

But thou, O God, shalt bring them down into the pit of destruction: bloody and deceitful men shall not live out half their days; but I will trust in thee.

Oh, how we read the Word of God, and, in our hearts, we cry out, "Yes, Lord.

Yes!" believing for that moment that the Lord is with us, and will lift us out of the miry clay. But, when it is not done immediately, we lose hope, we lose faith, and in our despair, we take our eyes off of the Lord Jesus Christ. Our attention is then on ourselves – as Satan is desirous to see, as it distracts us from the work of the Lord.

Hear the Psalmist once again as he cried out to the Lord and did so on many occasions (Psa 40.1, 2).

<To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.> I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry.

He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, [*and*] established my goings.

And he hath put a new song in my mouth, [*even*] praise unto our God: many shall see [*it*], and fear, and shall trust in the LORD.

Have you been able to take your burden to the Lord and leave it with Him, able to give Him the glory in the midst of your trial, your burden being laid upon you? Read the above scripture again with your heart as you sit in the presence of the Lord God Almighty in Christ Jesus.

Oh, and when you experience what the Psalmist experienced in verse two, are you able to sing His praises, to give Him the glory? Were others around you seeing and hearing what the Lord did for you? Is your relationship with the Lord, your walk with the Lord, one that causes people to come to know the Lord and trust in the Lord because of your faith, your trust your love for Him? Are you proclaiming the Name of Jesus to those around you at work, at home – wherever you are?

Has the Lord lifted you out of the miry clay? Has He set your feet upon a rock and established your goings? But the question may be, Have you waited patiently for the Lord as He works in your life for His glory?

How many of us seek the Lord when we are down, when we are discouraged, are feeling despair in our lives? Yes, we do go to the Lord to seek Him in these situations. But, perhaps the question is, "Do we seek the Lord daily with all our heart and with all our soul?"

Another question is, When you are in tribulation, and the enemy comes against you using your family, friends, and also your foe, do you seek the Lord with all your heart, and with all your soul? Do you turn to the Lord in these times? And, are you hearing His voice and being obedient unto Him – even in the midst of tribulation?

Hear the Word of the Lord:

But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find [*him*], if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.

When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, [*even*] in the latter days, if thou turn to the LORD thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice;

(For the LORD thy God [*is*] a merciful God;) he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he sware unto them (Dt 4.29-31).

How many times do we read in the Word of God that He will **not** forsake us? Do you sometimes feel that you have been forsaken? Forgotten? Do you walk away from the Lord in these times? Or do you go to the Lord in prayer, sitting in His presence offering unto Him praises for His mercy toward you – though it may not