

eBlessings International Daily Devotional Archives

enrich, inspire, encourage, bless, and empower spiritual warriors for end-time battles prepared with the guidance of the Holy Spirit for spiritual growth and victory!

Devotionals Designed to Empower and Grow Our Spirits

NOVEMBER2008NOVEMBER2008NOVEMBER2008

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Each One! Bless One! **You Make a Difference!**

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.....and with all his problems, he hopes for betterment for those less aware or fortunate. A microcosm of the reality we all bear....as we stride, and strive, toward something "better"...

"To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me."

ACTS 26:18 (King James Version)

My **Shawshank Redemption** – 1. Lancaster, California, Dorte Williams - Nov.10,3:00 am. – Next September will mark my 20th year in jail. It is not an anniversary I'm particularly proud of. I was convicted of murder and hopelessly sentenced to life without the possibility of parole.

When I arrived at the infamous [Pelican Bay Prison](#), I was shocked right out of my criminal-minded circuit of stupidity. The flow of in-house narcotics profits didn't appeal to me anymore. My drug-dealing days had already brought me to terrestrial hell.

Like the majority of prisoners on the yard, I just wanted to do my time as trouble-free as possible. I simply wanted to build on the better part of me, redeem whatever part of me was possible.

As the cycle of drug abuse, negative peer pressure, and unfettered rebellion roiled around my years of confinement, I began to long for something better. I wanted to be productive, do something better.

That desire to build on the better part of me swelled, but with little comfort and no outlet. With fervent disillusion, I came to see the [California Department of Corrections](#) (CDC) as nothing more than an empty shell.

It's a colossal department with two overriding modes of operation: 1) behavior control with a heavy stick as its main prod; and 2) the fostering of survival of fittest, thus encouraging a cut-throat atmosphere of criminal cronyism. In other words, if you don't join a clique, you could be swallowed up as a loner in the predatory food chain.

Scarce are the rewards for positive behavior, especially for lifers. Still, I managed to remain disciplinary free for 14 consecutive years (dodging the racism, prison-styled hazing, and violent clique initiations), in spite of the pervasive violence, negativity, and hopelessness.

HOPELESSNESS

Internet Angel

Dortel Williams

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[Pelican Bay Prison](#)

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From the Christian Science Monitor

Thanks Ken