

eBlessings International Daily Devotional Archives

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Devotionals Designed to Empower and Grow Our Spirits

OCTOBER2008OCTOBER2008OCTOBER2008

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Each One! Bless One!

You Make a Difference!

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Don't Stand Alone

“Then I returned, and I saw vanity under the sun. There is one *alone*, and *there is* not a second; yea, he hath neither child nor brother: yet *is there* no end of all his labor; neither is his eye satisfied with riches; neither *saith he*, for whom do I labor, and bereave my soul of good? This is also vanity, yea, it is a sore travail.”

ECCLESIASTES 4:7-8 (KJV)

Don't Stand Alone - 2. The word “stand-alone” is not necessarily referring only to a man who has no relatives but, a man may have all these people around him but, refuses to heed neither instruction nor counsel. A man that has no instructor or somebody who can talk to him is on his own. Such a person is living in fantasy and vanity. Please read Don't Stand Alone – 1, October 7, 2008; [October Devotionals](#).

In the Bible, **“a man that stands alone is never satisfied with his riches as he continues to labour,” v.8.** The fact is he has no one with whom to recreate. He fixes his eyes on riches and can never get enough because he is contented. **“He that loveth silver shall not be satisfied with silver; nor he that loveth abundance with increase: this is also vanity.” Ecclesiastes 5:10 (KJV); “All the labour of man is for his mouth, and yet the appetite is not filled.” Ecclesiastes 6:7 (KJV); “Yea also, because he transgresseth by wine, he is a proud man, neither keepeth at home, who enlargeth his desire as hell, and is as death, and cannot be satisfied, but gathereth unto him all nations, and heapeth unto him all people:” Habakkuk 2:5 (KJV); “6 But**

godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. 9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.” 1 Timothy 6:6-10 (KJV)

Arrogance and excessive cravings are attributed to any man who stands alone. The story the Lord told of a rich fool in Luke 12:15-21 is both a case study and a lesson to learn by all believers. **“15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth. 16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: 17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? 18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. 19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. 20 But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? 21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”** Luke 12:15-21 (KJV)

One learns from this parable not to arrogate too much importance to one's wealth, knowledge, wisdom, gift, and ability. Also, one can see that the man, though enriched by God, never acknowledged God as his source. **“In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”** Proverbs 3:6 (KJV) We must avoid covetousness. **“Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:”** Colossians 3:5 (KJV)

Wealth on its own does not make the man. However, he makes definite impact when he uses his wealth to touch lives. Only then will his wealth be appreciated. This explains why man is referred to as a foolish rich man.

Again, loneliness is capable of stirring dejection, worry or oppression as we see in the life of John the Baptist. In loneliness, he “rebuked” or doubted the Lord Jesus’ Messianic status. But, he had earlier revealed Him to the Israelites as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the World. He had also proclaimed Him to be the One who would baptize with the Holy Ghost and fire. But loneliness made him think otherwise.

When you are alone, you are likely to become oblivious of what God is doing in other people. Tendency is that you’ll think you are the only one God is using. The devil might make you even think you are the only one who knows God. Elijah thought in the same way when he told the Lord that the whole of Israel had backslidden leaving only him on the Lord’s side. The Lord did not fail to surprise Elijah when He told him that He still had 7,000 men like him (probably better than him) who have not bowed down to Baal. This was evident when Obadiah told Elijah that some prophets of God were hid in the cave by himself who was still serving in Ahab’s palace. Did Elijah get that message? Yes. We must know that God still has remnants in every generation. These are men who will not sell their birth right irrespective of prevailing situation, good or bad. Realizing this fact, we prevent us from isolating ourselves as well as walk with the Lord and His people in humility.

These facts will prevent us from humiliation and help us learn from others as we remain teachable. It will inevitably attract promotion to us, our family and ministry.

JESUS STANDS WITH YOU



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