How Can We Help Each Other? Pt 5

Keeping God's Word Keeps us Safe





SOMETHING YOU MUST KNOW:

God is perfect. He is Holy. We are all sinners. *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*

(Romans 3:23a KJB)

None of us could ever make ourselves perfect or holy to be accepted by God. But God loves us all so much, that He gave His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to go to the cross and pay the penalty for our sins IN FULL, ONCE and FOR ALL. Jesus died and rose again. Because of the Lord Jesus Christ, God can now make us holy and acceptable to Himself. *For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.* (1 Peter 3:18 KJB)

Jesus Christ is our ONLY WAY to God and heaven.

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

(John 14:6 KJB)

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. (Acts 16:31 KJB)

Without Jesus Christ, you can NEVER be accepted by God or go to heaven. When you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior, God makes you His child. When you leave this world, you will spend all of eternity with Him! *But as many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name*. (John 1:12 KJB) While you are still here on earth, learn His beautiful Word. Believe it and obey it, so you can enjoy all God has done for you.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom. (Colossians 3:16a KJB)

How can we help each other?

That is the question & topic we have begun to study in our King James Bible since one of our students asked this question:

What are some different ways we can HELP EACH OTHER?



To begin to answer that question, we looked in our King James Bible to find out what GOD means by the word HELP. And that took us first of all to the very 1st book of the bible, the book of Genesis—the book that tells about BEGINNINGS or FIRST THINGS. You can get parts 1-4 on this topic to see all the things we've learned so far. The MAIN thing that we've seen is that the word HELP according to God's Word means to AID & comes from another word that means to SURROUND or PROTECT! (God says that when we HELP people the way HE wants us to HELP them, we are really SURROUNDING THEM WITH PRO-TECTION in some way!)

We learned that after the Lord had created the 1st man, Adam, the Lord placed that man in a garden—a pleasant & protected place—in Eden. The Lord told that man to dress & KEEP that garden! We learned that the world KEEP also means to GUARD, to HEDGE ABOUT, to PROTECT, to BEWARE, to WATCH, to TAKE HEED. We learned that the very 1st time the word HELP was used in the bible, it was used right after the Lord had given the very 1st man a very IMPORTANT COMMAND as to HOW he could KEEP, guard, protect that garden & himself so that both the garden & the man's soul could REMAIN PLEASANT PLACES! We learned that as soon as the Lord gave that man this very important COMMAND, the Lord said that "it is not good that man should be alone." And then finally, last week we learned WHY it was not good that the man should be alone in that garden with the job of dressing it & KEEPING, guarding, protecting it so it could remain pleasant. Do you remember what the Lord allowed to be present in that pleasant & protected garden of Eden along with all the wonderful trees which the Lord had planted there? Let's see if re-reading the Lord's command to that man in the garden will help you remember: Genesis 2:15-17

"And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and keep it

And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of that garden thou mayest freely eat;



But of the tree of the knowledge of good and <u>evil</u>, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

Did you see that underlined word? Write it on the dotted line in this next sentence.

There was something _____ present in that garden!

Now we can see why God was so concerned with Adam's being able to KEEP, GUARD & PROTECT that garden. There was something EVIL present right in that very beautiful & pleasant place just waiting to ruin the pleasantness! When God created Adam, Adam had no idea what evil was! But God did! God loved Adam. God had placed him in that pleasant garden to enjoy His relationship with God as well as all the necessary things for that man to have a pleasant life in that garden. And to KEEP it that way—pleasant & protected for both that garden & the man in it, God SPOKE HIS WORD to that man concerning the ONE TREE that would ruin the man's pleasant life with God in that garden. We've written that command again below. Underline the part of God's command to that 1st man, Adam which tells us how Adam could PROTECT & KEEP his life with God pleasant in that garden:

But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

Did you underline the words "thou shalt not eat of it"? To KEEP that garden a pleasant & protected place to live & to protect His ability to enjoy a wonderful & pleasant relationship with God, all that man had to do was <u>NOT EAT OF THAT ONE TREE</u>! By not eating of that tree of the knowledge of good and evil, that man would never have to even know what evil is or ever have to worry about it.

That man could stay HAPPY & SAFE in that garden, that man could go on eating from ALL the other trees in that garden & ENJOYING God's love, simply by BELIEVING & OBEYING God's PROTECTIVE WORDS in God's command—



God's WORDS that would <u>HELP PROTECT</u> HIM FROM EVER EVEN KNOWING ABOUT EVIL. Don't eat from that tree! Sometimes just HEARING about something evil can spoil any pleasantness & peacefulness we may have. That happens to me sometimes when I hear some of the news on the radio or TV. Did you realize that ALL of God's Words to us are meant to KEEP US SAFE, GUARD US, PRO-TECT US from evil! But the thing is, for this to happen WE must do some KEEPING, GUARDING PROTECTING!

Do you know what it is that we must KEEP & GUARD & PROTECT in our souls in order for us to keep our minds—& our mind is where we do our thinking—a PLEASANT & PROTECTED PLACE so that we can make GOOD decisions in life so we can ENJOY God's love? It is the SAME thing that the 1st man was to KEEP. Let's see if these next 2 scripture can help you guess what it is that we must KEEP & GUARD & PROTECT in our souls so we won't have to fret & worry about evil! Jesus said this to His disciples:



"If ye <u>keep</u> (guard, protect from loss) my commandments, ye shall abide (live & enjoy my relationship with you) in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

These things have I <u>spoken</u> unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and *that* your joy might be full." John 15:10-11 KJB

God ALWAYS LOVES US even when we do NOT keep His commandments. The

cross shows us that! But God gives commands & tells us to KEEP them because He LOVES US. His commands are given to keep us SAFE & PROTECTED in our minds & many times physically too, even when TROUBLES come our way!



For example, I LOVE my grandchildren! In my house, I have very STEEP & dangerous stairs going down to my basement. When each of my grandchildren learned to walk & were able to understand the word NO, I would COMMAND them:

DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR TO THE BASEMENT. DO NOT GO NEAR THE STAIRS. DO NOT GO DOWN THE STAIRS ALONE. GRANDMA OR PAPA WILL TAKE YOU! Now these COMMANDS were commands of LOVE, not commands to deprive them of playing in the basement! If my grandchildren KEPT my commands in their minds & REMEMBERED & OBEYED them, they would stay SAFE in my LOVING COMMAND. But, if they chose to DISOBEY them, they would risk falling down the stairs & getting badly hurt. And of course, God's love for you is much, much greater than anyone else's love for you. He has the very best commands for you to KEEP! And as YOU KEEP His commands, God's COMMANDS will KEEP YOUR MIND like a pleasant & protected garden—even in the midst of the most difficult troubles! Isaiah 26:2-4 says that when we keep our mind STAYED on or FOCUSED on or leaning upon or taking hold of God's WORD-on His IN-STRUCTIONS & PROMISES—we will have pleasant & peaceful thoughts & be strong to face the problems: "Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in.

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose

mind *is* <u>stayed</u> *on thee*: because he <u>trusteth</u> in thee.

Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength."

And THAT is what God wanted that 1st man to do in that garden. God wanted that man to KEEP HIS COMMANDS in order to KEEP THAT GARDEN & THAT MAN SAFE because there was something EVIL present there! And then the Lord gave to that man the woman to HELP him KEEP those COMMANDS to KEEP that garden & themselves pleasant & protected. That was her job—to help that man KEEP that garden by KEEPING God's command! Did she end up HELP-ING him? We shall see. BUT FIRST—

Let's find out WHAT, or should we say, WHO that evil was that was present in that pleasant & protected garden in Eden that would REMAIN pleasant & protected only if that 1st man & 1st woman simply BELIEVED GOD & KEPT God's command!



"Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made.

And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" Genesis 3:1 KJB

Oh my, WHO is that? WHO is the SERPENT who was more SUBTIL than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made? Remember, God is the One who has made ALL creatures—even THE SERPENT who was more subtil than all the beasts of the field! Can you GUESS who that SERPENT in the garden was? In case you cannot, let's look at another scripture that will TELL us for certain who that SERPENT was. (It's important to know that when you come across things you do not understand in your bible, just KEEP on reading your bible each day. Eventually, God's Word will explain things & make them clear to you.



KEEP—GUARD & PROTECT your BIBLE READING TIME every day So that God's WORD can KEEP— GUARD & PROTECT your mind in every way! (Even in eventually understanding what you may not understand about the bible right now!) Who was that serpent?

Well, we are INTRODUCED to him in the VERY 1ST book of the bible (Genesis). Then we learn LOTS & LOTS about him in all the MIDDLE BOOKS of the bible! And we find out exactly WHO he is in the very LAST book of the bible (Revelation)! Do you see why you must KEEP ON READING your King James Bible every day? Who was that serpent? Revelation 12:9 tells us EXACTLY who he was. Read it & UNDER-LINE WHO that serpent was.

"And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."

Who was that EVIL ONE who was present in that garden? Fill in the blanks & you'll have the answer.

It was S _____ himself, that <u>old serpent</u>! No wonder Adam needed help! Oh, but did she help him? We shall soon see in coming lessons about HELPING EACH OTHER!

GRACE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP Pastor John A. Ricci

<u>Sunday Morning Service</u> 10:00 A.M. Sunday Transportation Service ~ Call 24 hours Prior

> Weekly Services Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:30 P.M.

Prayer Meeting Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:00-7:20 P.M.

> <u>Communion Service</u> First Sunday of Every Month

<u>Children's Prep School (Ages 5-14) & Mother's Room</u> Available for Every Service

> <u>Email</u> info@gracecfellowship.org

<u>Directions</u>

From I-95

- RI Exit #22; *Left* at split to **Rt. 6 W**.
- Take <u>Killingly St</u> (**Rt. 128**) Exit; *Right* off Exit.
- Take Killingly to end; *Right* Take <u>Mineral Spring</u> to end on <u>Manton Ave</u>; cross bridge. and stay *Left* around the
- Turn *Left* at light (CVS on corner), and then bear *Left* at the split. You are now on Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1 mi.
- G.C.F. is on the *Left*.

- **From Rt. 146**
- <u>Mineral Spring Ave</u> Exit in Providence.
- From **146** N turn *Left* off Exit; from **146** S turn *Right*.
- Take <u>Mineral Spring</u> to end and stay *Left* around the rotary (pass North Providence Town Hall).
 - Take next *Right* onto <u>Woonasquatucket Ave</u>.
 - Go about 1½ mi.
 - G.C.F. is on the *Right*.

Grace Christian Fellowship

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