Coronavirus Social Distancing Daily Devotion #31

Remember the Lord

***Exodus 13:3 (NASB)*** *3  “Moses said to the people, "Remember this day in which you went out from Egypt, from the house of slavery; for by a powerful hand the LORD brought you out from this place.”*

My wife and I have been watching the movie The Ten Commandments by Cecil B DeMille starring Charlton Heston as Moses. As many times as I have watched that movie, it is still my favorite movie of all time. It is my favorite for several reasons, but mainly because of the work of the Lord. It leaves me speechless every time I think of all God did to align people and events to free His people from bondage to the Egyptians. A bondage that lasted over 430 years. Only God could orchestrate such a powerful deliverance. Our nation has only been around 244 years, and God’s people were in slavery for 430 years. God was faithful to His promise to Abraham and established a great nation from him.

The other thing that captivates my attention about what God did for His people was how they saw so many miracles from God, yet when things were not so difficult, they forgot Him. God provided water and manna for forty years. He literally fed them with bread that came up from the ground like dew. Yet when they came into the new land, the land He promised them, they forgot Him.

That story is such a similar picture of our hearts and our relationship with the Lord. God has done so much for us. He created a beautiful planet on which we live. He gave us amazing bodies designed to live in that environment. But man disobeyed and brought sin into his heart. Yet God still provided. He gave man laws to live by so people could live together in peace. He promised He would provide all our needs. He told us never to worry because He would sustain us. Then, when we couldn’t live righteously, He provided our Savior to make sure we would get to heaven. Yet still we forget Him.

I understand that we have God in our thoughts and He is never fully abandoned, but too often our first thought when difficulties come or things come that we don’t know how to manage, is to look to ourselves for the solution. We trust our abilities and our insight instead of immediately turning to God. Too often we rely on our wisdom and ingenuity or financial gains instead of falling on our knees in prayer and asking God to provide. Too often we make excuses for why we don’t live our lives for Him, either because we want to go it alone, or find our own way, or make things happen out of our own strength. But still God is faithful to us.

The commandment from the Lord to the Hebrews was to remember what God had done for them. We should have the same mindset – to never forget the gracious work of the Lord to rescue us from your enemy. That same message should reverberate in our hearts and minds every day. We should always remember what the Lord has done for us, and we should give Him thanks no matter the circumstances.

I wonder, beloved, how often you remember the Lord? What is the dominate theme of your heart through these days. Is it concern and fear and anxiousness about how life will be in the future? Or is your mind dwelling on the goodness of God? Is your heart wanting more of Him? Is your spirit yearning for Him and looking to Him to provide all you need? Is your life pursuit what you want or what He wants?

Again, I say, we are not so far from the life of the Hebrews. We look to them and see the picture of their lives and would say: “Just be patient! Just hold on! Hang in there! God is going to deliver you!” But when it comes to our lives, we quickly forget the Lord and turn inward. Today is a great day, as things are beginning to open around the country, to determine that you will always remember the Lord and what He has done for you.