Seventh Day Adventist Burnsville

Acquainted With God.

By Art Dmytriyev
Yancey County

It has been Satan's studied plan to cause men to forget God so that he might secure them to himself. Therefore, he has sought to misrepresent the character of God, to lead men to cherish a false conception of Him. The Creator has been presented to their minds as clothed with the attributes of the prince of evil himself, — as arbitrary, severe, and unforgiving, — that He might be feared, shunned, and even hated by men. Satan has striven to so confuse the minds of those whom he has deceived that they would put God out of their thoughts. He would then obliterate the divine image in man, and impress upon the soul his own likeness; he would imbue men with his own spirit, and make them captives according to his will.

At times, Satan's contest for the control of the human family has appeared to be crowned with success. During the ages preceding the first advent of Christ, the world seemed to be almost wholly under the sway of the prince of darkness. Even the covenant people, whom God had chosen to preserve in the world the knowledge of Himself, had so far departed from Him that they had lost all true conception of His character. Christ came to reveal God to the world as a God of love, a God of mercy, tenderness, and compassion. With His human arm, He encircled the human race, while with His divine arm, He grasped the throne of the Infinite. Christ is saddened by the sight of men so absorbed in worldly cares and business perplexities that they have no time to become acquainted with God. To them heaven is a strange place; for they have lost it out of their reckoning. Not familiar with heavenly things, they tire of hearing about them. They dislike having their minds disturbed regarding their need for salvation. But the Lord desires to disturb their minds, so that they may become acquainted with Him, in time to accept his offer of salvation. Soon, very soon, whether they desire it or not, they will all know Him. The angel of mercy is now folding her wings, almost ready to depart. To eclipse the beauty and loveliness of the Prince of Light, Satan seeks to engross the minds of men with exciting games and other worldly pleasures. He endeavors so to occupy the attention with trivialities that no time will be taken to think of Jesus. Even after the most solemn presentation of the Word of God, the enemy will, if possible, destroy the impressions made by the Holy Spirit. In the books of heaven are accurately recorded the sneers and the trivial remarks of sinners who pay no heed to the call of mercy made, as Christ is presented to them by his ministering servants. As the artist takes on the polished glass a true picture of the human face, the angels of God daily place upon the books of heaven an exact representation of the character of every human being.

Dear reader, are you of the number who slight the instruction and warnings of the Word of God? Do you despise the great salvation proffered to you? The Lord is coming. If He were to come today, would you be ready to meet Him? Have you made your peace with Him? Do you desire to be sent away from God's presence to share in the humiliation and punishment of Satan and his angels? If during your lifetime you rob God of the service that He has purchased with His own blood, if you spend your time in idle talk and foolish amusement, you will lose heaven. Can you afford to barter away for worldly pleasure the gift of eternal life?

Pr. Art Dmytriyev is originally from Siberia. He has traveled the world in Evangelism and pastoral ministry. He serves as a pastor in North Carolina, holds a Master of Divinity degree, and is currently a Doctor of Ministry candidate. More information at: https://burnsvillenc.adventistchurch.org/pastors-blog

Sudoku

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5		3					9	
	4		3		9	7	5	
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Enjoying Everyday Life

Two Keys to Your Best Life Ever!

By Joyce Meyer

I've been teaching the Word of God for more than 45 years now, and one of the most life-changing things I've learned is that God is always right. No matter what I think, how I feel, or what my circumstances look like, His wisdom and His way of doing things are always the answer to my problems.

One message we see throughout the Bible is, "Do what's right in God's eyes and you'll have a life you enjoy that's worth living. Don't obey God, and you'll have a miserable life." See, it's not the things that happen to us that determine the quality of our lives; it's how we choose to respond to them that really matters. And trusting God is the key to making the right choices that bring us the life He has planned for us.

We can choose to trust God. The truth is, God is the only One we can completely trust to take care of us and do what's best for us at all times, in every situation. Maybe you're thinking, "Well, I trusted God and He didn't take care of me." I understand how you feel because I've gone through hard things and didn't get what I wanted when I thought I should get it, the way I thought it should come. But the question is, were you trusting God to give you what you wanted Him to give you, or what He wanted to give you, in His time and in His way?

Doing what we want and getting our way all the time isn't what will make us happy. Being selfish and self-centered is actually a miserable way to live. We need the Word of God because as we study it and meditate on it, it renews our minds so we think the way He thinks. It also turns our will in God's direction so we want what He wants for us.

The Solutions to Every Problem We Face

Psalm 37:3 (AMPC) says, "*Trust (lean on, rely on, and be confident) in the Lord and do good; so shall you dwell in the land and feed surely on His faithfulness, and truly you shall be fed.*" This verse tells us the two things we must do that will solve every problem we face: trust God and do good.

God's Word is medicine that brings healing and restoration to our souls. "Trust God" and "Do Good" are the two prescriptions we all need. Our doctor is Jesus, we are His patients, and we can take His medicine as much as we need to. And refills are endless! But there are side effects. When you trust God, you will experience peace, joy, stability, confidence, and overall better health. When you do good, you'll have extreme happiness and rewards in Heaven.

I know it's not always easy to trust God and do good, but it's the best option because it's the only thing that really works. I know it works because I used to be a mess, and learning how to trust God and obey His Word has literally changed my life!

I wish I could get people to understand how pathetic my life was when I received my first Bible from my mother-in-law. It's so amazing how learning to believe God's Word—to trust Him and obey Him—has taken my brokenness and turned my life into something that can actually be of value to other people.

The Partnership That Guarantees Your Success

Psalm 37:5 (AMPC) says, "*Commit your way to the Lord [roll and repose each care of your load on Him]; trust (lean on, rely on, and be confident) also in Him and He will bring it to pass.*" Life in God is a journey, and we partner with Him by putting our trust in Him (1 Corinthians 1:9). That means when we're dealing with a difficult situation, He may show us something we need to do that will help solve our problem.

I remember when God spoke to my heart that Dave and I should take care of my parents in their old age. This meant we would move them to the city where we live, buy a home for them and provide the care they needed. This was so hard for me because my father had abused me throughout my childhood and my mother had abandoned me by not doing anything to stop it. But God gave me the grace to do it, and one of the results was that my father accepted Christ as his Savior before he died. This is one of the greatest blessings I've ever had!

I want to encourage you to trust God completely in every area of your life. Remember that He is always on your side and He is fighting for you as you go through the challenges in your life. He loves you and has your best interest at heart at all times. No matter what you need or what your circumstances are, you can live with peace, joy, stability, confidence, and overall better health if you will trust God and do good!

Joyce Meyer is a New York Times bestselling author and founder of Joyce Meyer Ministries, Inc. She hosts the Enjoying Everyday Life radio and TV programs, which air on hundreds of stations worldwide. For more information, visit www.joycemeyer.org.

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