

## Messages from Heavenly Teachers 61-72

(Typed by CQ)

61. Johannes Gutenberg
62. William Tyndale
63. Stephen
64. Adoniram Judson
65. Dwight L. Moody
66. Timothy
67. William Shakespeare
68. Blind Bartimaeus
69. Zacchaeus
70. Naaman
71. James (Apostle)
72. Ethiopian Eunuch

### Johannes Gutenberg:

I too played my role in bringing the kingdom of God into the houses and hearts and minds of men. I thought I was just an inventor, and perhaps a bit too over possessed with the love of knowledge, and words that conveyed it. But God had His hand on me and had His name glorified.

Though Satan laughed, thinking about all the evil that could be spread with the aid of the printing press, and indeed it has been the downfall of many a soul, and many a nation, that is not to my dishonour, for I had done my part. The choices still made today of books written affect the hearts and minds of mankind. With words so swiftly carried out, and the public as hungry as ever to learn to know or just to be entertained, so many are polluted and led astray. But just like everything God allows to be on Earth, there is the choice, like there was since the beginning of time, will good or evil be chosen? No one has been without this choice, and some things to choose from. For the first people it was a tree. Maybe for you it's taking in or not taking in electronic information. Maybe for others in the past it was what they learned in educational facilities—when there was yet choice.

I am looking forward to the great day coming when all lies shall be abolished; all works of Satan destroyed, and all fruit in all its forms, of the knowledge of the evil turned to dust. Until then, each one that walks the garden of this world has to keep making the choice NOT TO EAT that which goes against God and His Word. You have to make the choice today. What happens in your life afterwards will be a direct result of what you do or do not take in; or if something has been thrust at you, that you spew it forth and bathe in the river of life, the water of God's truth to be purged and cleansed and to keep your taste buds pure.

Please, I implore you, write and publish only that which is good to the use of edifying. With education and literacy there has to be, it is essential that it go along with, a good and proper knowledge of God and belief and searching daily of the scriptures, otherwise it's like giving toddlers dangerous tools, like matches. They should only have things that is right for their level of what is good and safe and right.

People that know not God, should know not the way to publish their foul disputations. But those that are eager for truth and have proven by their words and deeds and actions to be truly hungering and thirsting for the truth, can be trusted with the knowledge of language.

It's important, utterly vital, that these go hand in hand, or things are going to burn, crumble and collapse.

**PRO.9:9** Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.

**PRO.9:10** The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

Wise men or women get instruction, those filled with their own ways and are foolish, aren't to be instructed in things. They should bear their own folly, until they repent.

First learn by hearing, then by doing, and lastly be enabled to learn by teaching others the truth you have learned. To do this you are given the tools of the written word, because you have proven to be worthy and will use it wisely.

If a foolish child won't be instructed in the ways of the Lord, he isn't to gain the arts that will enable him to more swiftly pass on his foul thoughts and silly ideas.

That is what is wrong with the media world and fast publishing, dumb ideas and crazy ways of doing things are being passed on worldwide at lightning speed, all because they were not trained in God's ways first, before being given the tools for private study and teaching and telling others.

You don't have to show you can read to show you are wise. Some of the wisest people on Earth, that is who walked in God's ways, didn't know how to read and write, so they prayed for God's help, and they were obedient to any message that came to them from the Lord. They didn't write it and then forget it. They had to keep it in their mind constantly so as not to forget it. This is true wisdom.

Gird up the loins of your mind, for that is the hotbed where the seedlings are gendered. Let nothing foul mess up the fruit of your mind. Let only the good bloom and grow.

Yours in the battle of the books, Johannes

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#### **William Tyndale:**

Amid the dank and dark night I hid the treasure, not knowing just when I would or might be taken, and along with that the joy and hope of so many who waited in the dark for the light of God to enlighten their hearts and minds. It didn't matter to me if it cost my health, life, and physical comfort; the cries of the hearts of my country men would give me no peace. The call of God, the prod pushing me to publish the tidings of peace would give me no rest. If I were to cast off my call to do my own bidding, I would be left with no more comfort, for then both satan and God would be at my side, one with disappointment, the other with hideous cackling and another victim down. I would give place to neither. For to work was my delight, and to suffer for the cause of truth was a noble and worthy task. If I had any care for thoughts and wishes of man, for them to override the shout of God in my Spirit, rallying me to fight, it would have pulled me down. But to do God's will I had to shut out all thoughts of pleasing man, and please the Lord alone.

Trust not in princes nor nobles, or those who hold the rule, for they will lie in the dust, while God's truth prevails. And those who also die, yet for the cause of God, will rise to rule with Him one day. They too will prevail and will live to see the fruits of the seeds they have planted in the Work of God. For one plants, another may water, and others build on another's work. Not all enjoy seeing the full fruit of their labours, from start of work to the finish. But all who play their part, will enjoy the rewards of their labours at the end of the day.

I couldn't do the work, from A to Z, and neither could you, for you needed us to start what you are doing; and the many others whose work you too are building on. This helps to keep one very humble to realise how much work it has taken others to enable your work today. And it causes one to realise that this world belongs to the

Lord and He will finish what He has begun, with or without a certain person. Then all can rejoice in the Lord when the time is up and the Lord returns to claim His prize.

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**Stephen:**

When people are angry, look up to Heaven like I did. Don't focus on the repulsive countenances of the wicked ones who reflect the darkness that they are trying to cover the world with. Look up to the light. Do as Moses and Aaron did, when people's words rubbed on them in a hard, bristly way, look to the Lord. He'll tell you what to think, and give you peace.

It's not you they are fighting against. You are just God's representative on Earth, and sadly they might be being used as an emissary by the wrong side. Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, and don't give them the pleasure of derailing you and your service for the Lord. Just look unto Jesus. He'll lighten your face and you won't even feel the blows of the wicked one, at least not very much, or not as much as the enemy hopes you will. You got angels that can parry it for you, and absorb the bad feelings. You can then go to sleep in the arms of Jesus, and wake up in His presence once again. In Heaven or on Earth it matters not, just that you are with Him, ready to praise and serve Him. Once you are saved, and have received Jesus as the payment for your sin, you will always live. Just think, you will never die; it will never seem like you have to you, just like it was to me. One moment I was speaking of Jesus, witnessing with all my heart, then I looked up and saw Him. It wasn't too long afterwards till I was speaking with Him, face to face. Those on Earth fighting the light and the truth got the trauma of it all—and more to come later on. I did the job in one place, and flew off to keep on working and living and loving Christ with all my heart, mind and soul.

That's a good thing to remember, and this leads me to say: To you it might seem like someone is in a real difficult straight and you wonder how they could ever endure such heart ache and pain. But they might be having the grace of the Lord in a way that you can not see. They might be seeing new things that give them grace to endure. So although you can pray for them, you don't have to doubt the accuracy of God's measuring tools, thinking they must have broken, and He's gone beyond the limit of their human frame and mental capacity. Sometimes there are choices that they have made that have brought them to this point of needing a serious situation. Or sometimes it's a training camp, giving them needed training so they can go on to do what they were sent to Earth to do.

Whatever it is, God knows, and though your prayers filled with faith will aid them plenty, your words of sympathy that make them feel worse, that are tinged or coloured with a lack of trust in God, will do them little good, but add to their sorrow.

Be an uplift in times of struggle, and know that your Redeemer is very near, maybe even nearer than you can feel at that time, because they need to feel Him closer. Trust that He knows what is best, but do your part to pray for the best to come from it, and for God's highest will to be done. Always pray, but pray in faith, for that pleases God.

Trust Him in the dark and in the light. Peace be unto you, and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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**Adoniram Judson:**

To be one with them, to weep with them, to go hungry when others are also in need, that is being a real missionary. It's not to come and try to set up your own style and corner of the world, but to do as Jesus did. He dressed and ate and lived as they did. That's so that the outward styles couldn't get in the way, and so His Words could clearly shine out, without any other distractions.

Did you notice in the garden of Gethsemane, when they came to arrest Jesus there, that they had to ask which of the men there was Jesus? Why was that? Because he totally blended in, as far as outward styles and speaking their languages goes.

You can't always adopt everything of the ones you are trying to reach, for part of being a sample is to choose the good and not demonstrate what is wrong. They learn then too, that you aren't trying to be a copy of them, but coming to help show them the Lord's ways. Some things are just cultural ways of being, and it makes no difference to their salvation. But some ways should be discontinued and replaced with something better.

First of all you have to have no will of your own, and be willing to do and to try whatever God allows and leads you to. Then you need to have your own morals and Christian conduct worked out, and be willing to change whatever isn't good. It's like making many copies of an original, if there is a blunder or blemish on the original, it just gets more copies made of it. So you have to try to be the best "original" as you can, if you are helping to lead and to teach others what to do. You have to know what is right to do, and what, if done regularly, over a long period of time, will have good results; what habits to pass on to others of daily conduct and living. Lastly, you need to pray, for even your best efforts to help lead others to walk in God's ways will fail if they aren't willing, and also aren't attracted to the good in you. It's easy for them to see and to notice the faults, or to develop feelings of resentment or bitterness to form. But if you pray, then they can be somewhat blinded from noticing the things that would hurt your witness, and more good can be seen and thus followed. Mistakes will always come and be a part of life, but you can learn from them, and pray harder for God and His Spirit to help you in your daily interactions.

Do you know what the Bible has to say about all the latest issues in your realm of service? Are you ready to give an answer to he or she which asks you? "I'll look it up in the answer book" is a good answer at times when you aren't sure what to say. This teaches them that, just like them, you also need to get the answers from the Lord. You aren't any more smarter than they are, just perhaps you have done more studying in the Word of God, and so have more of it stored in your mind and heart. —They can do the same. Pretty soon they might get in the habit of turning to the Word of God to seek for answers. Some answers you need to get fresh from Heaven, and this is a great thing to show and teach others too, that God hasn't stopped speaking, and is alive and well able to "teach you all things" but it will always have roots in some passage in the Bible, and show its veracity this way.

When I started out doing the translation of the Bible into the language of the people I was reaching, I really didn't know how big of a job it was going to be, or how long it would take, and all the trials that would come at me. The Bible was under fierce attack, and so was I. Try standing on the Word, it's like standing on the top of a tall building in a lightning storm. You're going to get hit. But if you are grounded "built up and rooted in the faith" then you're going to last. You'll take those blows, get healed and restrengthened, and keep on going the best you can. You don't give in and give up, and let the old ugly tackler get the ball—or the book, as was in my case.

Jesus helped me to hold on, and to hold out, and to finish what I was meant to do, and He did the miracles that I couldn't do. He's always at war with the enemy of the Word. But God's Word will always win, even if it costs your Earthly life while fighting for its propagation and promotion.

A pen is a special gift to mankind, a made in Heaven tool, given to write His Words. Some pens have ink, others are diamond tipped, others made of metal, others are hot and burn a message onto wood. Some are made of rock, like led and chalk. Some are even electric or magnetic. Words are vital to the progress of mankind, and primarily the written words. And so it is, that the writing of God's Word and reading it, is vital to the progress of the Kingdom of God.

Like a man's vessel gives out seeds, so does a pen in similar shape, give out words. Words and seeds have so much in common. When God says to "bear fruit" this can only be done through His Words being written in the hearts and minds of men, women and children.

Write the love of God on the hearts of others. Be a ready to use, good working pen or tool of writing, that the Lord can use to bear much fruit. Write the Words in the hearts and minds of others. Don't compare with the other pens around, all can be used and are needed in different situations and with different types of people—just like there are different types of things to write on. God knows what pen is needed in your situation. Write the best you can, and always stay in the hand of the Author and Finisher of your faith. Then you can know His story written with you will be beneficial and bear the right kind of fruit.

Stay fit in spirit and in mind and in body. You never know when something is taxing in strength, and straining mentally, or wearying physically will suddenly come on you. Stay fit and ready at all times to do the work of your Lord and King.

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#### **Dwight L. Moody:**

I'm still going around the world, witnessing up a storm, only this time I have a huge team of angelic hosts with me, helping me to do the job. Of course they were helping and supporting me all along, but I couldn't see them. Now I have a team and it feels so much better. I don't have to feel alone and like a lone voice calling out, like I often felt.

Now I can help here and there wherever there is a need. God's given me the choice of several places to help out in; there's lots of us who are willing and ready to go lend a voice and help to silence the wrong voices trying to drown out the truth.

Salvation for the whole world is what I'm after, because I know the heart of Jesus beats for this. We are committed, whole gangs of us, multitudes of Heavenly hosts, sent out to glorify God and bring peace to the hearts of men the world over.

Lord, you've got these tools, these humble vessels to do your jobs. I ask that you please empower each one of us, enable us to do the job well and right and in as short amount of time as possible, so we can all rejoice in Heaven together, with as many souls won. It won't be long now until you are going to be called on to do some bigger jobs and will need to pull more of the weight of your family. There's still a world to be won, just as there was in my day. New people are born, and other people are soon to pass away. So there's always ripe fruit ready to pick and save them and harvest them for Jesus

Keep your tools sharp and ready, and don't forget to sit in the shade for a while and get a good drink of Jesus before carrying on with your harvesting and preparation. May God bless and keep you and make you a blessing in every way possible.

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#### **Timothy:**

I loved listening to the Words of Jesus. I heard them in my heart, and they made sense in my soul, and I wanted to live by them. He spoke to me personally too, in visions, in dreams, and of course through the written Word that was rapidly becoming available to us. I knew in my heart I would never again be lured by the Roman gods, and the Greek's strange ideas, and the folly of youth. I had found a God that was way more powering than any, and a truth stranger than fiction.

I wasn't the most popular guy, as you may know. There were lots of testings and trials along the way. Many people couldn't tolerate a "Gentile" and unclean person like me telling them about the way, the truth and the life. But Uncle Paul who saw in me the fire that could light others with the fiery truth, encouraged me to do my

part, and to not buckle under the pressure to conform and to just leave the teaching and preaching and gospel work to others.

It would have been easy to just rest in the assurance of my salvation and work at a “normal” life and job. But God had other plans for me, and they took a lot out of me, but God gave me all that I needed, the courage and the faith.

Trust that He knows what He’s doing when God asks you to do something that seems very uncomfortable or nearly impossible. Don’t keep tricking yourself thinking that someone else would be better for the job. If God’s asked it of you, then step right up and take that cup, drink it down, go through with the death that it seems to bring to self and your own ideas or even career opportunities. Get on that cross, so to speak, and call out to God to take you and do with you all He has in mind. Then watch how He brings a resurrection in your life. You’ll flourish and bloom and bear much fruit. You’ll be living, really living, the life that He planned, and you’ll be so glad you are.

And when the time is right you’ll get to hear those golden words “Well done”. Believe me, you don’t want to miss that. The way Jesus says it to each individual person is different. His personal “well done” will mean oh so very much to you.

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#### **William Shakespeare:**

I used to like to tickle the ears of the public. Though I had the gift of language, and that was a gift from the Lord and I used it in my life, still there are some things I wrote that make me cringe, and I’d be happy to see them out of circulation. But now with my new Heavenly take on things, I can help you and others there today use their gifts of script writing and language to promote wholesome and great concepts.

The music and dramatic industry is taking the world where it is doomed to be, as they have stopped using their compass, the Bible and the Holy Spirit to guide them into all truth. People can be so led astray. Then to get away from the problems that they have to endure, due to living in an ungodly based world, they seek out “away from thinking” opportunities; amusements and worldly entertainment. But if what they are taking in is leading them to vice and sin, it just spirals them down further, and they’ll be worse off for it.

Living in a pleasure-seeking world, where people want something to get their mind off their troubles, or really off of their boredom, some of the methods used for outreach might have to make its way into their “away from thinking” taverns. Making things to entertain, but that have a pure Godly spin to it, might be what is needed, for a time that is. When things get worse, and you’ll be forbidden to do that, due to the content being seriously restricted, then new ways of witnessing will be needed. But while you have the chance to use this method, do the best you can. And don’t include any trash that will taint your image nor message. Don’t water down what you show and teach in order to perform any ear tickling, laughter reflexes, if they are counter productive to what God is doing. Or else He’ll call someone else to do the job, and you’ll miss the blessing that He was wanting to give to you; and you’ll miss what you were given the gifts and talents for.

Stay true to Jesus, even if it makes a few people bothered. They aren’t going to determine your ultimate destiny. Only God can do that.

Really pray, in wholehearted desperation about each new project that you take on. It’s in a way being teachers, and “the greater condemnation” will come to those that are responsible for teaching and showing the wrong side; and that which offends little ones.

Maybe you don’t have a lot of opportunities or a team of people to perform plays, but you can still write and prepare scripts. Who knows where they will go? It’s easier for them to slip out here and there all over the world on text, and get into minds and hearts, and yes in people’s living rooms as they are played out. Maybe in Churches even.

Taking action and acting on God's Word takes on a new meaning when you think of getting people to act out good plays. It's like getting them to practice doing what is right. Then in real life, it might come more automatically to do what is right. Whereas if they have seen, said, and acted out the wrong, then, you know what the rest of this sentence will be. Do it in pretend, and before too long, it's going to be real, and all over. Like the movie industry has proved to be. It's like a printer for evil doing. Each one who views those foul images is like another blank piece of paper getting a copy made on them, and pretty soon you've got billions of more copies, people, living out what they saw. They are making the world what it is today by seeing, then talking about it, writing about it, then pretending, and then doing the wrong. This world is going to get cleaned up, and all Heaven will cheer when at last its bonfire time, and so will you—that is if nothing you have made or helped to make is in the "to burn" pile. For those who make things worthy of stripes, will feel the burning pain of stripes while their evil works are burned.

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### **Blind Bartimaeus:**

I can truly say now that "I see". I never lose the joy, the rush of wonder, and thrill, every time I lay my eyes on Jesus. He is the most wonderful thing in the world to look at. For in Him is the source of all true pleasure, all the greatest joys, the source of all peace, and from where all love comes.

Just a look at the Master made the rest of my life worth living. He didn't forbid me from being near Him, though I was nothing in this world. I had not fame or fortune. I couldn't give Him anything but love and a willingness to forsake all that the world offered. When I had sight, everything was opened to me, or a possibility. I could have gone off to learn a skill, gone to seek a wife, gone to make money to survive, gone to try to be a son that my parents would be proud to call their own by helping to care for them.

But I had a new father when I received my sight. I had a job, when God gave me the gift of sight. I had so much to learn, and was choosing the best teacher to learn from. I would have it all if I followed Jesus.

Now I help to lead others to the light, and to see that learning from Jesus is the best education. I help people get new sight to their clouded eyes, to wipe away the smog of this present mixed up world, and to see that God's ways are really the best ways.

Sometimes I help on missions to those who are blind, and help people reach and minister to the blind. They are a whole different mission field.

I love it when people have that wonderful moment of seeing Jesus for who He is, and believing on Him; when their heart at last says, "I see!"

Those who are the most blind are those who think they see it all clearly, but they have no idea it's all a deception, like most movies have—just special effects to make the viewer get a feeling or have a reaction.

You've got to "see Him who is invisible" and "look for a city which hath foundations whose building and maker is God" and "look for the promise" and "seek first the Kingdom of God". Then you'll get a clearer view of the way God sees things, and you can more easily walk on the path He's put before you.

Walk on now, "Looking unto Jesus".

I love you! See you later!

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### **Zacchaeus:**

“Zacchaeus was a wee little man, and a wee little man was he.” And I still am. I love staying low and humble before the Lord. I am nothing great, but I still love to feast with the Master. I took Him to my house and fed Him the best I had, and now He feeds me at His table. We have great times of talking.

One of the jobs I have is getting people to separate themselves from their worthless riches that won't get them anywhere but into a pit, and quite literally too. For the love of money corrupts. Since I made the choice to love Jesus more than my riches, and when I receive Him into my home and chose to adopt His morals, now I have the chosen job of loosing the grasp that money has on the hearts and minds of people.

The Devil really doesn't like me, because without that hold on people, then they are free, free to be a servant of God and trust Him. But as long as lucre is still luring a hapless soul, they are headed for the corruption of all their good works; it'll all be in vain, because labouring for the lucre of this world is like a spiralling screw going down, down, and then you are stuck. You may think, “I'm making headway, really going places.” But only in circles down into a pit.

Sometimes is because people have extra money that they find a shorter end to life, like the pots and dishes of metal that only the rich could afford. They got contamination and poisoned from it. The poor had to use cheaper and more natural tools and were spared the diseases that the rich got. This wasn't known at the time, but soon was discovered by the sorry consequences.

Or all the world's revolutions that were to oust the rich and replace the nation with the poor. First satan got them to be money mad, and then issues the death warrant against them. Never was he interested in preserving them or giving them a good life to begin with. It was just money and the love of it specifically that was a tool to push more death and destruction on to the hapless and sorry souls of the uninformed and unaltered.

So when I see some of God's children begin to give place to lures and lies in the lucre department, I come to help remove the blinders and help them to make better more lasting choices. To help people put the Love of Jesus first in their heart, and to use what goods they have to be use for God's Kingdom on Earth. Now's the only chance they have to share their Earthly wealth and possessions, for when their life clock is over, it will all be given up, ready or not. It's much better to choose to give it away for the Lord, or not waste time acquiring it in the first place when they were meant to be doing something different for God.

Money is a tool, not a jewel.

Keep it in its place, not worn on your face,

As a glint in your eye; or one day you will sigh.

For it has corrupted you; and wasted life too.

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### **Naaman:**

I did a lot of wrongs in my life. It amazes me that God should have picked me to be someone often told about in Bible stories to children. I was nothing, as far as doing much good for the true King. My pride stands out probably the most, in the story, for that is how I was. I wanted everything I did to shed some light of glory on me. If I had to do a humble thing, I wanted it done in a proud way, so I could go away thinking I was well thought of and famous.

Maybe the Lord knew my heart, and that I just wanted to know who was the one true God. And that is the way He chose to answer. It would seem that my problem with leprosy was the pitifully worse thing that could happen to someone, and I was a doomed man. But it was just that problem that got me desperate to find a solution, and bing, that is when I met with God in my life.

I don't regret taking that journey to get the help I needed, even though I didn't get instantly cured of the pride that was the real sickness. “A man's pride shall bring him low” the scripture says. Remember that. If you are

having issues with something, and it's hurting you, maybe it's to grab your attention and bring you quickly to the Saviour.

I can't say that I have attained to perfection, for all are imperfect in His sight. But I like to walk humbly now. I don't have to have a big fan fare just to walk into my own house, like I used to enjoy. I don't have to have "all men speak well of me", that is to never have learn something new, to never be instructed. I don't need to only receive the compliments of God and angels. I'm here to learn, and still have a lot of learning to do.

But it's so much nicer now. There is no stress to be the best in the realm. I just need to surrender to God and let Him be the boss, the king, and the captain of His hosts, teaching us when to go out and in, and how to do the job that gets Him glory. I don't need to take the credit. I just need to follow.

See those who got plenty of honour and credit while on Earth, have some of the most things to learn while on this side, partly because they were so busy they had little time to sit and learn the things of the spirit. So when they left the world life, they found they couldn't do things in the ways they were accustomed to doing them, and it was a whole new grade level, and they were at the bottom, just beginning to learn the ways of the Kingdom of God.

Be glad if you are in a quiet location with little to no fame or glory, you can use the time you have to learn from the King—and He amazingly does take time to personally teach each one of His people that look to Him. If you learn of Him, then you'll be able to go ahead, right away to the higher levels and access special zones in the Spiritual realm of God, His Heavenly Kingdom. This is where the main action is happening. And the more people know of God and His ways before they come here, the more they can enjoy and jump in and do. Certain people are selected for certain tasks. And the most thrilling with the best side perks and personal benefits, are the ones that require the closest connection to Jesus. But if you learn that well while on Earth, then you'll be allowed on the team of angels and Spirit beings who get to do higher level things. But all of us are content to learn at our level, and then to keep moving up, closer to the mind of God, learning all the time how He does things, what makes Him tick, and why He does what He does. The more of Him that we absorb, the better equipped we are to actually be a help in the right direction.

It doesn't matter how skilled you are in an area, if you aren't using that skill for the benefit of others, or to help you work towards a goal, then it's effort and skill wasted. So you need both the right direction and the way to do it, then you can "serve the Lord with gladness".

Sometimes I help to encourage people who find themselves with a painful and terminal, long-term illness. I can help them, as I was helped, to take the humble step down to the river, the river of God's cleansing and refreshing; to God. To Him for healing. I can encourage them to remove from their life the proud cover ups, like the clothes I had to remove first. Humility and healing often go together.

Sometimes the Lord allows me to be the one that creates the change in the physical in a person so they see they are healed. Healing miracles are fun to do, because it tends to give the Lord the glory. I can then remind them to praise and worship the Lord, and to not allow any part of glory to be given to man or to false gods; the things people on Earth like to falsely give the credit too.

All credit to Jesus, for He alone can satisfy every longing.

I'm learning each day, and I'm glad you are as well.

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## James (Apostle):

My brother and I were, unhappily, always in some kind of competition. We didn't always even realise we were doing it. Maybe he got the biggest fish, and that got me grumpy, but then perhaps I got a better seat at the table of one we were dining with. Maybe I got a compliment from our father for mending the nets well, but then he got to go to the next town on a trip—to the same place he went last time that I didn't have a chance to go even once yet. These kinds of things. Who got the biggest and the best, they must be the better one. Always wanting and wishing for acclaim and praise of man.

I think that is what Jesus was helping us purge out from our hearts and teach us that “He that is greatest among you must show it by being the servant.” That was a new and hard concept to grasp. But as always, Jesus wasn't teaching and training us in the mindsets of this world, but gave us totally new things to think about. After all, what would be the use of all that time spent in training if it wasn't to show and tell us new things.

It took a lot of humility to do the things He said. Oh, it was easy to preach His words to others, but when it came time to do what He said, among ourselves, yes with our very brothers (which several of us had) it was a different kettle of fish. It was easy to tell others these new doctrines of how to share and be kind, to forgive, and to not hoard things for ourselves. They were new and thrilling words and concepts that wowed the minds of others, things like not working for ourselves any more but for God. However, when it came time to turn around and wash the feet of our fellow companion, that took a dose of humility that few of us had at the start. It took time and a wearing away of our pride to reach the high level of the humility of God. —Because pride is actually a minus, a down, and we had a hard climb to get out of pride's traps and get up to the fresh air and freedom of God's humility. To say we were sorry and to forgive one another repeatedly—and there were plenty of opportunities to do so—was a challenge that few of us were ready for. But we were in class and had to follow through on our assignments.

It's always easier to do things right away, right when the Good Lord says to, even if it is death to pride and the old man of self and the way you feel like being. But those of us who jumped right in and did whatever humble, loving thing, or anything, that He was saying, were the ones who made faster progress and were able to understand more things that He taught. When he told a parable, those of us who had chosen to do what He said before to do, even if it embarrassed us in front of our brethren, these were the ones who got quicker insight to the mysteries He was sharing.

There started to be a difference between those who followed Him closely, and those who were just on the team for the novelty of it, or because it was well thought of to be personally tutored by a rabbi and such. But soon we all started to get the idea that it was best to not just listen but actually do, and do right away what He said, or else how could we teach others if we ourselves weren't living it?

I learned the hard way not to think too highly of myself. It was pretty upsetting to the others when my brother and I, still with our old habits, started to compare with the other disciples and wish to be above them and thought of as the most glorious in the Kingdom to come, as right hand men of the King of kings. Of course we still thought then that Jesus was going to reign then and there, and we wanted to be somewhat like King David's Joab and his brother, strong and at his right hand.

But we sure had a lot to learn. The first thing we had to learn was the first shall be last. That we were to put ourselves last in priority and seek the goodness of God's Kingdom, with no other personal goals. Put Jesus and His work first, and ourselves last. If we got priorities mixed up, we'd fail Him and others. The worst thing you can do is to constantly be measuring and comparing yourselves with others. This is the math that needs to go. You don't have the right tools for seeing things correctly. Only from God's perspective can you be seen for what you are, and what you need, and who needs what gifts and when. This comparing puts down your guard and opens you up to a whole batch of thoughts from the enemy, which will just bring you down and derail you.

There is lots in the Word about this—both new and old Word from Heaven. It's wise to heed it. Just treat those thoughts like you do any other that are displeasing to the Lord, and "neither give place" to them. It's much better to use your mind's time to count your blessings, and to think about how big and wonderful the Lord is, rather than seeing who on Earth is worse and who is better—that is to your limited mind's view. Count your blessings and uplift Jesus, then you will be immune to many of these destructive tactics of satan to mix you up and toss you in a pit. Don't fall for it.

When you start thinking, "Hey, I want what they got. I got so much less..." stop right there. Say, "Lord, You are keeping count, I'll save that job for You. But if you think it right for me to have a bit more of that, or less of this, I'd be grateful, as it's a bit hard for me sometimes. But Lord, You know what is best, and I trust You to take good care of me."

It's as simple as that to just stop and put those feelings and comparison issues into the Lord's hands. And remember, the sin of the first set of brothers was caused by the very same tactic of satan—comparing, and look where it led. If Cain had stopped and got on his knees admitting to his Heavenly Father the bad thoughts that he had, and wanted to change and be made right again, things would have turned out differently.

But he held stoutly to his misguided ideas that he was right and everyone else was wrong, and he was going to prove it if it was the last thing he did. But to his utter horror it turned out to be the last thing his brother did, and now Cain had a very long life to live with the regret and the punishment of it.

So it's not a light thing to give place to evil comparisons, as it's the same as giving place to war and strife, envy and hatred. These all get tangled together. When just a good dose of humility and prayer, and some brotherly love would have washed it away.

So choose the loving way, as we had to learn. And remember, if it's loving, it will take humility, and visa versa—to be humble requires love, mostly a love and respect for the Lord; then He can place the love for others into your heart, and this helps more of the right choices be made.

And I love you! Happy brotherhood time!

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### **Ethiopian Eunuch:**

Isaiah is a good friend of mine. We've had some interesting discussions lately. Did you know he was good at people skills and relating things to what they would understand? But though he was a great talker, he couldn't do the work of the Lord giving the Words of the Lord without having his lips cleansed and dedicated to God.

God can use your talents that He's given you there on Earth, but only if you'll let Him empower you, cleanse you and fill you with His Spirit. And little did dear Isaiah know when he was going through this time of purging and all that it took to be a true prophet of God, that these words recorded from the Lord would be instrumental in winning me and many in my nation to the knowledge of the truth.

If he hadn't given up his own ideas of what his life should be, who he should marry, what trade he should do, and the thought of living to a peaceful old age, dying in peace while being well thought of, then so many others would have missed getting the message that they needed to get through the insightful prophetic Words that God wanted to give through him--the channel and vessel of Isaiah.

You have to be willing to be used in whatever way the Lord has need of, and give up all your own plans for a while, or even for the rest of your life, if you want to make a big difference, long term. He sure didn't seem to make much of a difference in his day, except to make things hard on himself through the scorn he got and all. But think of all the hope and instruction and learning the fear of the Lord that has been given to countless

people ever since. They were the Lord's Words and He saw to it that these words were preserved down through the pages of history. Many other books of man have come and gone and been lost for eternity, but if it's God's Word, even if given through a humble and broken soul who feels utterly incapable, then those Words of life will just go on, watering crop of believers after crop of believers. Repeated harvests can occur with just a single book, when God's Spirit is there, bringing it to life.

The worth of the written Word is something to be valued. If you could weigh it on a scale, it would out weight the universe, for just a Word spoken brought it all into being. How much does an entire book of God's spoken Word weigh then in comparison? It's priceless, certainly well above jewels and gold.

Never under estimate the power of God's written Word, and its power to change lives, hearts, minds, and even the physical surroundings you live in. Treat it with respect, and like the potent substance that it is. It's like seeds too, that will work their way into the soil of a civilization, bury down and take root, and grow up to be a big tree—just as Jesus likened the Kingdom of God to. That's why Jesus said the key to unlock, the code to first understand all the other parables He gave, was first to understand the parable of the sower and the seeds of God's Word. It is then, when you realise the power and importance of the seeds of God's Word that you can understand the other things said about God's Kingdom. If you don't have the Word planted into the hearts of people living today, then how will the Kingdom of God grow in their area and spread out, providing shade and food, health and nourishment. First comes the accepting of the Word in the hearts of people, then God's Kingdom can grow.

So as I was sitting there in that chariot, reading or seeding really, seeding my heart, then God sent along the Spirit of understanding, that bid Philip to be where he should be, and do what he should do. When understanding, or the germinating and sprouting of that seed in my heart occurred, I wanted to be watered. I asked to be baptised at the nearest place we saw. Into the water I went, and I became a new dedicated plant for the Kingdom of God, ready to grow up tall and fine, and ready to spread the seeds of God's Word that was now in me, to others—just like a fruit tree, with fruit that has seed within itself.

So never underestimate the power of God's written Word. In ready hearts, and baptised souls, whole forests and orchards and groves of God's good trees planted by the river of life will flourish—like communities of believers. And one day whole nations will be growing up well, all grown up because of the seed of God's Word.

Plant the seeds you can, and most importantly keep planting new seeds in your own heart and soul, and ask God for the understand of His Spirit, so that seed can sprout. Then you'll need lots of water, daily cleanse of the filth of the world, and the washing and regeneration of the Holy Ghost, to grow up tall and fine and strong.

Some trees, though they look tall, are mostly for show, because they don't have the right nourishment. Branches fall down and crack off, and they collapse. The sap that keeps running through the tree and each one of the branches is essential to keeping it strong. That's like the fruits of God's Spirit, because the sap helps to bring the fruit. Without life in a tree, there can be no fruit. You need the life of God in you so you can bear fruit, and that fruit can then cause new growth, because all that you do has the seed of God in it, if all that you do is based on God's Word and is used to give out His Word in some way.

If the fruit you are bearing for the Lord are seedless, then your effect is not going to be very long lasting. Only for as long as your tree, or your life, is there on Earth, will you have any sort of affect. But if you make sure to fill each deed you do, each thing you put out and give away, with a seed of God, then it can go on and on, just like good fruit trees have the mechanism to.