

General Topics :: Bible prophecy**Bible prophecy - posted by Jdl (), on: 2009/11/7 14:22**

Hi everyone...I've been interested lately in biblical prophecy and I've been trying to do research on it from dependable sources...does anyone know a good place to look into for it? I have come across someone named Doug Batchelor and his programs called Amazing Facts...does anyone know him? Is he legit? Any help on this topic would be appreciated...I guess I feel maybe the whole concept of prophecy will kill my doubts and skeptical thoughts once and for all

Re: Bible prophecy - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2009/11/7 14:41

Check out "The Mystery of Israel" by Reggie Kelly, at: <http://the.mysteryofisrael.org/>

Also check out "The Olivet Discourse" by Eli Brayley, at: <http://www.olivetdiscourse.com/>

The ministry of the late Art Katz is also significant: <http://www.artkatzministries.org/>

If you want some good books, check out the writings of David Baron, Adolph Saphir, John Bright, Robert Mounce, and George Ladd. I don't agree with everything these guys have to say, but, they are definitely in the right school of thought. You can learn a lot from them.

Re: Bible prophecy, on: 2009/11/7 14:59

Take a deep breath... (http://www.fulfilledcg.com/Site/Video/watch_intro.htm) Video

Re: - posted by Jdl (), on: 2009/11/7 19:02

Thanks for the responses guys...I need some serious help again...it's a bit off topic, but I didn't wanna clog up the board and create another thread...I know the Bible talks about giants and that they were created by the "sons of God" mating with women...does that mean God made angels with the same reproductive organs as us? I heard someone suggests that these could have been aliens...someone please shed light on this...my mind is going all over the place and it's about to explode with all this...I'm practically in tears

Re: Bible prophecy - posted by INGRACE (), on: 2009/11/7 19:06

I have an interest in Eschatology, but I'm kinda skiddish about discussing the subject, because people can get very ugly when this subject is discussed.

I've seen a ugly side of people when this subject is discussed, and I've seen Christian people of various sides of the prophecy schools of thought get pretty dogmatic and hateful, when having a difference of view of Eschatology than another brother or sister in The Lord.

Re: Bible prophecy - posted by twayneb (), on: 2009/11/7 19:18

Hey Jdl:

Doug Batchelor and Amazing Facts is a publication of the Seventh Day Adventists. It is packaged without the SDA name so that people watching it won't initially be turned off by the denominational tie. I would suggest that Amazing Facts is NOT the place to go to get solid biblical teaching on eschatology.

Just reading some of your posts, I have a question that you may answer if you like, or not if you don't wish to. Are you a fairly new Christian?

If so may I suggest that eschatology, as interesting a study as it is, is probably not the first place to focus your energies. I would focus more on the gospels, the book of Acts, then Paul's letters. It is not that there is anything wrong with studying eschatology, but there are things that will edify and build you up spiritually that might take precedence initially in your walk with Christ.

Re: - posted by Leo_Grace, on: 2009/11/7 19:54

Quote:

Jdl wrote:

Thanks for the responses guys...I need some serious help again...it's a bit off topic, but I didn't wanna clog up the board and create another thread...I know the Bible talks about giants and that they were created by the "sons of God" mating with women...does that mean God made angels with the same reproductive organs as us? I heard someone suggests that these could have been aliens...someone please shed light on this...my mind is going all over the place and it's about to explode with all this...I'm practically in tears

I have been a born-again Christian for 24 years, and although I have read the whole bible including that particular passage many times now, it has never bothered me. It is merely an account of early events that has little bearing, if any, in our spiritual lives. Nevertheless, we must accept it as absolute truth since it is part of the inerrant word of God. I fail to understand why this should upset you or bring you to tears, unless you are trying to believe by sight and not by faith.

It is by faith and only by faith that we see. We can never understand our infinite God and his infinite ways with our finite minds. Where Scripture is concerned, we must seek to trust and obey rather than to understand. Our belief is by faith, and not by sight or intellect.

Pr 3:5-6 "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

Re: Bible prophecy - posted by INGRACE (), on: 2009/11/7 22:09

I'm not dogmatic about this, but I do lean towards the view of kingdom Eschatology. This site would be of interest, for anyone interested in checking out that viewpoint.

<http://mikeblume.com/prophecy.htm>

Re: , on: 2009/11/7 22:19

JDL, you seem to be someone who is new in the faith and I would highly advise you to quit looking into bible prophecy and these little side issues that don't amount to a hill of beans. It's the devil's business to get us side tracked into endless questions as to "where did Cain get his wife"? There are no direct answers in the bible, therefore leave off this search and seek the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness.

Dwell on the righteousness of God and what Justification through the blood of Jesus Christ has done for you. Dwell on sanctification and learn the milk of the word. These are foundational and will strengthen your inner man and all these other petty issues will fall by the way side.

Don't concern yourself about getting an answer to these people that ask these types of question, they are not interested in knowing more about Christ. Their interests are perverted.

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2009/11/7 22:34

Bible prophecy is important to understand, and an understanding of the Scriptures that is devoid of a knowledge of the things pertaining to God's overall plan for history and the things yet to come is an understanding that is not acceptable for the life of a believer. However with that said, I believe our understanding of prophecy can be likened unto the tying of a shoe. First you must lace the shoe before you actually make the bow needed to securely tie it. For those who are young in the Lord, you should work on properly lacing your shoes together first, and getting a firm grasp of the rest of Scriptures before you try to tackle an in-depth knowledge of these areas.

There is a great need for balance. The first year or two I was a Christian, I devoted myself to reading endless material on things about the last days. Then God got a hold of me and showed me I needed to understand a lot of other things first. Only in the last three years have I truly come to start grasping a lot of things about the end times. Never neglect to study things about the last days, as is the error of some who see it as pointless. If you study closely the writings of the apostle Paul, you will see that his understanding of the last days was ultimately the thread that linked all his other theology together. It was very important to him. But, it was not the central thrust of his message.

Re: - posted by INGRACE (), on: 2009/11/7 22:48

To me the main thing is to be ready to face The Lord, however things play out, God has the final say, and if we aren't prepared to face a just God in judgement, then I don't care how much we think we know, we will be cast out from the presence of God for all eternity.

Re: , on: 2009/11/7 22:58

Quote:
-----Never neglect to study things about the last days, as is the error of some who see it as pointless

Brother it's only pointless if your looking at the last days as in the now present tense. That would be pointless. But to prove that the bible is correct and our interpretations wrong. I put this challenge out that know one as yet has ever been able to find.

Using the King James Version, find where it say there will be Seven Years of Great Tribulation. Or even the the three and a half years of tribulation and three and a half years of wrath.

In order to get this teaching you have to do a lot of wrangling with the time line of Daniel's seventy weeks and insert another idea which the person who thought up the teaching did, by publishing a bible and inserting his notes in the margin, that bible is called the Scofield Bible.

The "end" that was coming during the Apostles days refers to those seventy weeks.

Re: - posted by INGRACE (), on: 2009/11/7 23:05

Often times when we study a biblical subject we often find that we might have overlooked something, reexamining one's core beliefs can be helpful, as the Holy Ghost can reveal to us, where we might have been in error in a subject.

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2009/11/7 23:23

Studying eschatology is much more than just studying the events described in Daniel, Zechariah, or Revelation. It's about understanding what God is doing in all of redemptive history. Everything from eternity past, to the present, to the future. Whatever one's theological persuasion is concerning the last days (I ascribe to the views held by preachers like Art Katz), one does need to properly understand what is happening. Eschatology rightly understood is very practical, though some, get caught up in crazy arguments about nothing practical. You'll never understand books like Ephesians unless you understand Paul's view of what God's redemptive plan for is in relation to the church. It's amazing how much time is spent studying Daniel and his cryptic references, yet very little time is given to chewing through the very dense writings of Paul in Ephesians in regard to what God has done, is doing, and will do.

Re: Bible prophecy - posted by twayneb (), on: 2009/11/7 23:40

Quote:
-----Hi everyone...thanks for the replies, they have been helpful...I guess I'm still having trouble with reconciling striving and trusting/resting...For a while there I used to think that I couldn't do ANYTHING except seek after God for my salvation...in fact, a few months ago I feared even going to get a haircut or baseball game with my father because I thought God would strike me down and tell me "You should have used that time to seek me and find me"...I think that type of thinking somehow caused seeds of doubt to be planted about God...I guess now I'm confused about how to live my life...I feel that anytime I'm not on my knees in prayer seeking salvation or reading the Bible or reading apologetics to get a firm grip on faith in God, then it is time being wasted...how do I reconcile seeking and striving with actually just the nuances and pleasures of living (spending time with family, friends, etc...i think maybe i have a distorted image of God perhaps

Jdl, I am so glad you have a heart that desires to seek after God. But, I think you may be suffering from a distorted view of what salvation and relationship with God is all about. It is definitely NOT about you working your way into God's good graces or favor by what you have referred to as striving. It is also not about trusting/resting as you refer to it. Both of the things you are referring to seem to be things that you are doing in your own power. It seems almost as if you are trying to "figure out how God works" on some kind of academic level and then conform to that pattern. As a result you seem to be bouncing back and forth between two ditches, never finding the road. Salvation and the Christian life is not about what you can do at all.

You made an interesting statement. "I feel that anytime I'm not on my knees in prayer seeking salvation...then it is time wasted." And, "...except seek God for my salvation...You should have used that time to seek me and find me."

God desires relationship with you, fellowship, communion. He desires to know you intimately and be known by you. The problem is that you were born into sin, and your spirit was dead in trespasses and sins, dead to God. Fellowship with God was impossible because of sin. That is why Christ died and then rose again victorious. He bore the weight of sin on the cross. He opened the way so that we can enter into relationship with God through Christ. When we are born again, the forgiveness, the atonement is applied to us, appropriated by simply putting faith in the grace of God toward us. It is a free gift, meaning that we cannot do anything to earn it. Now, we need to understand that this does not mean that we do nothing for it, it means that we cannot earn it. We have to turn from our sin and receive Christ as our savior. We have to surrender our lives to Him. But salvation is unmerited. We cannot get salvation by any merit of our own. Jesus said that if any man come after me let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Me. God, through the Holy Spirit, convicts us of our sinful state and we become aware that we need a savior. We respond to this call of the Holy Spirit, surrender our lives to Him, and receive His gift of salvation. I truly believe that we can have the assurance of God in our hearts that we are His Sons, that we have been born again. His Spirit bears witness with our spirit.

After this, we will begin to grow. God, in His grace and mercy, will begin to lovingly correct us with His Word and the conviction of the Holy Spirit. He will never condemn us. What you have been experiencing is condemnation, and is not a ministry of the Holy Spirit in your life. It is the enemy. The Holy Spirit will always draw you to the Lord, even when you have sinned and God is correcting that area of your life. It will always draw you to Him in true repentance and love for Him, not out of fear of some kind of punishment.

Brother, you need good discipleship. I want to encourage you to find a good church fellowship in your area. Find a place where there are mature saints who are in love with Jesus and who have a heart to win the lost and disciple and bring to maturity young Christians. Don't go to just any church that has religious observances, songs, and sermons, but find a fellowship where the body of Christ is functioning in a way that causes people to grow in zeal for God, grow in maturity, grow in the Word, and become powerful men and women of God. Find someone there that can spend some time helping you get established in your walk with God. I think this is an important step for you.

Hope this helps a little bit. God bless you Jdl.

Re: , on: 2009/11/8 2:27

Quote:

.....I've been interested lately in biblical prophecy and I've been trying to do research on it
.....

This is a good study and I hope it helps:

FOUR CATEGORIES OF PROPHECIES:

All prophecies fit into one of these four categories.

1. ABSOLUTE PROPHECIES

These are prophecies of events that will inevitably come to pass. This relates to the omnipotence of God to bring about events predetermined by Himself. The matter is completely settled and certain.

Two examples would be:

- God will crush the head of Satan:

"And I WILL put enmity between thee and the women, and between thy seed and her seed, and it shall bruise thy head."
Gen 3:15

- The end of of the world:

"Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times, the things that are not yet done, saying MY COUNSEL shall stand, and I WILL do all MY PLEASURE... I have spoken it, I WILL also bring it to pass, I have purposed it, I WILL also do it." Isaiah 46:10-11

2. CONDITIONAL PROPHECIES

These are prophecies of contingent events. They relate to the freewill of men. The matter is completely open and contingent.

Two examples of this would be:

- The repentance of Judah:

"Perhaps they will hear and turn every man from his evil way, that I may repent of the evil which I purposed to do unto them because of the evil of their doings." Jer 26:3

- Blessings and wrath contingent upon obedience and disobedience:

"At what instance I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up and to pull down, and to destroy it; if that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them. And at what instance I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it; if it do evil in my sight, that it obey not my voice, then I will repent of the good, wherewith I said I would benefit them." Jer 18:7-10

3. EXTRAPOLATIVE PROPHECIES

These are prophecies that are predicted, based upon God's exhaustive knowledge of the past and the present. Looking at the pattern of the past and the circumstances of the present, our Infinite God is able to make accurate and detailed predictions of the future behind our own finite comprehension:

Examples of this type would be:

- The future disobedience of Israel

"For when I shall have brought them into the land which I swore unto their fathers, that flows with milk and honey; and they shall have eaten and filled themselves, and waxen fat; then will they turn unto other gods, and serve them, and provoke me, and break my covenant. And it shall come to pass, when many evils and troubles are befallen them, that this song shall testify against them as a witness; for it shall not be forgotten out of the mouth, of their seed: I KNOW THEIR IMAGINATION which they go about, EVEN NOW, before I have brought them into the land which I swore." Deut 31:20-21

- Peters denial:

Mark 8:31-34, Peter's heart was revealed that he greatly feared the cross. He rebuked Jesus for talking about crucifixion and the Lord rebuked Peter for His cowardice.

Mat 26:34, Jesus knew Peter's heart had not changed. And Jesus knew all the circumstances Peter would face that night, since Jesus knew the devil was orchestrating Peter's circumstances (Lk. 22:31), and predicted Peter's denial based upon his past pattern, present character, and present/future circumstances.

4. PARALLEL OR ANALOGOUS SCRIPTURE FULFILLMENTS

These are events found in the New Testament, which correlate with events found in the Old Testament. The scriptures u

sed had an original meaning in the Old, yet are applicable to a situation in the New.

Examples would be:

- My Son called out of Egypt:

Hos 11:1 speaking of Israel in the Old Testament.

This is also applied to Jesus in the New Testament, Mat 2:15.

- The betrayal of a trusted friend:

Psa 41:9, David speaking of his trusted friend and counselor Ahithophel.

John 13:18, this is also applied to Jesus and his trusted friend and disciple Judas.

- The replacement of Judas, Acts 1:16:

Acts 1:20, Peter applies two Scriptures to the situation of Judas.

Ps. 69:25, talks about "their habitation" being desolate, but Peter modifies it so say "his habitation", and "let no one dwell in their tents"

Ps. 109:8, David curses his enemies, who treated him wickedly.

WHAT PROPHECIES DO NOT PROVE:

- That the future has already happened
- That God already lives in the future
- That God lives outside of time
- That God has determined everything
- That all events are foreknown as certain

WHAT PROPHECIES DO REVEAL:

- That the future is partly settled by God (absolute prophecies)
- That the future is partly open and contingent (conditional prophecies)
- That the future is partly predictable to the Divine Mind (extrapolative prophecies)
- That the future is repetitive and similar to the past (parallel or analogous prophecies)

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2009/11/8 9:25

Quote:

WHAT PROPHECIES DO NOT PROVE:...

- That all events are foreknown as certain

Jesse, you need to take your heretical and damnable views of God elsewhere. Open theism is nothing short of blasphemous and is in direct contradiction to the whole counsel of God. Stop trying to deceive people on matters in which you understand nothing about, especially young Christians!

Isaiah 46:9

"Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me,

46:10

Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, ' My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure';

46:11

Calling a bird of prey from the east, The man of My purpose from a far country. Truly I have spoken; truly I will bring it to pass. I have planned it, surely I will do it.

46:12

" Listen to Me, you stubborn-minded, Who are far from righteousness. (i.e. Jesse Morrell)

46:13

"I bring near My righteousness, it is not far off; And My salvation will not delay. And I will grant salvation in Zion, And My glory for Israel.

Re: - posted by Jdl (), on: 2009/11/8 10:27

Hi everyone...thank you all for the replies...I guess I'll explain myself a bit further so everyone can understand where I am...I grew up in the faith, always acknowledging God but never really living it out...about four months ago, due to some circumstances (a girl), I needed to examine myself to make sure I truly was a believer...since then I have been on a downward spiral into despair...what started off as me begging God for my salvation or assurance of it actually became me wondering if God is really even there...for the first time in my life I gazed at the stars, at my body, at this world, and asked the age old cliché questions "what am I doing here? what is all this?"

I've been in tears a couple times at the idea that we as humans might have no eternal significance and are just randomly generated globs of flesh...thus I set out into apologetics to bolster what I grew up with and to provide a solid foundation for the Christian faith once and for all...and it completely backfired...it opened up my mind to so many different objections that I was hardly ever aware of...my mind is way too weak to have been poisoned like that...Leo, that's why I fell into tears about the whole alien thing...they were more tears of frustration because I just want the truth of Jesus to set me free and here I have all this stuff floating around in my head that I can't shake out of...I'm trying to be fully persuaded of Jesus in my intellect so that I can transfer it to my heart, but it just isn't working...Don't laugh guys, but sometimes I feel I'm even on the verge of insanity...

That's why I've been interested in prophecy...not necessarily end times prophecy, but the prophecy that has already come to pass...I guess if there's anything that can help someone believe, it just HAS to be prophecy...I mean, nothing else can explain how people are able to predict future events unless it was "thus says the Lord."

I guess with all this I'm waiting for some sort of inner light switch that will tell me "YES! NOW I am fully persuaded that this is indeed true"...I feel like until that moment comes, I have no right to live like a Christian and like there's a God who will guide me and love me...otherwise I don't think God will accept my heart if I can't get at him in my head...I'm completely lost and miserable...absolutely miserable...I NEED Jesus to be real...I have never been so drenched in sin as I have been before...so yeah, that's pretty much it in a nutshell...

Re: , on: 2009/11/8 13:56

Quote:

-----It's amazing how much time is spent studying Daniel and his cryptic references

There are no cryptic messages in Daniel. It's these last day guys out there the likes of, Jefferies, Van Impe, Lindsey that have made the whole world of eschatology difficult. They exclude Jesus Christ and everyone's minds are on an Anti Christ when all prophecies point to Jesus Christ. The whole purpose of the prophecies is to show when the Messiah would come to redeem His people and to set up an everlasting kingdom which will never end. All this extra information about the "RFID" chips, the Mount of Olives splitting and the heavens burning up with fervent heat are not rightly dividing the scriptures.

Prophecy is about Christ and His Kingdom.

But your not alone Jimmy, I have heard others give similar reasoning to opt out in finding that verse. But I am amazed though that a mi-nute few will want to know to see what they have always believed to be true, only to find out they are in error. Maybe it's something that is in the mind that says, "I don't want to know". There are believers that don't want to know . They would rather continue believing something and teach to others what is not there.

You have good stuff to share, love reading them.

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2009/11/8 14:55

Quote:

But your not alone Jimmy, I have heard others give similar reasoning to opt out in finding that verse.

It's not so much as "opting out" or shrugging such a thing off, rather, there are simply some areas when it comes to handling the Scriptures that I am more confident in my understanding. Daniel 9 and other such chapters isn't such an area, and as much as I have studied it, it's not something I'm willing to say one way or another on.

I'm definitely pre-millennial and post-tribulational in my theology. That much I am very certain on, and have been for some time. However, I'm definitely not a dispensationalist, and don't much care for the Scofield Reference Bible, Jack Van Impe, Hal Lindsey, or any other popular name when it comes to these things. Those guys are theological light weights and pop-theologians at best. They sell plenty of books and get on TV, but their understanding of the word of God is horrible, not to mention their willingness to change their theology for the latest technological or political advance.

Like I previously said, I'm much more in debt to folks like Art Katz, Reggie Kelly, David Baron, Adolph Saphir, William Mounce, John Bright, and George Ladd in my understanding of prophecy. Walter Kaiser, Jr. has also been of great insight lately to me, especially in regard to his understanding of the "word of promise" in regard to theology of the covenant seed as demonstrated in the book of Genesis, and his demonstration of a strong continuity existing between testaments, which entirely destroys a dispensational understanding of the Scriptures.

I was once a reluctant pre-millennialist with a-millennial leanings prior to chewing slowly through many of these guys and their works. Now I hold with great certainty the positions I do. I'm still growing in my understanding and study of the Scriptures, and always welcome fresh insights into these matters. I cannot explain everything, and I still have many questions to ask, and hold some positions with a sense that there is uncomfortable tension between some of the finer points of what I adhere to now. But, that's where I leave room for God :-)

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2009/11/8 15:25

Quote:

I guess with all this I'm waiting for some sort of inner light switch that will tell me "YES! NOW I am fully persuaded that this is indeed true"..

Brother, I definitely understand the predicament you are in. When I was a young believer going through college, I was radically challenged by the claims this world makes about the Scriptures. Modern science has definitely made a strong attack against many classical Christian beliefs, and has called into question many of the things written in the Scriptures.

These things deeply troubled me as I tried earnestly to go through all the mental gymnastics of weighing all the different theories of science with various interpretations of the Scriptures. My faith was in great jeopardy at one point out of the mental anguish I felt, and I remember there was one day where I went to bed wondering if I would even wake up as a Christian. That was the state I lived in for a while.

But then things started to fall back into place for me, and I ultimately remembered whom I had believed on. I remembered the first time I heard the gospel message and the impact it made on me at the time. Though it would be a couple years before I would actually believe the gospel message, I still remember very distinctly how God truly spoke to me through the gospel message. Ultimately, this has become the bedrock of my faith. Anytime I have been tempted to doubt the things of God, I always remember the first time I heard the gospel message, about how Jesus loved me, gave His life for me, and came back to life after three days. That message arrested me. My confidence in the gospel message is built upon the reality of the supernatural experience I have had with God through the gospel of Jesus Christ.

This is ultimately what got me through my crisis of faith, and this is what keeps me going every day I wake up. It was from the reality of this personal revelation of the Lord that I have ultimately come to believe. I don't believe the gospel because I've worked out all the complex apologetical arguments for the faith, and agree that the gospel is true because of the solutions that apologetics have provided.

I believe the gospel because I truly believe Jesus Christ died for my sins and really came back to life after three days, lives right now, and lives forever more. I walk with Him, and I talk with Him, and the more I do that second by second and day by day, the more I am convinced of these truths.

Oh yes, I am also convinced because of the sureness of the prophetic word. We can read countless occurrences of such a thing in the word of God, without even getting into things regarding the last days. You should grow stronger in the assurance of your faith because of these things.

For example, when you have the chance, read Deuteronomy 28-31. It speaks of the blessings & curses God promised the nation of Israel would come upon them depending on how they stood in their relationship to the Lord. If they followed Him, they would be blessed. If they turned away from the Lord, He promised to curse them, and strip them of their land, and send them into exile. This becomes a MAJOR prophetic theme that consumes almost all of the Old Testament.

These covenant promises were made, according to the estimates of most scholars, in about 1200 BC. Then we can read about the fulfillment of the covenant curses against Israel in 2 Kings 17. In 722 BC, the northern kingdom of Israel was destroyed by the Assyrians. Many were killed, and many were forced into exile as a result of the nation turning its back on God. We can read the writings of prophets such as Amos, Hosea, and Isaiah, as they lived in the times leading up to this very event, and prophesied the nations doom.

Likewise, in 586 BC, the southern kingdom of Judah had completely turned its back on God. And it suffered the EXACT same consequences the northern kingdom had experienced more than a century prior, but this time, at the hands of the Babylonians. The nation was likewise destroyed. Many were killed, and many more were sent into exile. The writings of Jeremiah, Zephaniah, and Ezekiel, amongst others, predicted these very things.

All these prophecies were very thoroughly fulfilled, twice, just as Moses had predicted they would be, all the way back in 1200 BC. In fact, you will read in Deuteronomy that Moses taught the children of Israel a song, known as "The Song of Moses." This song was something that the Jews were to teach their children in every generation, so as to serve as a witness

ness against them for when they would turn their backs on God, and as these things came to pass.

So, find great assurance in these prophetic witnesses of the Scriptures. God declared that these things would happen, and they did, just as He said.

Re: , on: 2009/11/8 16:06

Quote:
-----I'm still growing in my understanding and study of the Scriptures, and always welcome fresh insights into these matters. I cannot explain everything, and I still have many questions to ask, and hold some positions with a sense that there is uncomfortable tension between some of the finer points of what I adhere to now

I hope you'll always remain teachable and not stop at any conclusion till the LORD establishes and cements your faith in the things that remain, on that solid ROCK Christ Jesus our LORD.

My heart melted reading that. If only all of us were like that, open to hear, open to understand and humble enough to ask

God Bless you Brother.

Re: - posted by Jdl (), on: 2009/11/8 17:51

King Jimmy, thanks for the words...I always feel alone in this, but it's encouraging to see that you've gone through the same...I'm just in anguish because I want to live my life with the joy that comes of being a believer...I feel like everything else is on hold...I dunno what I'm going to do with the rest of my life...I want to get married (I even have the girl in mind) but I feel like I can't until I get this sorted out, which is frustrating because it seems like it'll be like this for quite a while...I guess I've never had a gospel revelation in my heart...I just don't know what else to do...my heart and my head are in a painful condition...you have much more confidence in God than I do...please pray for me...thanks guys!

Re: - posted by KingJimmy (), on: 2009/11/8 18:46

Jdl,

Just be sure to seek first the kingdom of God, and everything else will be added to you. Seek the Lord, but until you get these things worked out, you should probably not be pursuing any relationships, as these things will more than likely just cloud your head all the further.

Truly come to believe and absorb yourself in the belief that Jesus Christ not only died for your sins, but after that, came back to life, and lives right now forever more. This dead man is really alive. He was really dead and now He truly lives. Let that be the source of your joy, and may you never allow your joy to waiver, because Jesus Christ lives forever and ever. Find joy in that. He's with you and will be with you. Ground yourself in this, and you will do very well.

Many blessings.

Re: , on: 2009/11/8 20:31

If I may add to Jim's message to you JDL that we should not be anxious and to fret but to give ourselves over to prayer. Quiet your spirit by opening your mouth and praying to God. When you feel anxiety and are overwhelmed rebuke it by refusing to give into it. The battle is in the mind, God is there with you every step of the way. Stand fast and resist the devils menacing work. You have the power to overcome, it's up to us to yield to it. Each day you'll become more and more confident as you resist the urge to fret. Read the scriptures especially the New Testament and just fall in love with Jesus.

Here is a message that will put a spark in your step. While you listen, do the dishes or clean your bedroom, it keeps the mind from wandering. The message is called
(<http://www.sermonindex.net/modules/mydownloads/singlefile.php?lid4689&commentViewitemComments>) Little Strength Christian by Carter Conlon.

Re: confidence - posted by Lysa (), on: 2009/11/10 7:03

Jdl,

Confidence comes with relationship! Just keep on keeping on with Jesus, praying, reading His word, talking to Him and you will gain confidence.

I don't know about you guys (I've heard you hate to stop and ask for directions LOL)... but if you need anything at all, ask God and watch Him work. Then when it comes to pass and you will remember that you stopped and asked Him for help , you will be grateful and thankful! It's a real confidence booster too!!

God bless all you guys!!! LOLOL