

INSPIRED WORD

January 14, 2015

SCRIPTURE

Deuteronomy 6: 4 – 9: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

SCRIPTURE

John 3: 1 – 12, 16 – 17: Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. He came to Jesus at night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher Who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that You are doing unless God is within him. Jesus answered and said to him, “Amen, amen, I say to you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a person once grown old be born again? Surely he cannot reenter his mother’s womb and be born again, can he?” Jesus answered, “Amen, amen, I say to you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of flesh is flesh and what is born of spirit is spirit. Do not be amazed that I told you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it wills, and you can hear the sound it makes, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes; so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus answered and said to Him, “How can this happen?” Jesus answered and said to him, “You are the teacher of Israel and you do not understand this? Amen, amen, I say to you, we speak of what we know and we testify to what we have seen, but you people do not accept our testimony. If I tell you about earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?” For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 9: 6 – 7: For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder, and His Name will be called “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David, and over His Kingdom, to establish it, and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

PROPHECY

Lean on Me! Lean on Me!! In times of sorrow, lean on Me! In times of tribulation, lean on Me! In times of doubt, lean on Me! In the times when you need strength, lean on

Me! Even when you are joyful, lean on Me! Trust in My love for you, trust in My care, trust in My plans for you. Lean on Me! Do not doubt, but trust in Me and lean on Me in all circumstances! I love you and I will lift you up!

EXHORTATION

What keeps going through my mind tonight is that we have hope. We have that hope because of Christ, because of His death and Resurrection. I think it was Saint Peter who said that we should always be prepared to give a reason for our hope. We are a people of hope and we need to share that with the world because our world is filled with darkness and we are people of light. We know Christ and we need to bring Him to the rest of the world because we are the people of hope. **(Reference: 1 Peter 3: 14:** “But in your hearts reverence Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence, keeping your conscience clear.”)

PROPHECY / SCRIPTURE

We have heard the Lord telling us to ‘Lean on Me! Lean on Me!!’ I think the Lord is saying to us, “Walk and put your hand into My hand. You may not know where you are going, but I will lead you along the path that I have prepared for you. I will make you a people of hope; I will let your lives shine and you will know that as you lean on Me I am the Lord your God!” I believe the words that we heard earlier tonight from **Book of Deuteronomy** needs to be placed upon our hearts and kept there for maybe throughout the whole year. For it says, “Hear, O Israel: The Lord is **our** God, the Lord alone!” **(Reference: verse 4)** The footnote says this is talking about His relationship with His people and “the Lord alone” talks about our relationship with Him.) The verses continue: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them down on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.” **(Verses: 5 – 9)**

SUMMARY / EXHORTATION

We are coming to the close of this night. It amazed me that the last song we sang was, “I Surrender All”. The Lord told us tonight to trust in Him and lean on Him in all circumstances and not to be afraid. He asked us to put our hands in His hand and, as in the words of the last song, to “surrender all” to Him. When we do the things that He has asked of us – trusting in Him, leaning on Him in all circumstances, putting our hands in His hand and surrendering all to Him – we are expressing the zeal to which He is calling us. Let us take a few minutes in silence and surrender to the Lord anything that is on our hearts that is weighing us down. Just give it all to the Lord! In giving it all to Him we are placing it all in His hands and we can trust in Him. We are stepping out in faith and trust and putting our hands in His hand, walking with Him, and leaning on Him.