

Remembering the Right Things

Memorial Day – 05/27/2018

Scripture Reading: Psalm 119:49-56

On Memorial Day, we remember those who gave their lives in service to their country through the armed forces. If we forget the price that freedom costs, we will become careless with our freedom and become unworthy of it.

God has given us a wonderful freedom from the slavery of sin, from the corruption of the world, and from the tyranny of Satan. He has given us all this through the sacrifice of one - the one and only Lord Jesus Christ. If we are careless with that freedom, we may see the loss of many privileges and pleasures that we have been able to enjoy. Our Scripture reading offers us things to remember, so that we can actively maintain a powerful walk in this life.

Remember the source of your comfort and hope: God's Word. (Psalm 119:49-51)

We have a way of remembering the source of our frustrations and miseries. We focus on them with negative energy. Among other things, the result is stress and lack of joy.

- God's Word gives us hope (vs. 49).
- God's Word quickens us – it gives us life, power, and vitality (vs. 50).
- God's Word gives us the ability to go forward, not backward (vs. 51).

See Psalm 119:23, 107, 92-93, 126-128, 161, 175 cp. John 6:63.

Remember God's judgements of old. (Psalm 119:52)

We are told that history repeats itself. The failures and evil deeds of men are often repeated. So are the righteous, gracious, and fearful acts of God. God stays connected with us. He does not change. We can depend on Him in all situations. We are humbled by His past correction. We are encouraged by His past help. See Nahum 1:2-3; Isaiah 46:9-10; II Corinthians 1:3-5; Hebrews 12:1-14; 13:5-6, 8.

Remember to be upset when God is dishonored. (Psalm 119:53)

We can easily feel overwhelmed and outnumbered when the world gangs up and mocks God. We also can become passive. The word "horror" (KJV) does not refer to fear and panic. It is describing righteous indignation. We need godly jealousy to keep us loyal to the cause of God and truth. See Psalm 119:126-128; I Corinthians 16:13; II Corinthians 11:2-3; I Peter 5:8-9; Jude 3; Ephesians 6:10-18.

Remember your song. (Psalm 119:54)

We do not just learn rules and doctrines. We learn truth that transforms our hearts – giving us joy and strength. We must not lose our passion for the Gospel of Jesus Christ. See Psalm 19:8; 33:3; 40:3; 96:1; 98:1; 149:1; 42:8; 77:6; Philippians 4:4-8; I Peter 1:3-8; Romans 1:14-17; II Timothy 1:6-12.

Remember His name. (Psalm 119:55)

The Lord's name is the name above all names. The power and authority of Christ's name must never be forgotten. See Proverbs 18:10; Acts 4:12; Philippians 2:5-11; Revelation 4:11.

Remember to stay connected with God's Word and His Ways. (Psalm 119:56)

Don't forsake the strength of your life. Cling to Him, not this world. See Psalm 1:1-3; 27:1-14; 119:1-8, 9-16, 97-104, 105-112; Isaiah 2:22; 28:9-10; 55:1-13; 66:1-2; Matthew 7:21-27; 16:24-26; John 6:63; 8:30-36; 15:1-8; Colossians 3:1-17; James 4:1-10; I John 2:15-17; 5:4-5, 19-21.