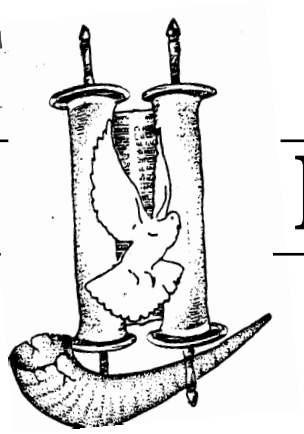
GELOOF FAITH

In Die Woord In The Word

Geloof is uit die gehoor en die gehoor is deur die Woord van God Rom. 10:17



Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. Rom. 10:17

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DIE GENADE VAN GOD

Vandag gaan ons gesels oor nog 'n uitstaande karakter van God, nl. SY GENADE of GOEDERTIERENHEID (Engels. MERCY)

Volgens die Afrikaanse Verklarende Woordeboek, beteken barmhartigheid. GOEDERTIERENHEID beteken: genadig, barmhartig, lankmoedig. Volgens die Engelse Vines Woordeboek beteken dit: "simpatie gemanifesteer in aksie of optrede." M.a.w. die uiterlike manifestasie van medelye of deernis.

Hieruit kan ons dus aflei dat medelye, *'n gevoel of emosie is van simpatie en deernis,* (dis innerlik) en dat genade die OPTREDE is om *in die behoefte wat ontstaan het te voorsien* (dis uiterlike). Hierdie was presies Jesus se optrede toe Hy op aarde was. Hy het medelye en deernis gevoel vir die siekes en daarom het Hy hulle genees.

Let op dat dit by God nie bly by gevoelens nie. Hy DOEN altyd iets vir ons. Hy raak betrokke by ons en help ons! Dit was Sy DEERNIS wat ons opgemerk het toe ons in ellende en sonde was, en uit GENADE het Hy Sy Seun gestuur om ons te red en te verlos en te genees. So sien ons dat dit by God nie bly by 'n gevoel nie. In ons sondige toestand is ons eintlik vir God weersinswekkend, nogtans KIES Hy om Sy deernis op ons uit te stort: Hy stuur Jesus Christus.

God is oorweldigend GENADIG en die Bybel bevat baie tekste oor hierdie karaktertrek van Hom. Kom ons let op net 'n paar daarvan.

Psl. 86:5: Want U, o Here, is goed en vergewensgesind en GROOT VAN GOEDERTIERENHEID vir almal wat U aanroep.

Psl. 52:8: Maar ek sal wees soos 'n groen olyfboom in die huis van God, ek vertrou op die GOEDERTIERENHEID van God vir ewig en altyd.

Psl. 6:5: Keer terug, Here, red my siel, verlos my om u GOEDERTIERENHEID ontwil.

Psl. 103:8: Barmhartig en genadig is die Here, lankmoedig en groot van GOEDERTIERENHEID,

11. Want so hoog as die hemel is bo die aarde, so geweldig is Sy GOEDERTIERENHEID oor die wat Hom vrees. Ef. 2:4: Maar God, wat RYK IS IN BARMHARTIGHEID…

Let op in Psl. 52. 8 hierbó dat Dawid VERTROU het op die goedertierenheid van God – hy het geloof gehad daarin.

GOD SE GENADE IS 'n OPENBARING VAN GOD SE GEWILLIGHEID OM SY KRAG TERWILLE VAN ONS AAN TE WEND.

God se genade is Sy bereidwilligheid om Sy Krag in werking te stel sodat in al ons behoeftes voorsien word. Maar, let op, al is God se Krag hoe geweldig groot, kan Sy krag my nie help as Hy nie GEWILLIG is om Sy krag terwille van my aan te wend nie. Wanneer Hy dus aan my en jou Sy genade bewys, bewys dit aan ons Dy gewilligheid om vir ons te voorsien en te onderneem. (Lees gerus hierdie paragrafie weer oor – daar lê 'n groot waarheid in opgesluit)

Markus 1.40 – 42: En daar kom 'n melaatse na Hom toe wat Hom smeek en voor Hom op die knieë val en vir Hom sê: As U WIL, kan U my reinig. En Jesus het vir hom innig jammer gevoel en die hand uitgesteek en hom aangeraak en vir hom gesê: EK WIL, word gereinig!

(Vervolg op bls. 2)

(Vervolg vanaf bls. 1)

En toe Hy dit sê, het die melaatsheid hom dadelik verlaat, en hy is gereinig.

Nou is dit so dat een van die grootste struikelblokke in die weg van mense (kerkmense) om van God te kry wat hulle nodig het, veral genesing, is hulle onsekerheid oor God se Wil. Hulle glo almal dat God KAN, maar WIL HY? Dit is nie geloof in God se krag wat Sy seëninge verseker nie, maar geloof in Sy genade: Sy bereidwilligheid om Sy krag terwille van die mens aan te wend.

Nou lees ons in Ef.1 19. …**wat die uitnemende grootheid van Sy krag is VIR ONS WAT GLO, na die werking van die krag van Sy sterkte…**

Hier sien ons baie duidelik dat Sy krag VIR ONS is m.a.w. dis NA ONS gerig en nie weg van ons af nie. En dis omdat Sy krag VIR ONS gerig is, dat Jesus vir ewig Sy Wil vasgelê het, veral t.o.v. genesing, toe Hy vir die melaatse in Markus 1 gesê het: **Ek WIL, word gereinig!**

Let op nog twee tekste wat God se WIL (bereidwilligheid) beklemtoon t.o.v. van die mens en God se genade teenoor hom.

Miga 7:18… **Hy het 'n welbehae in goedertierenheid.** GOD WIL GRAAG Sy genade op ons uitstort, en wat is Sy genade?

2 Kor. 16.9. **want die Here – Sy oë deurloop die hele aarde om diegene kragtig te steun wie se hart onverdeeld op Hom gerig is…**

Dis dus duidelik dat God nie net bereidwillig is nie, maar YWERIG is om diegene te seën wat aan Sy voorwaardes voldoen, soos bv. Om 'n *onverdeelde hart* op Hom te rig.

God sê in 1 Joh. 5:14 en 15 dat Hy vir ons sal verhoor as ons iets vra VOLGENS SY WIL. Soos ons reeds gesê het, en tekste daaroor aangehaal het, IS genesing van die liggaam, God se Wil vir die mens, en daarom kan ons weet dat as ons vra vir genesing ons dit sal ontvang, want dan vra ons VOLGENS SY WIL. (Moet tog nooit, wanneer jy vir genesing bid, sê: "As dit U Wil is nie." Dan wys jy jou onkunde oor wat God se Woord sê, en Sy Woord is Sy Wil, en jy bid in totale ongeloof).

Genesing is 'n baie belangrike deel van God sê genade. Ons het vroeër gelees van Jesus en die melaatse, en daar staan dat Jesus "innig jammer vir hom gevoel het." Hier was die deernis en toe volg die genade. Jesus genees hom! Jesus het Sy krag gebruik om in hierdie man se behoefte te voorsien.

Hou deurgaans in gedagte dat Jesus die karakter van Vader God baie duidelik weerspieël het, m.a.w. GENADE is 'n sterk karaktertrek van God, want dit was van Jesus Christus. In Matt. 14: 13 en 14 lees ons dat Jesus INNIG JAMMER gevoel het vir die skare en Hy het hulle siekes genees. Matt 20. 29 tot 34 vertel van die twee blindes van Jerigo wat uitgeroep het na Jesus toe Hy verbygegaan het, en ook daar was Jesus INNIG JAMMER vir hulle en het hulle oë aangeraak en hulle kon dadelik sien. Jesus het aan hulle gevra: "Wat wil julle hê moet Ek vir julle doen?" (Waaroor wil julle hê moet Ek aan julle My genade bewys?) So was dit dwarsdeur Jesus se bediening. Sy genade was volop vir die siektes en Hy het hulle ALMAL genees, en onthou, God die Vader het presies dieselfde karaktertrekke van DEERNIS en GENADE.

GOD SE GENADE IS VANDAG NOG DIESELFDE!

Ons het gesê dat Jesus Christus eintlik die manifestasie van God die Vader is: as jy God wil sien, kyk na Jesus.

Ons weet dat Jesus Christus opgevaar het na die hemel en sit aan die regterhand van God.

Heb. 2. 17: …**Sodat Hy 'n BARMHARTIGE en getroue hoëpriester kon wees…**

Daar duur Sy GENADE, Sy GEWILLIGHEID om te genees, steeds voort – Hy is nie nou anders as toe Hy op die aarde was nie! (Sien Heb. 4. 15)

Hy het opgevaar na die hemel sodat dieselfde deernis en genade kon manifesteer d.m.v. Sy dissipels: die Kerk, en selfs nog op 'n baie groter skaal. (As jy in 'n kerk is waar dieselfde wonderwerke wat Jesus gedoen het, nie plaasvind nie, kan jy gerus na die volgende teks kyk en die vraag vra. "GLO hulle ooit in my kerk in Jesus Christus, want Hy het dan gesê dat die - gene wat in Hom glo die werke sal dien wat Hy doen?" Miskien moet hy die leierskap in jou kerk dan hierna vra, want êrens is iets glad nie pluis nie!)

Joh. 14: 12**…wie in My glo – die werke wat Ek doen, sal hy ook doen, en hy sal groter doen as dit, omdat Ek na my Vader gaan.**

Jesus Christus kon as 'n mens net op een plek wees om deernis en genade uit te stort, maar vandag is Sy dissipels dwarsoor die wêreld en word baie meer deernis en genade deur hulle versprei, want nou lê hulle hande op die siektes en hulle word genees (Mark 16: 15 – 18)

Joh. 16: 7**…Dit is vir julle VOORDELIG dat Ek weggaan; want as Ek nie weggaan nie, sal die Trooster nie na julle kom nie, maar as Ek weggaan, sal Ek Hom na julle stuur;** Hoekom sou Jesus dan gesê het dis VOORDELIG dat Hy weggaan en dat die ander Trooster, die

(Vervolg op Bl. 3)

(Vervolg vanaf bls. 2)

Heilige Gees, na ons kan kom? Omdat die Heilige Gees al die gelowiges kan TROOS, kan VUL en deur hulle weer andere troos en God se deernis en genade manifesteer deur die liggame en lewens te genees en te herstel.

Heb. 13: 8: **Jesus Christus is gister en vandag dieselfde en tot in ewigheid.**

Hierdie teks kan tog op geen ander wyse verklaar word nl. dat Jesus Christus (God) NOOIT verander nie, en dieselfde deernis en genade wat Hy getoon het toe Hy op aarde was, toon HY VANDAG nog. Die geld beslis ook op die gebied van genesing. Wanneer mense dus sê dat God nie meer vandag genees nie en dat dit net vir die stigtingsdae van die Kerk was, sê hulle eintlik dat dit net vir die stigtingsdae van die Kerk was, sê hulle eintlik dat God se GENADE nie meer vandag beskikbaar is nie! Hy het verander, en het minder deernis en genade vir die mens nou, as toe! Dis tog glad nie waar nie! Ons her dan nou net gelees dat Hy NOOIT VERANDER NIE! (Menslike leerstellings verdraai God se Woord en so ook God se karakter!)

Lees asb. Ps. 136. Jy sal vind dat dit frase: *want Sy goedertierenheid is tot in ewigheid* 26 keer hier herhaal word (dit kom 44 keer in die Bybel voor). Waarom dink jy het God gesorg dat hierdie frase soveel kere herhaal word? Ek is seker omdat Hy dit by ons wou inskerp sodat ons NOOIT daaraan sou twyfel nie! Sodat ons SOU WEET en ONDERVIND dat SY GOEDERTIERENHEID TOT IN EWIGHEID IS, en nie verdwyn het kort na Jesus die aarde verlaat het nie! Jy sal oor merk in Ps. 136 dat die psalmdigter die skeppings - dade van God verbind met Sy ewige goedertierenheid. Waarom? Omdat God die aarde, die uitspansel, die heelal geskape het uit genade en liefde vir die mens! Hy het dit tog alles GOED gemaak en aan die mens toevertrou. Dink jy nie die mens is vir God heel besonders dat Hy hierdie wonderlike skepping aan hom gee nie!?

Nog 'n belangrike aspek i.v.m. die deernis en genade van God is dat Hy verlang dat ons daaroor sal PRAAT: dit BELY MET ONS MOND. Kom ons kyk na 'n paar tekste in hierdie verband: **Ps. 118: 1 tot 4: Loof die Here, want Hy is goed, want Sy goedertierenheid is tot in ewigheid!**

Laat Israel dan Sê dat Sy goedertierenheid tot in ewigheid is! Laat die huis van Aaron dan Sê dat Sy goedertierenheid tot in ewigheid is! Laat die wat die Here vrees, dan Sê dat Sy goedertierenheid tot in ewigheid is! Ps. 89: 1: Die goedertierenheid van die Here wil ek vir ewig BESING Ps. 101: 1 Ek wil SING van goedertierenheid en reg: tot U eer wil ek psalmsing, O Here!

2 Kron. 5:13: …almal saam eenstemmig begin om die Here te PRYS en LOOF…: Loof die Here, want Hy is goed, want Sy goedertierenheid is tot in ewigheid! (Toe) is die huis van die Here, vervul met 'n wolk. 14: En die priesters kon vanweë die wolk nie staan om diens te doen nie, want die heerlikheid van die Here het die huis van God vervul.

Hierdie voorval was met die inwyding van die tempel wat Salomo vir die Here gebou het. Toe hulle begin SING van God se goedertierenheid, het Sy heerlikheid op hulle neergedaal! Lees ook die interessante en bekende geskiedenis van koning Josafat se oorwinning oor die vyand bloot deur sy SANGERS sy leer te laat lei. En wat het hulle van gesing? Die goedertierenheid van God! (2 Kron. 20: 21 – 23)

Ten slotte noem ek net 'n paar Bybelse voorwaardes vir die ontvangs van God se deernis en genade in 'n mens se lewe.

1. **'n Hart onverdeeld op God gerig** (2 Kron. 16: 9). As jy met een voet nog in die wêreld staan, is **jou hart verdeeld**, en sal jy nie God se genade ondervind nie.
2. **Bewaar God se verbond en getuienisse** (Ps. 25:10) Dit beteken dat jy aan God se Woord GEHOORSAAM moet wees, d.i. 'n DADER van Sy Woord wees, nie slegs 'n HOORDER nie.
3. **Vrees God** (Psl. 103: 11 en 17) Om God te vrees is om te haat wat sleg is (Spreuke 8:13). Om God te vrees is om Hom te respekteer – dis 'n hartsgesindheid, en nie uiterlike gewoontes nie. Baie mense dink hulle kan lewe soos hulle wil, maar wanneer hulle by die Kerk se deur instap, dan loop hulle op hulle tone, praat suutjies en bid glad met 'n ander stemtoon – dis hoe hulle dink hulle die Here moet **vrees**. Nee wat, die Here is altyd bewus van jou optredes: waar was die **vrees van die Here** dan toe jy net voor kerk jou vrou gevloek het, en Saterdagaand die wêreld gedien nie? **Vrees van die Here** is om Hom met 'n oorgegewe hart en lewe te dien, DAN sal Sy goedertierenheid van ewigheid tot ewigheid oor jou wees en oor jou kinders!

Moet dus nooit weer twyfel aan God se DEERNIS en GENADE vir JOU nie – vandag en tot in ewigheid.

HOW GREAT IS YOUR GOD?

This may sound like a strange question to you, but your faith depends on how you see God; and whether or not your prayers are answered, depends largely upon your faith. An incorrect concept of God can limit your prayers. If you see God as mighty but not Almighty, that He can do some things, but not everything, OR if you see God as Almighty but unwilling, you make God out to be as unpredictable as man, and not someone in whom a person can place their full trust and faith! Naturally such a concept of God is unscriptural and incorrect and we must return to the Bible in order to gain an accurate and correct image of God.

Come let us study a few scriptures:- Psalm 19:1 " The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands."

Psalm 113:4-6 "The Lord is exalted over all the nations, his glory above the heavens. Who is like the Lord our God, the One who sits enthroned on high, who stoops down to look on the heavens and the earth?"

Jer. 32:17 "Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm, nothing is too hard for you."

Jer. 32:27 "I am the Lord the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?"

2 Chron. 6:18 "But will God really dwell on earth with men? The heavens, even the highest heavens, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built!"

These scriptures speak about the incomprehensible greatness of God. When we read Romans 1 and 2 it says that His eternal power and godliness can be understood and clearly seen in nature. Thus if we want to see WHO God is, we must look at what He has created and thus, according to the letter to the Romans, it is inexcusable to deny the existence of God, because He has revealed His eternal power and Godly character through the things that He has made; His creation speaks of His Greatness.

Let us look at a few commonly acknowledged scientific facts, taken from a well-known geographic magazine dated 1979, and reported by a group of secular scientists who were amazed at what they call "Mother Nature". We call it "the creation of God", His Handiwork. They do not recognise any Creator, but believe that the creation just happened accidentally.

Firstly there is the GREATNESS and GRANDEUR of the Creation, and remember throughout, that God created everything by the Word of His Mouth.

Until recently, distances in space had scientists baffled, because they were immeasurable. They could not measure them in millions or even billions of miles, because the distances were too great. They have to measure these distances in light years. To gain insight into this concept, think about the difference between a million and a billion!

If I was to give you a million Rand and you spent R100, 000 every day, your money would be spent within 10 days. But if I gave you a billion Rand and you had to spend R100, 000 every day, it would take you 27 years to spend it all! We see that there is an enormous difference between a million and a billion, and yet still such figures are insufficient to measure the boundaries of the universe!

The distance between the earth and the sun is 93 million miles. It would take a pile of thin paper 24 inches (60cm) high to measure the distance between the earth and the nearest star if each page represented 93 million miles!

Using the same scale, if we wanted to measure our galaxy (and remember there are many galaxies) we would need a pile of paper 496 kilometres high. If we wanted to measure the distance from the earth to the edge of the known universe - which is as far as the strongest telescopes can see - we would need a pile of paper that reached a third of the way to the sun, in other words 31 million miles high!

The energy in the universe is something that the human mind has hardly started to understand. We know about the energy of the sun, but do not know how much of this is radiated. There are heavenly bodies that have only recently been discovered that had the scientists puzzled for many years e.g. Supernovas etc. Some of these radiate so much energy that if they directed their energy towards the earth, the earth would be compressed into the size of a golf ball. This energy is so powerful that our vocabulary is insufficient to describe it. They say that some of these heavenly bodies shine with the intensity of a billion stars put together. They are very small in relation to other heavenly bodies, but because of their intensity they are visible with a large telescope.

These things testify to the Greatness of their Creator! If you really want to know how

Great God is, ask yourself the question "How great is God to me personally?"
Is He a God that is limited to the church? Is He a God that you dare not ask to do too much for you, because you feel He is only capable of supplying ONE of your needs at the very most? How GREAT is He in your mind? If you have a limited concept of God, then your prayers will always be limited, and that which you trust Him for, will remain limited.
We have taken a look at His Power, but now we must get complete certainty in our hearts about His ABILITY to answer our prayers. God is so great, that the Bible says that He not only made all these things but also MAINTAINS them by the power of His Word (Heb. 1:3) - incredible isn't it? How WILLING then is God to answer our prayers? He definitely has the capability to answer- but is He WILLING?
The time has come for the whole body of Christ (the church) to move into a new dimension, in relation to faith and prayer, and trust God for the IMPOSSIBLE. Do you know that we actually HONOUR God when we TRUST Him for what no man can do for us? Something that needs a miracle - HONOURS GOD!
Come let us consider another related issue. God communicates with man through the written Word. We are the only creatures with whom He chooses to communicate in this fashion. He uses LANGUAGE and places it in the form of Scripture to convey His thoughts and His will to us. He is also the most effective user of language and words, because He created them too!
If God chooses to use words to portray a concept to mankind, He will then surely use the best possible choice of words for the purpose. If God wrote in His word things to encourage our faith, wanting us to ASK impossible things of Him, and to TRUST Him for the impossible, He would surely use the words that conveyed this most effectively. The two words which God uses repeatedly in the Bible to strengthen our faith and trust in Him, in relation to His Might and Power, are ANYTHING and WHATEVER! Let us look at some relevant texts: -
John 14:13 &14: "And I will do WHATEVER you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for ANYTHING in my name, and I will do it".
John 15:7 & 16: "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. …You did not choose me, but I chose you to go and bear fruit - fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name".
John 16:23: "In that day you will no longer ask me anything. I tell you the truth; my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name'.
There are still many other texts in the Bible using the same words to make the same point. God is trying to BRAND upon our minds the truth that "anything" and "whatever" we ask Him (with a believing and obedient Heart, naturally) He will give to us.
We are the ones who limit this Mighty God of ours – the Almighty, unfathomable, Creator. It is a fact, that the material that remains after a neon (star) has exploded, is so dense that one teaspoonful will weigh more than 1000 elephants! These things were created by the Words of our God. It is as though God asks us: "What can you believe me for, because I am able to provide you with anything you ask". He repeatedly states this in the Scriptures, but we keep on DOUBTING and remain UNCERTAIN that He will answer when we ask something of Him!
Let us read 1 Chronicles 4:9 - 13 together:
v9: Says that Jabez was honoured more than his brothers were. He asked God for a greater blessing and for protection, and God gave both to him. We don't read about Jabez anywhere else, but I believe that he was mentioned in the Bible as an example to remind us that God stands ready to answer the prayers of His children.
Jabez asked God for 3 things - and believe me, I have heard so-called religious people say that it is presumptuous to ask the Lord for things. They say that you cannot ask for things for your own welfare and prosperity - but Jabez did!
Jabez prayed: "Bless me indeed". It is therefore not unscriptural to pray in this fashion.
2. Jabez asked God to "Enlarge my coast", and that His hand might be with him.
3. Jabez asked that God would keep him from evil.
All his prayers were for his own welfare, and yet the Lord answered them all! The lesson that we can learn from this short story is that we can ask God for blessings and prosperity and that He is willing to give them to us.
Now in contrast, let us look at someone who is seemingly "religious" and who apparently acted humbly, but who saw few of his prayers answered: Isaiah 7:7 reads: "Thus says the Lord God: It shall not stand, Nor shall it come to pass." This was the word of the Lord to Ahaz, who was afraid when two foreign kings threatened him. The Lord reveals to Ahaz that these two kings are mere mortals and says to him in verse 4 "Take heed, and be quiet; do not fear or be faintheartedfor these two stubs of smoking firebrands..."

The Lord encourages Ahaz to stand firm in his faith and He says to him in Verse 11 "Ask for a sign for yourself from the Lord your God..."Here Almighty God, Creator of the universe, is encouraging a man and saying that He will even give him a sign, either in the heights or the depths, whichever he chooses to encourage his faith!
We see how Joshua was not afraid to ask God for a sign - he asked that the sun should be halted in its tracks - but here Ahaz was apparently too polite and says in verse 12 " I will not ask, neither will I tempt the Lord."
Isaiah now becomes impatient with Ahaz and declares: "It is a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also?" verse 13. God wanted to give Ahaz a sign to strengthen him and his army, but Ahaz didn't want to give the Lord a chance!
We saw how Jabez and his family asked their Heavenly Father, without reserve, for the BEST, and God gladly gave it to them, but Ahaz was reluctant to do so, and it is recorded that he tested God's patience! GOD DESIRES TO DO MIRACLES FOR HIS CHILDREN!
Joshua was surely a man who pleased God, because he asked for miracles and God answered him! Joshua 10 tells of the great battle of Gibeon, during which time the Lord did many miracles. He sent huge hail stones upon the enemy, so that more of the enemy died from the hail stones, than there were Israelites killed by the sword.
Joshua wanted the battle to be won that same day in order to be sure that the entire enemy army was defeated. We read this gripping story in v.12**: "Then Joshua spoke to the Lord in the day when the Lord delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun stand still upon Gibeon, and you Moon in the valley of Ajalon. "**
V13: "and the sun stood still, and the moon stayed until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies". This was the day when THE LORD GAVE HEED TO THE VOICE OF A MAN!
It is interesting to note that throughout history there have been tales among many people and nations about the ' the day that the sun went mad'. The Maories in their legends describe the sun as having moved back and forth across the expanse of the heavens.
In order for the sun to stand still, the Lord would either have had to cause the earth to tip on it's axis - in order to lengthen the path of the sun - or to retard the rotation of the earth, so that it would rotate slower. So it would seem that the earth got a speed wobble, which made it look as if the sun stood still. Note that the Lord broke all the natural laws of science, laws which He had set in motion from the beginning of time, in order to answer a Hebrew man's prayer!
Whether the earth tipped or the sun stood still in its path, this could have caused tidal waves across the earth. Because Joshua prayed in the Middle East, tidal waves could have been caused along the coasts of Australia and Africa, forcing the animals to flee to higher ground. What a scenario! And why? Just because ONE MAN prayed. He asked God for THE IMPOSSIBLE and it happened!
There is also the story of King Hezekiah in 2 Kings 20. He was dying, but he PRAYED and the God of miracles added 15 years to his life. In verse 8 Hezekiah asked God what would be the sign that He would heal him, and God allowed Hezekiah himself to determine the sign! The Lord allowed the sun to move backwards by ten degrees - He literally put the sun into reverse - AT THE REQUEST OF A MERE MAN!
So we see repeatedly that God would even move heaven and earth to answer the prayers of a man of faith! But in the flesh YOU and I limit God's working in our lives because of our limited concept and vision of God. I believe that in the end times (in which we already live) we will have to trust the Lord very specially for PROVISION and PROTECTION.
We know that the day is coming when no man shall be able to buy or sell without the mark of the beast upon his forehead or right hand. This is the time of the Great Tribulation, but it doesn't mean that the Child of God has to live in fear. No, this will be a time when God will PROVIDE SUPERNATURALLY, even as we trust Him.
A friend of ours recently told us that in a financial crisis she prayed for money, but that the Lord did not provide it for her. She said that she did not understand the situation and wondered if God's promises were true! She then asked, "Do you think God is maybe withholding the money because of the R300 which I have saved at the bank, which I've been keeping for difficult times?"
I replied that I definitely thought so - because is doesn't help to ask God for R25 when you already have R300 saved, which you do not want to use. YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE A MIRACLE, IF YOU DON'T NEED ONE!
Think about Moses and the Israelites and all of their needs! There were 3 million of them altogether, and they each had to gather 2 litres of manna in the morning and evening, for 40 years. Imagine how many TONS of manna this represents and the very same God that supplied it all, is YOUR God and MY God, and He has never changed!

Consider Elijah who declared a famine in Israel in 1 Kings 17 and then he went to live in the wilderness. He needed miracles daily, and the Lord provided for him through crows that brought him meat and bread. God provides in MIRACULOUS WAYS, even if there are no people within a 1000-mile radius of us for Him to use as His messengers!

I would like to tell you the story of a missionary couple who worked amongst a very poor Indian tribe in Mexico. They had great needs, and when a group of travelling missionaries came unexpectedly to sleep over, the missionary wife became rather anxious about what she might serve them for breakfast the following day. She took their last few coins and asked her husband to go and buy eight eggs at the local store - then at least each of her guests would have an egg. The following morning when she started to crack the eggs open she discovered that each of them had a double yolk, and there was more than enough for everyone. Hallelujah!

Now when the guests had left, she asked her husband to go and buy more of those double - yoked eggs. Well you can guess - ALL the eggs they bought only had single yolks! YOU WILL ONLY RECEIVE A MIRACLE WHEN YOU NEED ONE.

It is interesting to note that God knew in advance that this missionary woman would need these special eggs. One of His names is JEHOVAH JIREH : meaning literally "God who sees and provides." God revealed the meaning of this name of His to Abraham when he went to Mount Moriah to offer his son. When Isaac asked his father where the lamb was for the offering, Abraham replied that the Lord Himself would provide the Lamb. God knew beforehand about this need for the offering and the ram for the offering was in the bushes, at the right time and place. GOD SAW AND PROVIDED.

Another thing to keep in mind is that GOD DOES NOT DUPLICATE MIRACLES. God provides in a variety of ways, but HE ALWAYS provides!

Do you know why scientists do not recognise miracles? It is because they cannot test a miracle with instruments and experiments, because in order for them to be able to do that God would have to repeat the miracle, and that is something that He doesn't do. He is not accountable to man. Romans 3:4 says that God is true even if every man is a liar! In 1 Cor. 1:19-27 we see how man's wisdom is foolishness to God.

It is no business of ours as to HOW God is going to meet our needs: He who has created innumerable and immeasurable things, will He not know how to create the very things that we need? Jeremiah 32:27 says: **"Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh: is there anything too hard for me?"**

During the 2nd World War, a group of Chinese believers were cut off from the others and isolated between the mountains and the sea, with the enemy threatening them. The Japanese had burned their homes and they had no food to eat or seed with which to plant a crop. There was an American missionary amongst them. They all decided to trust God for a miracle and prayed: "Lord, we are going to die of hunger. We have nothing and it is impossible to pass the Japanese soldiers to go and get food. Lord, help us please".

While they were still praying, one of their daughters who was playing out in the field came running towards them and told them very excitedly that something was falling from the sky. They went to investigate and were astonished to find grain falling out of the air into heaps on the grass. They started to praise and worship the Lord. A MIRACLE was in the process of happening!

What they didn't know was that in Outer Mongolia, 15 000 miles away, 2 huge barns filled with grain had been blown over by a sudden tornado. The grain had been swept up by the strong wind and transported the 15 000 miles across Asia to the place where this group of believers were praying and asking God to meet their needs!

God said ANYTHING and WHATEVER! Whatever you can trust Him for He will provide you with!

KENNISGEWING

Ons het 'n lys beskikbaar van boeke en Cd's met hul pryse. Indien u meer inligting verlang oor wat beskikbaar is of 'n bestelling wil plaas, kontak ons asseblief sodat ons die lys na u kan E-pos. Dit het ook volledige inligting hoe om 'n bestelling te plaas, bank inligting ens.

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UIT ONS KANTOOR

Geliefdes,

Ek kan dit skaars glo dat dit die laaste "Uit Dr James se kantoor" is vir hierdie jaar. Hierdie jaar het waarlik verby gevlieg en ek voel altyd dat ons die tyd moet delg omdat die dae waarin ons leef waarlik die laaste van die laaste dae is. 2020 was 'n baie produktiewe jaar vir die Sentrum gewees. Die Here het ons wonderlik geseën met Sy liefde, beskerming, openbaring van Sy Woord en voorsiening. Weereens wil ons almal by die Sentrum elkeen van julle bedank vir al die insettinge wat julle in ons lewens hierdie afgelope jaar gegee het. Baie dankie vir al julle oproepe, briewe, getuienisse, gebede en finansiële ondersteuning. Ons gee voortdurend alle dank en eer aan ons Hemelse Vader vir julle gehoorsaamheid om gewillige kanale van Sy voorsiening te wees deur om te bid en vrywillig te gee. Mag julle oorvloedige seën ontvang vir alles wat julle gedoen het tot die eer van die Here hierdie afgelope jaar sodat die Woord van Waarheid duisende kosbare siele kon bereik.

Dit is alleen die Woord van God wat Red, Vrymaak en Genees, soos God se Heilige Gees dit volbring in die Naam van Jesus in die lewens van die wat op Hom vertrou. Die wins van julle aandeel om ons by te staan en wat dit vir ons moontlik maak, wag vir julle in die Hemel en is van Ewige Waarde. Baie dankie vir julle gebede wat ons gedurende 2020 gedra het. Baie kosbare siele is gewen vir die koninkryk van ons Hemelse Vader, soveel mense is verlos van die onderdrukking van die vyand en ons juig oor die vele liggame wat genees is en siele wat gered was. Alle eer aan ons Hemelse Vader en ons Here Jesus wat dit alles moontlik gemaak het deur Sy Kruisdood. Ons Vader is getrou en regverdig en ons kan nie begin om die dankbaarheid wat in ons harte is teenoor Hom, uitspreek nie, dit is te groot, te veel en oorweldigend. Dankie Here!!

Ons vertrou dat die eksamen uitslae bo alle verwagtinge sal wees want ons het ernstig vir al die skoliere en studente gebid. En ons loof en prys die Here vir die wonderlike tyd van rus en vakansie wat vir almal voorlê. Ons bid vir die Here se beskerming en dat elkeen tydens hierdie vakansie geseënd sal wees.

Hou julle oë na die Hemele gerig!! Jesus se koms is naby!

Met baie liefde.

Meg en die Gebedspan

SKATKIS

Ek sou Josef uitgetrek het.
Uit die put
Uit die tronk
Uit daardie pyn
En ek sou nasies beroof het van die een wat God sou gebruik het om hulle van ongersnood te red.
Ek sou Dawid uitgetrek het.
Uit Saul se spies gooiende teenwoordigheid
Uit die grotte waar hy weggekruip het
Uit die pyn van verwerping
En ek sou Israel beroof het van 'n koning met 'n God gegewe hart.
Ek sou Ester uitgegryp het.
Uitgegryp na haar enigste familie
Uit die posisie waarvoor sy nooit gevra het nie
Uit die pad van 'n wrede, magshonger vyand
En ek sou mense breroof het van 'n vrou wat God
sou gebruik om hulle eie lewens te red
En ek sou Jesus afgeruk het.
Af van die kruis
Af van die pad wat na lyding en pyn gelei het
Af van die pad wat naaktheid en slae, spykers en dorings beteken het
En ek sou die hele wêreld beroof het van 'n Redder.
Uit verlossing
Uit 'n ewigheid gevul met geen lyding en geen pyn meer nie.
En liewe vriend
Ek wil jou uitruk
Ek wil jou pad verander
Ek wil jou pyn stop
Maar op die oomblik weet ek dat ek verkeerd sal wees
Ek sal uit lyn wees.
Ek sal jou en die wêreld beroof van so baie wat goed is.
Omdat God weet
Hy weet van die goeie wat hierdie pyn sal voortbring
Hy weet van die skoonheid wat hierdie hardheid sal laat groei
Hy waak oor jou en hou jou vas, binne-in dit alles
En Hy belowe jou dat jy Hom kan vertrou
Selfs wanneer dit alles voel as meer as wat jy kan dra.
Dus in plaas van om te probeer om jou uit te trek lig ek jou op
Kniel ek voor die Vader en vra Hom
om jou krag te gee
Om jou hoop te gee.
Ek vra Hom om jou te beskerm en te verskuif wanneer die tyd reg is.
Ek vra Hom om jou te help om in gebed en onderskeiding te bly
Ek vra Hom om jou die beste lief te hê en van hulp vir jou te wees.
En ek glo Hy gaan jou lewe gebruik op KRAGTIGE en PRAGTIGE wyses.
Wyses wat jou hart dankbaar sal laat en
en nederig dankbaar vir die pad waarop jy was.