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Daily Bible Notes/Highlights Genesis through Revelation 2014

"These are unedited quick-notes posted daily. We apologize for any grammatical or spelling errors"

***--You'll find the formatting change as the commentary moves beyond 1/2014--***

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Acts

C5 Vss 1- A man and woman playing games with The Lord attempt to make it appear that they are doing more than they are. It's lying. And what's so unfortunate is what they gave was in their hands. They both die bringing fear upon the community. This is not reverential respect (fear), but sure-fire fear of death (1-11). This fear is greatly missing today in many circles.

While people are believing and being healed, the opposition continued. The apostles are arrested and jailed. An angel freed them. They did not flee, but ran to teach in the high priest's turf.

What courage God gives His people. Them the extraordinary response to being arrested , beaten and warned to stop proclaim knot the name of Jesus. Gamaliel the renown theologian intercedes to stop their death reasoning that of they are from God nothing can stop them.

So they flogged the apostles. But the apostle left rejoicing that they were counted worthy of suffering for the cause of Christ (17-42). What a faith.

C6 Vss 1- Now the administrative issues become the challenge. There is discrimination taking place among the believers. The non-Jews are not getting their share. This takes the apostles away from the greater work of the Gospel. These men who have been trained on servant good by Jesus make a startling decision concerning the Church operation.

Concerning needs, the greatest priority if service they have is ministering God's word. There is no close second. They declared, "we should spend our time teaching the word!" The question every minister must make is, is it teaching the word or something else. When people expect the pastor to do all kinds of deliverables (fix this, clean that, show for this, and preside over that), it takes away for the time required to prepare and indoctrinate people in life! They make the management decision for the people to look for acceptable food ministers

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Notice though they are food ministers they need to be highly endowed spiritually. It is obvious from their service (1-7).

One of them is arrested and displays wisdom and spirit under duress. He's arrested as he is accused of lies. The more they lied, the more glorious and bright he became (13-15).

C7-9

C7 Luke records Stephen's experience before the high priest with extraordinary boldness. He tells the history of the Hebrews to the coming of Jesus.

He knows his faith history. No doubt they are listening amazed (no doubt) until he becomes current and accuses them of a killing the Messiah. They stoned him. Stephen does as Jesus, and asks the Lord's forgiveness as he died.

Line of Jesus' most sacrificial truths is that the Christian faith is a give-your-life faith. This is obvious through all of Scripture. This theme is clearly stated in the Gospels, and Epistles and can be seen early in Luke's record in Acts.

C8 Luke introduces Saul the persecutor and it scatters the church. So often on the Christ-based journey extremity leads to ... What was horrific persecution was leading to the Gospel moving throughout the region. Phillip one of the deacons was ministering and meets a fellow.

A sorcerer becomes a believer and follows Philip's ministry. Peter and John demonstrate the power of a God at Samaria. Simon is so impressed he desires the same power for his personal pursuit, and is denied by Peter.

These words represent so many who are not screened. You have no part in this your heart is not right with God. Today there are too many unprepared and those with evil intentions (21-24).

Luke angles back to Philip and the Eunuch who cannot understand Scripture. Philip on the spot gives clarity and baptizes the man. How often do we say we will pray for you, or do this or that. Now is the time!

Phillip is gone. This is how it is. Sometimes there is only a moment. But it's enough to plant, or water. God gives the increase (26-40).

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