

GETTING RIGHT WITH GOD

A fter Solomon dedicated the temple, God appeared to him and gave him four important things to note to be getting right with God. Getting right with God means doing all God's commandments and being away from sins.

The four important things that Solomon pointed out were:

- 1. To acknowledge their sins.
- 2. To pray and humbly confess their sins.
- To seek God's face, with a desire for a close relationship with God, where they seek God as GOD.
- 4. To repent, which means to turn away from wicked ways and turn to God's ways.

Only if they did all these steps would God forgive their sins and hear their prayers.

Getting right with God must be accompanied by faith in Jesus, who took the punishments for all your sins and saved you from eternal death. Getting right with God is a matter of your response to what Jesus has done in your life. Are you ready to be getting right with God?

Key verse:

Acts 2:21
And everyone
who calls on
the name of
the Lord will be
saved.

Prayer

Dear God, I know that I have sinned and deserve punishment, but Jesus took the punishment that I deserve. Thank You for Your wonderful grace and forgiveness. Amen.



THE BEAUTY OF WISDOM

The fame of Solomon's wisdom had spread to all over the nations. It was not only the Israelites who came to see his wisdom, kings from other kingdoms also came down purposely just to meet him and witness his wisdom. People from every nation came to consult him and to hear the wisdom God had given him.

Wisdom is given by God. Wisdom governs your life so that you are able to understand what is good, right and healthy for you. Wisdom helps people to practically live a happy and useful life. Wisdom helps you to make wise decisions. Wisdom helps you to utilize your riches and money properly. Wisdom helps you to think and behave maturely. These are the beauty of wisdom!

When you live wisely, you are honouring and glorifying God. Let people around you see how wisely and happily you live your life, so that they will come to you for advice and guidance. This is your opportunity to tell them the gospel about Jesus as wisdom comes from Him. This way, you are glorifying God!

Key verse:

Proverbs 2:10
For wisdom will
enter your heart
and knowledge
will be pleasant
to your soul.

Prayer

Dear God, I pray that wisdom be granted into my mind and heart. Let me be filled always with Your word and wisdom. Amen.



FULLY RELY ON GOD

king Jeroboam was planning a battle against king Abijah. Abijah's army was outnumbered by Jeroboam's. Abijah had 400,000 soldiers while Jeroboam had 800,000 soldiers. Knowing this fact, Abijah knew that the only way to win against his enemy was to fully rely on God.

Abijah stood on the mountain and gave a speech to Jeroboam and his soldiers. He was telling that the kingdom of Judah had God's priests who worshipped the true God. He said that he believed that he and his army would not need to fight as God Himself would fight for them. God was with Judah so no enemy would be able to stand against them.

True enough! The priests blew the trumpet and God gave them victory. They won because they depended on God.

When you fully rely on God, that means that you let Him take care of things that are too big for you to handle. It means that you let Him help you feel better when you're scared or sad. When you don't know what to do, just rely on God. Let God's Word teach you to fully rely on God.

Key verse:

Psalms 59:9-10 ... You, God, are my fortress, my God on whom I can rely.

Prayer

Dear God, help me to know that I can rely on You in everything. Help me to trust You no matter what happens or how I am feeling. Amen.



PRINCE OF PEACE

A zariah encouraged king Asa and his people to seek and find God as He was the God of Israel. Azariah's message gave courage to king Asa to remove all the false gods in Judah, repair the altar for God and remove his evil grandmother from her position as she had a bad influence on the people.

As a result of Asa's obedience, faith and righteous action, God gave peace to the nation during Asa's reign. Peace indicates God's blessing upon someone's obedience and faith.

Peace is a quiet and calm state of someone's mind and heart. In the society, peace is harmony among people. Everyone wants to have peace, yet not everyone seems to find it.

Jesus is known as the Prince of Peace. Jesus came to bring peace on earth. This peace is for anyone who trusts in Jesus for salvation. Jesus brings peace on earth by sending the Holy Spirit to live within His people.

Through the Holy Spirit, you will have peace inside your heart and happily obey His words and live a blessed life. You will become kind to others that will result in peaceful circumstances.

Key verse:

Isaiah 9:6
And he will
be called
Wonderful
Counselor,
Mighty God,
Everlasting
Father, Prince of
Peace.

Prayer

Dear God, let Your peace reign in my heart and mind, in my family, in my school or class and everything I lay my hands on. Amen.



AVOID BAD COMPANY

king Jehoshaphat was a good king. He was devoted to the ways of the Lord. He sent his official to all the towns of Judah to teach about the law of the Lord. But at one point, Jehoshaphat allied himself with king Ahab.

King Ahab was the opposite of Jehoshaphat. Ahab was known as a worshipper of Baal and he didn't believe in the true God. But, even though Jehoshaphat knew who Ahab was, he still allied himself through marriage and helped Ahab in the war against Ramoth Gilead.

Because of this, God sent his prophet, Jehu, to tell him that God's wrath was on him. Jehoshaphat probably thought it was okay to ally himself with Ahab as long as he didn't follow his way. But that was not okay for God.

The Bible tells us that we should not be deceived as bad company ruins good habits or good characters. It means bad friends will destroy you. Bad companionship will demolish you.

It doesn't mean you need to stay away from everyone and only talk to Christians. You just have to be wise in choosing your circle of friends who you hang out with most of the time.

Key verse:

1 Corinthians 15:33

Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."

Prayer

Dear God, I want to thank You for Your word that tells me to be careful with who I spend my time with. Help me to stay in Your word and Your people. Amen.



BE A POSITIVE INFLUENCE

Joash was only 7 years old when he reigned as the king of Judah. He was raised well by a priest, named Jehoiada. They might not be blood-related, but Jehoiada raised king Joash like his own son with so much respect and in accordance with God's way.

Jehoiada was extremely influential to king Joash. He was Joash's role model. And Joash did what was right in the sight of the Lord all the days of Jehoiada. Because of Jehoiada's positive influence, king Joash grew up well, ruled and operated the temple of God faithfully.

Each of you may bring some impact and influence upon this world. As a beloved child of God, you should be working to be the light in this world. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit and obedience to God, you can be like Jehoiada. You will bring a positive vibe and impact to the people around you.

At the same time, ask God to send you Godly influences in your day to day life too. People who influence you to be more like Jesus will set a Godly example for you to follow.

Key verse:

Matthew 5:14 You are the light that gives light to the world. A city that is built on a hill cannot be hidden.

Prayer

Dear God, guide me to be the light in this dark world so that I can bring a positive influence unto others and Your name will be glorified through my life. Amen.



OBEY GOD WHOLE-HEARTEDLY

king Amaziah, the king of Judah, was king Joash's son. He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, but not wholeheartedly. It means king Amaziah did not fully obey God.

A prophet told king Amaziah to send back home the Israel soldiers that he had hired to help him in the battle. God reminded him that He had the power either to help or overthrow him. King Amaziah was concerned about the money he had spent for hiring the Israel soldiers. It was only after the prophet assured him that God could give him much more than the amount he had spent, that king Amaziah obeyed and dismissed the hired soldiers.

Unfortunately, after winning the battle, Amaziah was tempted to worship other gods. So, in the first occasion, he obeyed God, but when faced with the temptation to worship other gods, he fell into it and disobeyed God. Because of his half-hearted obedience, he easily fell into the temptation of sin.

We have to take seriously each of God's commands and try to fully obey Him. Half-heartedness will make us waver unsteadily when we are faced with temptation.

Key verse:

Matthew 22:37 Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind.

Prayer

Dear God, I want to love and obey You with all of my heart, mind and soul. I want to wholeheartedly depend on You alone. Amen.