

Beyond Sunday

Garment of Praise (Recalculating pt 2)

A Sermon Application Guide

This guide is designed to offer a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own, or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

Our hope is that the living, breathing words of truth that are revealed to you become a part of your everyday life. In the book of James, we read about a key to living life with God. We are told that if we ask for wisdom by faith then we shall receive it generously from our Father in Heaven. One of the best ways to receive this wisdom is by preparing to receive it. We invite you to pray this prayer prior to the message and starting the study guide:

"God, thank You for Your truth and wisdom. Help me to see what I need to see, hear what I need to hear, and know what I need to know. Holy Spirit, help me to understand in a way that shows me the Father's true nature and heart. May this time help me to know You more and become more like Jesus. Amen."

Message Theme

God works within difficult situations.

Key Concepts/Truths

Our thoughts determine our feelings and we will always move in the direction of our dominant thoughts. God will keep us in perfect peace as our minds are kept on Him.

If our intake of the world's perspective, news, and entertainment outweighs our intake of God's perspective and his word, our mind will not be right.

The reason God gave us the Bible was to correct our thinking. If we can think right, we can have perfect peace in any situation.

When we believe a lie, we act on that lie and not the truth.

Just because we are up against something difficult, does not mean that we are alone in it.

When we do life God's way we will get God's results.

When we praise God, he shows up.

Key Verses: Isaiah 14:3 • Isaiah 26:3 • Isaiah 61:1-3 • John 14:1 • Romans 12:2 • Philippians 4:8

Which one truth do you already have evidence of in your life today? Ask the Lord for new ways to see even more of it for you and others around you. Write your answers out.

Which one truth is the most challenging or least existing in your life today? Why do you think this is? Ask the Lord if there are any beliefs or barriers that are keeping you from believing that particular truth. Write it out.

Real-Life Application

Fear is an emotion, which isn't wrong to have, but we can certainly react wrongly to it. Our fear is an indicator. Reacting rightly to fear would be recognizing that despite the dark situation we find ourselves in, God's reality is much brighter. Praising God especially in the middle of disappointment, struggle, and fear invites Him into the reality that we perceive. When we anchor the power over our situation in God and take the authority over it we will surely turn our attitude, behavior, and circumstance around for his glory.

When we praise God it shuts the devil up. When we praise God, His presence is there. When God is there, the lies we have believed about Him, ourselves, and others begin to fall away as we recognize God's truth as our true reality.

Take time right now to praise God for who He is and for His truth. Ask Him to show you what situation needs to be infused with praise. Continually repeat this and watch as your reality comes closer to God's kingdom on earth.

This Week's Declarations

Life is released when your words are in agreement with God. Intentionally speaking life and biblical truth out loud is extremely powerful. In fact, you have that very life in the power of your tongue. These words below, when spoken out loud, will cause an acceleration of the reality of God's words in your life. We encourage you to speak the following with an expectancy to renew your mind and see God's fullness.

- I adopt the mind of Christ.
- I focus my attention and my thoughts on God and I receive his peace in return.
- I praise God even in my struggles.
- As I praise God, my perspective changes to his perspective.
- I will focus on whatever is true, noble, just, pure, lovely, good, or virtuous.

What's Next?

Now it's time to write down anything that the Lord has spoken to you. Praise Him, thank Him, and ask the Holy Spirit to help you walk this out.

Scripture References

Garment of Praise

1 Corinthians 10:13 NKJV

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man...

Psalms 42:11 NKJV

Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; For I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance and my God.

Jeremiah 9:2 NKJV

Oh, that I had in the wilderness A lodging place for travelers; That I might leave my people, And go from them!

Jonah 4:3 NKJV

Therefore now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live!"

Ecclesiastes 2:17 NKJV

Therefore I hated life because the work that was done under the sun was distressing to me, for all is vanity and grasping for the wind.

Galatians 6:7 NKJV

...God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

Proverbs 23:7 NKJV

For as he thinks in his heart, so is he....

Isaiah 26:3 NKJV

You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.

Romans 12:2 CEV

Don't be like the people of this world, but let God change the way you think. Then you will know how to do everything that is good and pleasing to him.

John 14:1 NASB

Do not let your heart be troubled;

Isaiah 26:3 NKJV

You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.

Hebrews 13:5 NKJV

... For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

Romans 12:2 GW

Don't become like the people of this world. Instead, change the way you think

Joshua 1:8 NKJV

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night...

Philippians 4:8 NKJV

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

Isaiah 14:3 NKJV

It shall come to pass in the day the Lord gives you rest from your sorrow, and from your fear and the hard bondage in which you were made to serve,

Psalms 119:130 NKJV

The entrance of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple.

Psalms 7:14 ESV

Behold, the wicked man conceives evil and is pregnant with mischief and gives birth to lies.

James 1:13-15 NKJV

Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

Proverbs 23:7 NKJV

For as he thinks in his heart, so is he....

Proverbs 4:23 NKJV

Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.

Isaiah 26:3 NKJV

You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.

Psalms 137:1-6 NKJV

By the rivers of Babylon, There we sat down, yea, we wept When we remembered Zion. 2 We hung our harps Upon the willows in the midst of it. 3 For there those who carried us away captive asked of us a song, And those who plundered us requested mirth, Saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!" 4 How shall we sing the Lord's song In a foreign land? 5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem, Let my right hand forget its skill! 6 If I do not remember you, Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth— If I do not exalt Jerusalem Above my chief joy.

1 Kings 17:1 NKJV

And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the Lord God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word."

1 Kings 17:5-6 NKJV

So he went and did according to the word of the Lord, for he went and stayed by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan. **6** The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the brook.

1 Kings 17:9-16 NKJV

"Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon ... I have commanded a widow there to provide for you." **10** So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, indeed a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, "Please bring me a little water in a cup, that I may drink." **11** And as she was going to get it, he called to her and said, "Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand."

12 So she said, "As the Lord your God lives, I do not have bread, only a handful of flour in a bin, and a little oil in a jar; and see, I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die."

13 And Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go and do as you have said, but make me a small cake from it first, and bring it to me; and afterward make some for yourself and your son. **14** For thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'The bin of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil run dry, until the day the Lord sends rain on the earth.' "

15 So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for many days. **16** The bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry, according to the word of the Lord which He spoke by Elijah.

1 Kings 18:20-40 NKJV

So Ahab sent for all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together on Mount Carmel. **21** And Elijah came to all the people, and said, "How long will you falter between two opinions? If the Lord *is* God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." But the people answered him not a word. **22** Then Elijah said to the people, "I alone am left a prophet of the Lord; but Baal's prophets *are* four hundred and fifty men. **23** Therefore let them give us two bulls; and let them choose one bull for themselves, cut it in pieces, and lay *it* on the wood, but put no fire *under it*; and I will prepare the other bull, and lay *it* on the wood, but put no fire *under it*. **24** Then you call on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord; and the God who answers by fire, He is God." So all the people answered and said, "It is well spoken." **25** Now Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one bull for yourselves and prepare *it* first, for you *are* many; and call on the name of your god, but put no fire *under it*." **26** So they took the bull which was given them, and they prepared *it*, and called on the name of Baal from morning even till noon, saying, "O Baal, hear us!" But *there was* no voice; no one answered. Then they leaped about the altar which they had made. **27** And so it was, at noon, that Elijah mocked them and said, "Cry aloud, for he *is* a god; either he is meditating, or he is busy, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is sleeping and must be awakened." **28** So they cried aloud, and cut themselves, as was their custom, with knives and lances, until the blood gushed out on them. **29** And when midday

was past, they prophesied until the *time* of the offering of the *evening* sacrifice. But *there* was no voice; no one answered, no one paid attention. **30** Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come near to me." So all the people came near to him. And he repaired the altar of the Lord *that* was broken down. **31** And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, "Israel shall be your name." **32** Then with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord; and he made a trench around the altar large enough to hold two seahs of seed. **33** And he put the wood in order, cut the bull in pieces, and laid *it* on the wood, and said, "Fill four waterpots with water, and pour *it* on the burnt sacrifice and on the wood." **34** Then he said, "Do *it* a second time," and they did *it* a second time; and he said, "Do *it* a third time," and they did *it* a third time. **35** So the water ran all around the altar; and he also filled the trench with water. **36** And it came to pass, at *the time* of the offering of the *evening* sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, "Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You *are* God in Israel and I *am* Your servant, and *that* I have done all these things at Your word. **37** Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that You *are* the Lord God, and *that* You have turned their hearts back *to You* again." **38** Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that *was* in the trench. **39** Now when all the people saw *it*, they fell on their faces; and they said, "The Lord, He *is* God! The Lord, He *is* God!" **40** And Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal! Do not let one of them escape!" So they seized them; and Elijah brought them down to the Brook Kishon and executed them there.

1 Kings 18:41-46 NKJV

Then Elijah said to Ahab, "Go up, eat and drink; for *there* is the sound of abundance of rain." **42** So Ahab went up to eat and drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; then he bowed down on the ground, and put his face between his knees, **43** and said to his servant, "Go up now, look toward the sea." So he went up and looked, and said, "*There* is nothing." And seven times he said, "Go again." **44** Then it came to pass the seventh *time*, that he said, "There is a cloud, as small as a man's hand, rising out of the sea!" So he said, "Go up, say to Ahab, 'Prepare *your chariot*, and go down before the rain stops you.'" **45** Now it happened in the meantime that the sky became black with clouds and wind, and there was a heavy rain. So Ahab rode away and went to Jezreel. **46** Then the hand of the Lord came upon Elijah; and he girded up his loins and ran ahead of Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

1 Kings 19:2 NKJV

Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time."

1 Kings 19:3 KJV

And when he saw that...

1 Kings 19:3 NKJV

And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.

Joshua 1:8 NKJV

... you shall meditate in it day and night...

1 Kings 19:4 NKJV

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a jbroom tree. And he prayed that he might die, and said, "It is enough! Now, Lord, take my life, for I *am* no better than my fathers!"

1 Kings 19:10 NKJV

So he said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

1 Kings 19:11-12 NKJV

Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord." And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, *but* the Lord *was* not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, *but* the Lord *was* not in the earthquake; **12** and after the earthquake a fire, *but* the Lord *was* not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.

Psalms 18:28 KJV

For thou wilt light my candle: the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness.

Proverbs 20:27 KJV

The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly.

1 Kings 19:13-14 NKJV

So it was, when Elijah heard *it*, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. Suddenly a voice *came* to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" **14** And he said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

1 Kings 19:15-16 & 18 NKJV

Then the Lord said to him: "Go, return on your way to the Wilderness of Damascus; and when you arrive, anoint Hazael as king over Syria. **16** Also you shall anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi as king over Israel. And Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah you shall anoint as prophet in your place. Yet I have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

Proverbs 18:1 NKJV

A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; He rages against all wise judgment.

Proverbs 27:17 NKJV

As iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.

Proverbs 13:20 NKJV

He who walks with wise men will be wise, But the companion of fools will be destroyed.

1 Corinthians 12:13 NKJV

For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.

Isaiah 61:1-3 NKJV

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, Because the Lord has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound; 2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, 3 To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;

Psalms 33:1 ESV

Shout for joy in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the upright.

Hebrews 13:15 ESV

Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God...

Psalms 8:2 NKJV

...You have ordained strength, Because of Your enemies, That You may silence the enemy and the avenger.

Psalms 8:2 NKJV

Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have ordained strength,

Matthew 21:16 NKJV

and said to Him, “Do You hear what these are saying?”

And Jesus said to them, “Yes. Have you never read, ‘Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have perfected praise’?”

Ezra 3:10-11 NKJV

When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, ... praising and giving thanks to the Lord: “For He is good, For His mercy endures forever toward Israel.” Then all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid.

2 Chronicles 20:1-2 NKJV

It happened after this that the people of Moab with the people of Ammon, and others with them besides the Ammonites, came to battle against Jehoshaphat. Then some came and told Jehoshaphat, saying, “A great multitude is coming against you from beyond the sea, from Syria; and they are in Hazazon Tamar” (which is En Gedi).

2 Chronicles 20:3-4 NKJV

And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. 4 So Judah gathered together to ask help from the Lord; and from all the cities of Judah they came to seek the Lord.

2 Chronicles 20:20 NKJV

...Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the Lord your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper."

2 Chronicles 20:21 NKJV

And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who should sing to the Lord, and who should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army and were saying: "Praise the Lord, For His mercy *endures* forever."

2 Chronicles 20:22-23 NKJV

Now when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushes against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated. For the people of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of Mount Seir to utterly kill and destroy them. And when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, they helped to destroy one another.

Matthew 21:16 NKJV

and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read, 'Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have perfected praise'?"

Psalm 8:2 NKJV

...You have ordained strength, Because of Your enemies, That You may silence the enemy and the avenger.