Good Morning, February 9, 2014

“The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me, He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God” (2 Samuel 23:3). The Bible records for us the final words of King David. After a life of leading the people of Israel in many wars and also establishing proper worship as well as leading his own family, he is basically saying, if I had it to do over I would make every decision in the fear of God! To live in the fear of God, one must realize that they are in His very presence every moment of their lives. Nothing is hid from Him! He was there when King David ignored Him and made his mistakes, and He was there when he consulted Him for instructions! Most every person has an influence on others. A father and mother are the leaders of their homes. The eternal destination as well as the quality of life may be determined by the way you lead. Lead your family and co-workers in the fear of God. He is there! Have a great day!

Brother Van Horn

Good Morning, February 10, 2014

“(22) And king Solomon passed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom. (23) And all the kings of the earth sought the presence of Solomon, to hear his wisdom, that God had put in his heart” (2 Chronicles 9:22, 23). King Solomon was, by God’s Word, the wisest man that ever lived or would live. While he was alive and ruling, other kings would seek to be in his presence just hoping that they could learn from him. God recorded for us some of Solomon’s wisdom in the Book of Proverbs; a book in the Bible that has thirty chapters; one for each day. Solomon, like his father King David, concluded at the end of his life that living in the fear of God is the best. “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man (Ecclesiastes 12:13). It is estimated that the wisest man that ever lived died at age 58. Having wisdom without applying it is like dying of starvation with a plate full of food in front of you. Have a great day!

Brother Van Horn

Good Morning, February 11, 2014

“And he went out to meet Asa, and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin; The Lord is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you” (2 Chronicles 15:2). God sent a prophet out to advise the new king of Israel. Our text verse gives us plain and simple advice concerning living in the fear of God. Living in His presence is not a horrifying place, but on the contrary, it is a safe and joyous place. Enjoying the presence of God gives you peace knowing that whatever comes your way in life; it has been ordained by the LORD for our good and His glory. Seek Him today and rest in Him. There is only one other alternative; to be forsaken by the Creator of the universe is like being in a sinking ship in the middle of the ocean. Have a great day!

Brother Van Horn

Good Morning, February 12, 2014

“Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge: but he that hateth reproof is brutish” (Proverbs 12:1). Our Proverb for the day started out with two elements needed to live in the fear of the LORD. To love instruction is to love to learn. We live in a vast world of information that is literally at our fingertips. Learn what pleases God by searching His Manual. The second element comes when the Instructor finds a fault in the way you are living and condemns it. Medicine is hard to take, but it is for our good. King Solomon tells us to love to learn and be humble enough accept help from those who care enough to reveal our faults. Verse two then tells us, “A good man obtaineth favour of the Lord: but a man of wicked devices will he condemn” (Proverbs 12:2). The choice is ours; love instruction and use reproof to improve equals favour with God; despise instruction and reproof and be condemned. Seems to me like a no-brainer! Have a great day!

Brother Van Horn

Good Morning, February 13, 2014

“By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches, and honour, and life” (Proverbs 22:4). Fourteen times in the Book of Proverbs the phrase, “The fear of the LORD is used.” Notice, the LORD is spelled with all capitol letters. This signifies for us that we are talking about the entire Godhead, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. Humility is the drawing element to the fear of the LORD. When we realize that all we are and all we have is a direct result of God and His plan for our lives, and submit ourselves to Him and His holiness, then we can enjoy the benefits of living in the fear of the LORD. Dwelling in His presences brings a peace and joy that no preacher could ever explain. You have to experience it for yourself! I can tell you all day long how awesome the Grand Canyon is, but when you lay your own eyes on the beauty of His Creative mind, it will change you life! Feast your eyes on the fear of God for yourself! Have a great day!

Brother Van Horn

Good Morning, February 14, 2014

“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.” (Proverbs 1:7). The Bible has a clear teaching on what the fear of the LORD is. The word “beginning” has the meaning of the principal part. To dwell in the fear of the LORD, realizing you are in His presence at all times, is the starting point and the most essential part of gaining the needed knowledge to have a blessed (happy) life. Wisdom from God is easily attained; simply ask for it: “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him” (James 1:5). It is kind of like, remaining in a dark room with the ability to change the burnt out light bulb, but making the choice to sit in darkness instead. Fools sit in darkness! God has the right to call you a fool if you choose darkness! Have a great day!

Brother Van Horn

February 22, 2014

One of the joys of serving as the Foreign Field Representative is the people I work with. Our National workers are sold out to service to our LORD and Saviour. One of them is Jun Monderin working in Manila, Philippines. Brother Jun’s wife, Joyce, had a severe asthma attack over a year ago.  She slowly deteriorated until February 19, 2014 when she went home to be with Jesus. Two very young daughters and her husband survive her. This ordeal has completely expended all of his finances. They have been living in the basement of the church for many months now. Dr. Dunsford and I met with Jun last November. He showed us his work schedule; it would put most preachers to shame, myself included! This man of God never stopped going to prison; he has an urgency to reach the inmates for Christ.  Six days a week he would take public transportation to preach to them producing many wonderful results and then helps with a church plant on the LORD‘s Day!

I am requesting that you prayerfully consider helping this Man of God with a one-time monetary gift or with support. All proceeds will go directly to him. He will need pay for the funeral and burial expenses, move out of the church into his own apartment, provide child care while he conducts his prison work, and purchase a vehicle to conduct his work. He literally sold everything to care for his darling wife. Please Help! You can send your funds to the Rock of Ages Ministries: P.O. Box 2308: Cleveland, TN 37320. Put Jun Monderin in the memo. Or you can donate by using the donate button on my web site. Please be sure to mark it for Brother Jun. You are not just bearing another Christian’s burdens, but you are investing in a soul winning champion!  Thank you!

Good Morning, February 22, 2014

“(1) My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; (2) So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; (3) Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; (4) If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; (5) Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God” (Proverbs 2:1-5). The fear of the LORD is not only something that should be desired, but it is also something that can be found. Once located, the knowledge of God is revealed to you in a way that makes all the things of this world drift away! The Treasure Box can be found on shelf somewhere in most homes. It is hid in a drawer or covered by a TV guide. It not only is the Words of the God of Heaven, but a treasure chest of Knowledge. If you seek it like hid treasure, God will give you a wealth of His knowledge. This makes it so easy to serve Him! Have a great day!

Brother Van Horn

Good Morning, February 23, 2014

“The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility” (Proverbs 15:33). One of the biggest obstacles one faces to live in the fear of God is the old sin of pride. It is the most dreadful of all sins in the eyes of God and located first on His hate list: “These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: (17) A proud look...” (Proverbs 6:16, 17a). When we realize our place in this old world and allow the God of Heaven to dwell in our lives, we will stay humble before Him. Wisdom is an amazing tool in ones tool pouch of life. Humility is the belt that keeps the pouch fastened to our hips. It will be a glorious day to be honored by our Saviour! Live in the fear of the LORD and be wise! Have a great day!

Brother Van Horn

Good Morning, February 25, 2013

“In the fear of the LORD is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge” (Proverbs 14:26). The LORD gives us a beautiful picture of what it is like to live “in” the fear of the LORD; He calls it strong confidence! We lived in an old two-story farmhouse when my children were young, There was a landing half way up the flight of steps. My kids would take turns jumping from the landing into my arms. There was fear in their eyes at first, but after the initial flight, when they realized that Dad was going to catch them, they could not get enough of the voyage from the top of the steps to Dad’s arms. They learned to have confidence in me. This is the same confidence God give us when we dwell in His presence every moment of our lives. He guides our dealings with people, our conversations, and He draws us to spend time with Him in prayer and Bible study. Notice the result in our text verse; your children are the ones to benefit! I can promise you by experience—your children are worth it! Have a great day!

Brother Van Horn

Good Morning, February 28, 2014

“Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust” (Psalm 16:1). This is a wonderful Psalm for those who choose to live in the fear of the LORD. Charles Spurgeon’s gives this note in his book *The Treasury of David:* “TITLE. MICHTAM OF DAVID. *This is usually understood to mean* THE GOLDEN PSALM, *and such a title is most appropriate, for the matter is as the most fine gold. Ainsworth calls it ‘David's jewel, or notable song.’ Dr. Hawker, who is always alive to passages full of savour, devoutly cries, ‘Some have rendered it* precious, *others* golden, *and others,* precious jewel; *and as the Holy Ghost, by the apostles Peter and Paul, hath shown us that it is all about the Lord Jesus Christ, what is here said of him is precious, is golden, is a jewel indeed!’”* Christ is precious indeed and to dwell in His presence is satisfying. As the Psalm continues we read, “I have set the LORD always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved” (Psalm 16:8). The Psalmist has strong confidence in Christ to keep him from wickedness, but the conclusion of this Psalm should cause every believer to jump right in the middle of His presence and stay there; “Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore” (Psalm 16:11). Have a great day!

Brother Van Horn