

September 30, 2020

A reminder of God's faithfulness to you for today.

Christians know that God created everything that was, is, or ever will be. But do Christians understand that God is still at work in the world and in our lives today? God is leading, guiding, teaching, molding, and shaping each of His people to be more like His Son, Jesus, until one day they will be completely sanctified in God's truth. Read with me from 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5.

1 Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly and be glorified, just as it did also with you; 2 and that we will be rescued from perverse and evil men; for not all have faith. 3 But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. 4 We have confidence in the Lord concerning you, that you are doing and will continue to do what we command. 5 May the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the steadfastness of Christ.

After God created all that there is did He stop working as many throughout history have posited? Or, is God still hard at work refining and shaping His people to be His perfect holy priesthood?

God is still at work today. Scripture instructs the reader about God's work through creation and in the world. God's creative work began before one single word of creation was spoken. The author of Ephesians reveals, "He [God] chose us in Him [Jesus] before the foundation of the world" (Ephesians 1:4). The beginning of God's work in the world began with His choosing of the faithful before He uttered one single word of the creation.

Genesis 1:1 reads, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." This we can easily attest in that we live and breathe in the world as it exists today. God's work did not end with creation. Even though

Scripture informs, “God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their hosts. By the seventh day God completed His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done” (Genesis 1:31-2:2).

God’s work continues today in at least three ways. First, through Christ Jesus who declared, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to accomplish His work” (John 4:34). Jesus completed God’s work of reconciliation through His death on the cross, His descent to hell, and His resurrection to eternal life.

The second way God’s work continues today is through the Holy Spirit “Who abides with us and is in us” (John 14:17) and “Teaches us all things, and brings to remembrance all that Jesus said” (John 14:26). The Holy Spirit also “Convicts the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment” (John 16:8). The Holy Spirit is our guide and the one who directs the work of the Body of Christ-The Church-as well.

Third, God is working in our lives. He is the one who strengthens and protects us from the evil one. Recall Jesus’ prayer from Gethsemane on the night He was betrayed and how He asked of God, “I do not ask You [God the Father] to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one” (John 17:15). God strengthens and protects us from our adversary the devil so that we may continue doing the Lord’s work in the world. Remember, “God who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus” (Philippians 1:6).

We must remember God’s work and Christ Jesus’ work is our work. In the same way Jesus said He was here to do the will of His Father so too do we carry on God’s work here and now. Our work is to do the work

that Jesus sent us to do. Remember, Jesus commands, “As the Father has sent Me, I also send you” (John 19:21).

God continues His work in the world, not only by His own hands but, through each one of His Son’s disciples. We must remember that the disciples of the New Testament era were not and are not the only disciples that Jesus has. We who believe by faith in Jesus are His disciples today.

We do God’s work in the world as we seek to glorify God each day. Jesus commands us, “Let your light shine before people in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven” (Matthew 5:16). According to the PC(USA) “Directory of Worship” “We are sent out [from the church] in service to glorify the same God who is present and active in the world” (Directory for Worship, page 75, W-1.0101).

Today understand God is at work in your life as Jesus calls you into service and as the Holy Spirit is convicting you of the sin you hold in your heart. God is working hard to protect and strengthen you for service in His mission to the world. Paul instructs that God is protecting you so His word will spread rapidly and be glorified. God’s word is glorified each time we share Jesus with others. Let us embrace Jesus call to life and service in God’s mission as the Holy Spirit teaches and guides us on our sojourn through this life. Let us pray.

Almighty God thank You for protecting and caring for us so that we are better able to share Your word and Son Jesus with others. I pray, heavenly Father for all who hear and read these words that they will come to know Your truth and believe in Jesus unto salvation. In Jesus’ name I pray, amen.

Remember that God cares for you and will enable you to complete the good work He calls you to do.

Until the nets are full