



DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

Memorizing God's Deeds ... by Billy

- **T**he human mind is such an intricate creation and has proven its capabilities in many spheres of life. Even more incredibly mysterious is the human memory.
 - Why is it that some things are called to mind and not others?
 - Is there such a thing as selective memory or is it that we just remember the things that we prioritize most?
 - What is it that causes forgetfulness?
 - How does memory function in the spiritual realm?
- As we come to the closing of another year let's take a brief look at how memory can be used for the glory of God.
- When we are inclined to pray there are of course many distracting thoughts, but the worst are those of past failure in spiritual matters.
- Memory in this case can be very damaging, hindering spiritual progress if such reflections are not dealt with carefully.
- We are often reminded of our reluctance to pray, our insensitivity to the needs of others, our complaining attitude or our impatience, to name but a few vices.
- Let me also add failure to take responsibility for our actions, laziness in spiritual disciplines and concern for personal status.
- This is the memory that makes us feel ashamed but the feeling of shame can proceed in either a negative or positive course.
- Paul affirmed the church at Corinth for their positive response to feeling ashamed because it led to the action of repentance. (2 Cor.7:9-11)
- Peter was walking in his weary journey of denial of Jesus when he heard the cock crow- then he remembered the word of the Lord.
- The Holy Spirit is given to us in order that He might bring all things that Jesus taught to our remembrance. (John 14:26); see John 2:22
- By God's grace there is forgiveness for all of these sins so that we can begin again to walk in the Spirit and not fulfil the desires of the flesh.
- In this way our memory stirs us to action to do the right thing for the glory of God. (Rev.2:5 and 3:3) Be wary of feeling overwhelmed by guilt and shame to the point of stagnation. This comes from the accuser of the brethren.
- Memory also works toward praise of God's great deeds. We could be sitting in a traffic jam, having a sleepless night or be overwhelmed with our workload and out of the blue our memory is stirred by the Spirit of God.

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WEEKLY EVENTS/NOTICES

Week 52

- In Psalm 19:1-3, David is inspired to praise as he considers the One Who created the heavens and the earth.
- Asaph was determined to remember the mighty deeds of God and to meditate on His work. (Psa. 77:11)
- Memory also leads us to a place of present contentment. We remember that we are encouraged to be patient and to be faithful accepting each circumstance as God's providence.
- We are today spiritually what God has made us through many trials and struggles and through many triumphs and blessings (Heb.10:32)
- Lastly, memory also inspires us to have a fresh vision, based on the grace that we have received. If I did not believe to see the goodness of God in the land of the living I could have no reason to continue.
- But because He lives we can face tomorrow and the coming year. The psalmist declared be strong and let your heart take courage. (Psalm 27:14)

Events /Notices

- ▶ There will be time allowed following the worship and breaking of bread for end of year testimony for those who would like to recount God's goodness in 2019.
- ▶ Events planned for January: fellowship meal, Tiglin testimonies and visit of Perry from CTMI Bourne-mouth church. Dates will be confirmed in due course.

Extra Services

If you have children with you, these are the facilities provided:

▶ Crèche and Pre-school Praise

Our crèche is based on the floor above the Meeting Room with baby changing facilities and toys to keep your young child occupied if they do not settle during the meeting. Parents are to attend to their children at all times. There is a short and simple pre-school Bible lesson during the sermon for 3-7 years old in the Crèche (as arranged).

▶ Sunday School

Our Sunday School is open to children of school going age and operates during the sermon in the Sunday School room on the top floor. Our teachers have a Bible story and songs prepared for your child(ren), teaching them the need for Salvation and Christian living.

Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. (Psalm 34:11)

▶ Tea and Coffee

After the Sunday morning service, tea, coffee and light refreshments are available on the top floor in the Hospitality Room. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it (Hebrews 13:2).