



BEAUTIFUL THINGS IN THE GOSPELS THE MILK OF THE WORD PART I

WEEKLY
CHRISTIAN
FOCUS

Warm greetings. The Gospels are so vital to us. If we read them prayerfully and regularly, they by their own God given power, can guide us through many battles and renew our relationship with Jesus Christ.

So I am hoping to present at least a couple of editions this year, God willing, to share some wonderful encouraging sections, with a minimum of my own comments, which I hope are a huge blessing to you.

Let's start with this, where Jesus is talking to His disciples, sometime during the Last Supper. I am using the Amplified Classic Translation in this edition. This is an unusual or rather not much used translation, but it brings out such deep meanings for us. Its style is different, and if you are not accustomed to it, you will need a bit of patience to get used to it!

▶ 1 THE FATHER HIMSELF WILL LOVE YOU! VERSES FROM JOHN 14 AND 16.

John 14

16 And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter (Counsellor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate,

Strengtheners, and Standby), that He may remain with you forever—

17 The Spirit of Truth, Whom the world cannot receive (welcome, take to its heart), because it does not see Him or know and recognize Him.

But you know *and* recognize Him, for He lives with you [constantly] and will be in you.

18 I will not leave you as orphans [comfortless, desolate, bereaved, forlorn, helpless]; I will come [back] to you.

21 The person who has My commands and keeps them is the one who [really] loves Me; and whoever [really] loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I [too] will love him and will show (reveal, manifest) Myself to him. [I will let Myself be clearly seen by him and make Myself real to him.]

22 Judas, not Iscariot, asked Him, Lord, how is it that You will reveal Yourself [make Yourself real] to us and not to the world?

23 Jesus answered, **If a person [really] loves Me, he will keep My word [obey My teaching]; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home (abode, special dwelling place) with him.**

24 Anyone who does not [really] love Me does not observe *and* obey My teaching. And the teaching which you hear *and* heed is not Mine, but [comes] from the Father Who sent Me.

▶ 2 THE BEATITUDES AND EXTRA

The Beatitudes are generally found in Matthew 5, but Luke Chapter 6 has a nearly identical text.

Luke 6: 20

And solemnly lifting up His eyes on His disciples, He said: **Blessed** (happy—with life-joy and satisfaction in God's favour and salvation, apart from your outward condition—and to be envied) **are you poor and lowly and afflicted (destitute of wealth, influence, position, and honour), for the kingdom of God is yours!**

21 Blessed (happy—with life-joy and satisfaction in God's favour and salvation, apart from your outward condition—and to be envied) are you who hunger *and* seek with eager desire now, for you shall be filled *and* completely satisfied! Blessed (happy—with life-joy and satisfaction in God's favour and salvation, apart from your outward condition—and to be envied) are you who weep *and* sob now, for you

shall laugh!

22 Blessed (happy—with life-joy and satisfaction in God's favour and salvation, apart from your outward condition—and to be envied) are you when people despise (hate) you, and when they exclude *and* excommunicate you [as disreputable] and revile *and* denounce you and defame *and* cast out *and* spurn your name as evil (wicked) on account of the Son of Man.

23 Rejoice *and* be glad at such a time and exult *and* leap for joy, for behold, your reward is rich and great and strong and intense and abundant in heaven; for even so their forefathers treated the prophets.

24 But woe to (alas for) you who are rich abounding in material resources), for you already are receiving your consolation (the solace and sense of strengthening and cheer that come from prosperity) *and* have taken and enjoyed your comfort in full [having nothing left to be awarded you].

25 Woe to (alas for) you who are full now (completely filled, luxuriously gorged and satiated), for you shall hunger *and* suffer want! Woe to (alas for) you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep *and* wail!

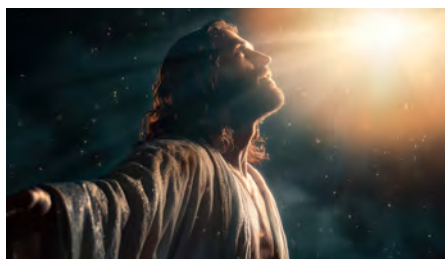
26 Woe to (alas for) you when everyone speaks fairly *and* handsomely of you *and* praises you, for even so their forefathers did to the false prophets.

27 But I say to you who are listening now to Me: in order to heed, make it a practice to] love your enemies, treat well (do good to, act nobly toward) those who detest you *and* pursue you with hatred,

28 Invoke blessings upon *and* pray for the happiness of those who curse you, implore God's blessing (favour) upon those who abuse you [who revile, reproach, disparage, and high-handedly misuse you].

29 To the one who strikes you on the jaw *or* cheek, offer the other jaw *or* cheek also; and from him who takes away your outer garment, do not withhold your undergarment as well.

30 Give away to everyone who begs of you [who is in want of necessities], and of him who takes away from you your goods, do not demand *or* require them back again.



▶ **3 JOHN 17. JESUS PRAYS FOR HIS DISCIPLES AND FOR FUTURE TRUE BELIEVERS**

John 17

When Jesus had spoken these things, He lifted up His eyes to heaven and said, Father, the hour has come. Glorify and exalt and honour and magnify Your Son, so that Your Son may glorify and extol and honour and magnify You.

2 [Just as] You have granted Him power and authority over all flesh (all humankind), [now glorify Him] so that He may give eternal life to all whom You have given Him.

3 And this is eternal life: [it means] to know (to perceive, recognize, become acquainted with, and understand) You, the

only true and real God, and [likewise] to know Him, Jesus [as the] Christ (the Anointed One, the Messiah), Whom You have sent.

4 I have glorified You down here on the earth by completing the work that You gave Me to do.

5 And now, Father, glorify Me along with Yourself and restore Me to such majesty and honour in Your presence as I had with You before the world existed.

6 I have manifested Your Name [I have revealed Your very Self, Your real Self] to the people whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, and You gave them to Me, and they have obeyed and kept Your word.

7 Now [at last] they know and understand that all You have given Me belongs to You [is really and truly Yours].

8 For the [uttered] words that You gave Me I have given them; and they have received and accepted [them] and have come to know positively and in reality [to believe with absolute assurance] that I came forth from Your presence, and they have believed and are convinced that You did send Me.

9 I am praying for them. I am not praying (requesting) for the world, but for those You have given Me, for they belong to You.

10 All [things that are] Mine are Yours, and all [things that are] Yours belong to Me; and I am glorified in (through) them. [They have done Me honour; in them My glory is achieved.]

11 And [now] I am no more in the world, but these are [still]

in the world, and I am coming to You. Holy Father, keep in Your Name [in the knowledge of Yourself] those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We [are one].

12 While I was with them, I kept and preserved them in Your Name [in the knowledge and worship of You]. Those You have given Me I guarded and protected, and not one of them has perished or is lost except the son of perdition [Judas Iscariot—the one who is now doomed to destruction, destined to be lost], that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

13 And now I am coming to You; I say these things while I am still in the world, so that My joy may be made full and complete and perfect in them [that they may experience My delight fulfilled in them, that My enjoyment may be perfected in their own souls, that they may have My gladness within them, filling their hearts].

14 I have given and delivered to them Your word (message) and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world [do not belong to the world], just as I am not of the world.

15 I do not ask that You will take them out of the world, but that You will keep and protect them from the evil one.

16 They are not of the world (worldly, belonging to the world), [just] as I am not of the world.

17 Sanctify them [purify, consecrate, separate them for Yourself, make them holy] by the Truth; Your Word is Truth.

18 Just as You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them

into the world.

19 And so for their sake and on their behalf I sanctify (dedicate, consecrate) Myself, that they also may be sanctified (dedicated, consecrated, made holy) in the Truth.

20 Neither for these alone do I pray [it is not for their sake only that I make this request], but also for all those who will ever come to believe in (trust in, cling to, rely on) Me through their word and teaching,

21 That they all may be one, [just] as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be one in Us, so that the world may believe and be convinced that You have sent Me.

22 I have given to them the glory and honour which You have given Me, that they may be one [even] as We are one:

23 I in them and You in Me, in order that they may become one and perfectly united, that the world may know and [definitely] recognize that You sent Me and that You have loved them [even] as You have loved Me.

24 Father, I desire that they also whom You have entrusted to Me [as Your gift to Me] may be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory, which You have given Me [Your love gift to Me]; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

25 O just and righteous Father, although the world has not known You and has failed to recognize You and has never acknowledged You, I have known You [continually]; and these men understand and know that You have sent Me.

26 I have made Your Name

known to them and revealed Your character and Your very Self, and I will continue to make [You] known, that the love which You have bestowed upon Me may be in them [felt in their hearts] and that I [Myself] may be in them.

Closing Words:

I pray you have allowed the pure Word of God to flow over your heart in this edition. If we let Jesus draw near to us as He talks about in section I, the Father and Jesus will come to us and show themselves to us personally! The world cannot receive these things; we are a hidden and secret people known only to the Father the Spirit and Jesus. How exciting that is. Enjoy these special times with your own reading of the Gospels and let the power of them strengthen you for the days ahead! Praise the lord.

Until next week, God willing,

Jerry for the WCF Team



OPEN THOU MINE EYES, THAT I MAY BEHOLD WONDROUS
THINGS OUT OF THY LAW.

PSALM 119:18



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VOLUNTEER SECRETARIES

WCF NEEDS TWO SECRETARIES FOR DEVELOPMENT!

Dearest Brothers and Sisters in Jesus,

God bless you, we wish to tell you about our ministry for the Lord, and our need for two secretaries

We are looking for at least two people who would be willing to help us on a voluntary basis for two or maybe three hours a week.

My name is Jerry Finch, I am a Christian author and I work with a dear brother in the Far East called Andreas, who has been a missionary for many years and is well versed in computers and graphic design.

For over three years we have been producing the 'WEEKLY CHRISTIAN FOCUS' (WCF).
www.weeklychristianfocus.org

The WCF is a weekly-produced article we send out each Sunday by email to many Christian people around the world. These articles are always based on scripture and cover a very wide variety of topics which are of interest to Christians in the world today in these challenging times.

The articles often have other links to confirming videos or other resources. The idea of these messages is to encourage believers in Christ see what is going on in the world and also to strengthen and act on their faith, as well as to draw close to the Lord personally.

As our ministry is growing now by the Grace of God, and also as we wish to develop this ministry to feed God's sheep across the world, we are looking for at least two people who would be willing to help us on a voluntary basis for two or maybe three hours a week.

Some of the work you would be doing is research and looking into who or what groups, churches, organisations etc, might be interested in receiving these emails, and also as time goes on, being able to answer and respond to emails from any enquirers and to interact with organisations or web sites of people who are like minded to us.

A good or very reasonable knowledge of English is essential as well as an understanding of the basics of Western Culture, however at the same time, we are also very much focused on the whole world to bring these messages to strengthen everyone. So you don't have to be western to apply for this vacancy!

We welcome any applications, we only ask you to please give us some relevant information about your skills and your position in the Lord and a recent photo of yourself if you can.

We welcome you into our exciting new ministry. A full explanation and training and guidance will be given by email and possibly by phone, to the successful candidates.

Please write us on this email wcf@nyn-hush.com or call +44 7593 333 703 (no voice mails please)

Our love and prayers in Jesus Christ,
Jerry and Andreas.

