
Daily Devotional Life 2021



“My deep desire for our church is that these three services happily energize our individual commitments to making significant advancement in our devotional lives this next year. Almost every spiritual failure and every dissatisfaction with the Christian life can be traced to a breakdown in the devotional area. The Christian who is enjoying a fulfilling, daily communion with the Lord seldom strays or is spiritually depressed for long.”

Pastor Minnick, *Pastoral Letter*, December 2, 2020

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- For anything Spiritually beneficial to take place, warfare is required.



- One of the major benefits, of my time with God, will be when His perspective replaces mine.



- My main goal is NOT to read my Bible...



- My main goal is NOT to read my Bible but to hear my God speak.



“A fulfilling, daily communion with the Lord” is obtained by listening to Him respeak His Word, by His Spirit to you—walking by the Spirit

The value of "inspiration" emerges, thus, as twofold. It gives to the books written under its "bearing" a quality which is truly superhuman; a trustworthiness, an authority, a searchingness, a profundity, a profitableness which is altogether Divine. . .

And it speaks this Divine word immediately to each reader's heart and conscience; so that he does not require to make his way to God, painfully, perhaps even uncertainly, through the words of His servants, the human instruments in writing the Scriptures, but can listen directly to the Divine voice itself speaking immediately in the Scriptural word to him.

B.B. Warfield, *The Inspiration and Authority of the Bible*

When you read any part of the word of God, you must put a difference between it and the best writings of men, preferring it before them. . . . When you read this word, lift up the heart in prayer to God for the spirit of understanding and wisdom. . . .

For this word is spiritual, containing the great counsels of God for man's salvation, and which is sealed up, in respect of discovery of the things of God in it, to all that have not the help of God's Spirit; so that none can know the inward and spiritual meaning thereof, powerfully, and savingly, but by the Spirit of God.

Henry Scudder, *The Christian's Daily Walk*

The words of Scripture, which are simultaneously God's, are not simply conveying information. Information may be conveyed, but with the conveyance of this information, and through it, God spoke and he continues to speak. The words, in fact, arise from within his character. God speaks out of the greatness of his character.

David Wells, *God in the Whirlwind*

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PROFITING FROM THE WORD



A W PINK

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There is grave reason to believe that much Bible reading and Bible study of the last few years has been of no spiritual profit to those who engaged in it. Yea, we go further: we greatly fear that in many instances it has proved a curse rather than a blessing. This is strong language, we are well aware, yet no stronger than the case calls for.

A.W. Pink, *Profiting From the Word*

An individual is spiritually profited when the Word *convicts him of sin*. This is its first office: to reveal our depravity, to expose our vileness, to make known our wickedness. A man's moral life may be irreproachable, his dealings with his fellows faultless; but when the Holy Spirit applies the Word to his heart and conscience, opening his sin-blinded eyes to see his relation and attitude to God, he cries, 'Woe is me, for I am undone.'

A.W. Pink, *Profiting From the Word*

It is not until the Spirit applies the Word in Divine power that any individual is made to feel that he is sick, sick unto death.

A.W. Pink, *Profiting From the Word*

A supernatural knowledge of God produces a supernatural experience, and a supernatural experience results in *supernatural fruit*. That is to say, God actually dwelling in the heart revolutionizes, transforms the life. There is that brought forth which mere nature cannot produce, yea, that which is directly contrary thereto. . . .

There is nothing in the life of the average professing Christian except what can be accounted for on natural grounds. But in the genuine child of God it is far otherwise. He is, in truth, a miracle of grace; he is a 'new creature in Christ Jesus' (2 Cor. 5:17). His experience, his life, is supernatural.

A.W. Pink, *Profiting From the Word*

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OLD ALTON BRIDGE

COMPLETED IN 1884 TO SPAN THE TRINITY RIVER TRIBUTARY OF HICKORY CREEK, THIS BRIDGE WAS BUILT AS AN IMPORTANT LINK BETWEEN THE TWO ECONOMIC CENTERS OF DALLAS AND DENTON. THE BRIDGE WAS ONE OF EIGHT AUTHORIZED FOR CONSTRUCTION BY THE DENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT IN 1882. THE SPAN WAS CONSTRUCTED NEAR THE SMALL TOWN OF ALTON, WHICH HAD SERVED AS THE COUNTY SEAT FROM 1851 UNTIL 1857, WITH THE HOPES THAT THE BRIDGE WOULD BRING LIFE TO THE DECLINING COMMUNITY. HOWEVER, ALTON NEVER REGAINED ITS VIABILITY AND THE COMMUNITY GRADUALLY DISAPPEARED.

RECORDS SHOW THAT THE BRIDGE WAS CONSTRUCTED FROM A KIT PROVIDED BY THE KING IRON BRIDGE AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY OF CLEVELAND, OHIO, WHICH WAS A MAJOR SUPPLIER OF BRIDGES THROUGHOUT TEXAS AND NORTH AMERICA. THE BRIDGE IS APPROXIMATELY 145 FEET IN LENGTH AND CONSISTS OF A MAIN SPAN AND TWO SECONDARY SPANS. THE MAIN SPAN IS AN IRON, SIX-PANEL PRATT THROUGH TRUSS, AND IS 108 FEET LONG. A LATTICED GUARDRAIL RUNS THE LENGTH OF THE MAIN SPAN, AND THE BRIDGE'S DECK IS FOURTEEN FEET IN WIDTH.

THE STRUCTURE SAW HEAVY HORSE-DRAWN AND THEN VEHICULAR TRAFFIC FOR MORE THAN 100 YEARS, UNTIL CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW CONCRETE BRIDGE ADJACENT TO THE IRON BRIDGE WAS COMPLETED IN 2001 AND THE OLD ALTON BRIDGE WAS CLOSED. DENTON COUNTY CITIZENS ENCOURAGED THE RETENTION OF THE BRIDGE, AND THE STRUCTURE HAS BEEN RESTORED AND INCORPORATED INTO A SERIES OF PARKS AND HORSE AND HIKING TRAILS, ENSURING THAT IT WILL CONTINUE TO BE USED, WHILE SERVING AS A REMINDER OF DENTON COUNTY'S TRANSPORTATION HISTORY.

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