

Daily Devotional, November 16, 2020

“Established By Grace”, (Hebrews 13:9, NKJV)

“it is good that the heart be established by grace” (Hebrews 13:9)

Let us always make note of those doctrines of grace which establish the heart continually. We will focus on two of them in particular, for it seems to me that everything else arises from them. They are the duty to attend to God’s Word—the Bible, and the duty to prayer (**2 Timothy 3:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:17**). And what pleasurable duties they are! Yet we must be commanded to attend to them because we struggle daily with the temptation not to do them as we ought (**Romans 7:13-25**). It is only through the careful and honest reading and study of God’s Word that we can know what the truth is in God’s own words (**2 Peter 1:21**). We may have difficulty coming to terms with His truth, because it is great light shining into the dark sin nature, redeemed as it may be (**Hebrews 4:12**). Know this, however: God will never steer you in the wrong direction on any matter. On the contrary, He will lead the humble and teachable soul into wisdom and understanding (**Proverbs 1:7**). It is through the objective truth in God’s Word that we can know the way to salvation, the reality of heaven and hell, how God works in the lives of each one of us, what is good for us and bad for us, and many other such things. Will you listen to a good sermon or a good counselor? How much more so should you give ear to the divine **“Counselor”** Jesus the Christ daily (Isaiah 9:6)! Then there is prayer. This is our communion, or speaking with God on a regular (or all too often irregular) basis. Look at the Psalms—how holy men of old poured out their praises, thanksgivings, hearts, and innermost desires to their loving Creator. Our God is never too busy to listen. There has never been a prayer of the heart too small to warrant His attention. **“In everything by prayer and supplication, let your requests be made known to God”** (Philippians 4:6). Christian, He has taken note of you **“before the foundation of the world”** (Ephesians 1:4). Will you take note of Him, or has your heart waxed cold? Oh, that hearts of stone may be quickened by times of prayer! May the grace of God uphold and guide His people, **“for it is good that the heart be established by grace.”**