## Reckon on God

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The natural man cannot reckon on God at all. God is always left out of their calculations. As long as the natural mind controls us, we will then be unable to 'Reckon on God'. We will only be able to count on what we see or feel. Satan is always subtle in his plans and schemes to have us allow the carnal mind to control us.

But God's plan has always been to lead us to the place where we can always 'Reckon on God'. We never need to hesitate about God's leading, because if it is from God, it is bound to be a way of pleasantness.

We do not need to fear about how little we know or worry about our lack of faith, our unbelief or lack of knowledge of God and His ways and plans. The Bible teaches us that God does not expect anything from us, so why should we complain or worry about the knowledge or wisdom that we do not have?

God's Word tells us that all this should be received from Him. All the spiritual light, wisdom, and power we have to reckon on, comes from God, we could never get it of ourselves. We need to settle it to 'Reckon on God' for all the light and wisdom we need.

In John 3:27 we have a verse that explains this. The disciples of John came and told him that more people were going to Jesus than were coming to him. John answered and said, "A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven."

This means that God must be depended on to open our eyes for us. We cannot see anything or understand one divine principle unless God gives the light and wisdom needed. It is a total reckoning on God for any wisdom or spiritual light that may be needed, totally opposite to any of man's plans and ideas.

As an analogy—if one would go for an interview to go to work for a large firm and would admit that they

know nothing about this type of work and not sure if they could do it; they would be quickly turned down

But it is just the opposite with God, when we go to Him and admit that of ourselves, we are helpless and cannot do anything. That is the kind of person that God can work with. Our greatest possibility with God is our lack of wisdom, knowledge, and power. The less we know, the better it is for us, and the sooner we learn this, the better it is for us, spiritually and in every other way; then God can help us, and we can receive much from above.

In John 6:44 Jesus tells us very plainly, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day."

God does not expect us to do anything in our own strength, but has planned that He will do for us, all that concerns us. This means except the Father gives the power, we can do nothing.

As we 'Reckon on God', we will receive the light and understanding of the necessity of accepting the Scriptures as a 'revelation from God'; as it is written, everyone shall be taught of God. No one can come to Jesus Christ unless they have been enlightened by the Father and taught by Him.

As 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 2:9-12 informs us, that in our natural minds, we are deaf, dumb, and blind spiritually. "As it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." This is our natural condition.

"But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God." This means by a real revelation by the Holy Spirit.

"Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God;" Since we have the Spirit, which is of God, this enables us to 'Reckon on God.'
"That we might know the things that are freely given to us of God."

Satan would like to keep us deaf, dumb, and blind, spiritually and have us listen to him. God's Spirit is waiting to reveal the truths of His Word to us; to reveal our inheritance, our pardon and cleansing, our fulness

of the Spirit, our healing and protection, all as **FREE GIFTS.** They are all ours, they have been bought and paid for and belong to us, as much as anything else that we might own.

All the peace we need, with which to enjoy this Christian life, all the answers to prayer we desire; everything is ours, for we are Christ's and Christ is God's. That is what Romans 8:17 tells us, "And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ."

All things are ours, spiritually, physically, financially, peace in the home and in the workplace. All things are ours for the asking, we can always 'Reckon on God' because they have been bought and paid for by the Blood of His Dear Son.

It is a blessing beyond measure to have God's great Book, the Bible, and to be able to read and meditate on His Word. As we ask His blessing each time we open the Book, the Holy Spirit will open our minds to understand it. As we surrender our lives to Him, He will lead us into all Truth and it will begin to dawn on our hearts just what God is really like and that all these things mentioned in His Word are really ours by inheritance, through Jesus Christ, His Son.

The widow of Zarephath had a plan of her own, she was depending on human power alone. She was going to make that oil and meal stretch as far as she could. She told Elijah in 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 17:12-13, "I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die. And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son." Now that was a real test, hungry but yet your last mouthful of food and you would give it to a complete stranger.

(Verse14) For thus saith the LORD God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon the earth.

This poor widow changed her thinking, she was inspired to do as she was told and to 'Reckon on God'. Many spiritual, physical, and financial blessings followed that decision of being willing to 'Reckon on God'.

John 15:5-6, Jesus said, "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned."

A branch can do nothing apart from the vine. If, however, the branch was to be grafted back into the vine, then you could expect something of the branch.

Praise God, He does not expect anything of us either, until we get back into the Great Vine. As it is written, "For without me ye can do nothing."

Satan tries very hard to make us believe that we can do something outside of Christ; that there is some good in us, a little merit on our part, that we have a little ability to be able to commend us to God.

If we desire to be a pupil in God's school where we can learn successfully and desire to be trained in His workshop, we will discover that He is willing to take us right in. One of the first lessons He will teach us is that of ourselves we are nothing and without Him, we can do nothing and then He will teach us just what He is able to do. He desires us to see that before He expects anything of us.

In Psalm 103:8-18, it is brought out very plainly, "The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger forever. He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him. For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust. As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more. But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children; To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them."

This is a most comforting verse. God remembers that we are dust, He remembers that without Him we

are nothing, that we know nothing and can do nothing; He well knows this and does not expect anything of us. That is the reason Jesus died; why His Holy Spirit came to this earth to give us this living and powerful Word, that we might know how to walk, how to have something made of ourselves, that we might be what God wants us to be.

This thought is brought out again in a different way in 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: (or a new creation) old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation."

Everything is new, everything is different; all things are of God—nothing of ourselves. We have a Father at our side with all that we could ever need or desire. He tells us that He will never let go of our hand, that He is at our side with all power and authority, in Heaven and earth, even to the end of the world.

Romans 8:31-32, "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" All things are a free gift to us.

John 16:13-15, "When he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you."

"He will guide us into all Truth." That is the Holy Spirit, He will take us by the hand, open our eyes to see what God is, what He has in store for us, what really belongs to us by inheritance, through the Blood of God's Son; all that God is willing and able to do for us. It is the Holy Spirit's work to strengthen us to enter in and enjoy these blessings. We can 'Reckon on God' without any knowledge of our own and receive the light and strength we need.

We do not need to be stored up with light and strength of ourselves, as we have a great reservoir of life and light at our side continually. The Holy Spirit is to show us all the things of Jesus Christ, what He did on the Cross, what His death and Resurrection meant, what our inheritance really is and all that we have received through Him.

1 Corinthians 2:12, "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God."

To see the things of Jesus Christ and know that we are equal heirs of God and joint heirs of Jesus Christ. If we have surrendered our lives to God, laid them on the altar and have taken the position that we are dead indeed unto sin and living unto God in Christ, we have reached the foundation of all light and knowledge. We are to take and maintain that position, on the authority of God's bare Word.

There are three steps to perfect victory. After we have confessed and forsaken all sin, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Then as we lay these lives on the altar, as Romans 12:1 tells us, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Then we will become holy and acceptable unto God; and in a position to obey Romans 6:1-11.

We can take the position commanded, to reckon ourselves as dead indeed unto sin. This is not just a privilege; it is a command. The Holy Spirit takes us by the hand and is enabled to lead us, step by step; and whatever we ask of God, we receive. The Holy Spirit is at our service, with His entire power.

Ephesians 2:8-9, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." It is through faith—believing the bare Word of God. "And that not of yourselves (nothing in us) it is the gift of God." (Everything is a free gift, not of works, nothing we can do.) "Not of works, lest any man should boast."

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