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OUR GOD SPEAKS IN THE MORNING

Our GOD usually talks to us when we are the most spiritually sensitive. That's EARLY in the MORNING. I'll give you scripture proof later. But I don't think that He <u>only</u> speaks EARLY in the MORNING. He does get our attention whenever He wants to. But the general pattern is EARLY in the morning.

I have been an active Christian and Bible student since 1945. And I am truly sorry that no one ever showed this pattern to me. Many late nights have been wasted seeking our GOD for answers to problems of life, to no avail whatever. By midnight or 1:00 AM self condemnation began its destructive work because I convinced myself that something was wrong with me.

The purpose of this MONARCH is to save you a lot of time, relieve you of self condemnation, and help you get on the track so that you can find your answers from our GOD.

VISIT EVERY MORNING

"What is man, ... that thou shouldst visit him EVERY MORNING?" (Job. 7:17-18).

I found a whole raft of scriptures that tell us to expect a visit from our GOD EARLY IN THE MORNING.

JUDGEMENT IN THE MORNING

"O house of David, thus saith the Lord; Execute judgment IN THE MORNING"(Jer.21:12).

At the time, I was in a study about the House of David. I wasn't into when our GOD speaks at all. But I noticed "IN THE MORN-ING" and it took my attention so I followed up on it.

After I studied the subject of MORNING for a while, I developed a theory about why we should make our important judgments EARLY IN THE MORNING and not late at night. I present that theory to you early in this MONARCH so that our minds will flow together as we study the pattern of our GOD.

The deceitfulness of riches and the cares of this world pile up against us all day long so that by the time we are tired, we are not capable of making cood logical GOD oriented decisions. We cannot execute good judgment then. At night we get tired and selfish.

When we wake up, those negative things are behind us and that is when we are sensitive enough to hear the "wee small" voice of our GOD speaking to us about our own problems and solutions. That is when we are best prepared to execute righteous judgment-EARLY IN THE MORNING.

That's why the House of David (that's us is to execute judgment in the MORNING.

LOTS OF SCRIPTURE

The following list of scriptures is much too long to quote here, but if you take the time to look them all up you might get tired of noticing that they all say that our GOD speaks to us EARLY IN THE MORNING.

Jeremiah 7:13, 7:25, 11:7, 21:12, 25:3-4, 26:5, 29:19, 32:33, 35:14-15, 44:4, II Chron. 36:15.

I don't think that any of these scriptures indicate that our GOD speaks to is <u>ONLY</u> in the MORNING. I do believe that we can safely conclude that our own sensitivity is greatest at that time.

WAKE UP AND LISTEN

"The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth MORNING by MORNING, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned"(Isa. 50:4).

Recently a high ranking executive of one of America's largest corporations testified in our Bible teaching meetings that he always keeps a pencil and paper on the night stand by his bed because that is when he receives direction for solving complex corporate problems.

And my own experience verifies those facts. You will find a pencil and note pad on the night stand by my bed right now. It was used a lot when I wrote the book THE THIRD SALVATION, 1, 2, 3.

And it is often used to jot down new ideas for Bible study, for MONARCH subjects, for lesson preparation - and praise our GOD, once in a while for direct leading from a problem to a solution.

NEW EVERY MORNING

"His compassions fail not. They are new every MORNING: great is thy faithfulness" (Lam. 3:23).

When things are really bad then this type of scripture gives us hope for a better time in the future.

WHAT TIME ?

In our present complex society with swing shift and night shift work the expression MORNING may not be at sunrise. It means, as you are waking up - and that could be any hour for a lot of workers. I don't think that we should demand a literal interpretation about MORNING. The spirit of the word MORNING is more correct, I think.

SLEEP ON IT

You may remember once when your dad said to your mom, "Let's sleep on it."

They were talking about buying another house - or perhaps about changing jobs- or moving to another city, or perhaps it wasn't that important at all. Maybe you had just asked them if you could marry that certain person. How can they put off such an important decision - you thought, adding to your own exasperation.

Now, after a few years, you may be mature enough to realize that it is usually a good idea to say, "Let's sleep on it"

before making an important decision.

INSTRUCT AT NIGHT

"I will bless the Lord, who hath given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons." (Psa. 16:7)

We notice that supernatural instruction comes at night. That is not late at night before you go to bed. I know people who stay up late at night to try to hear from our GOD, to receive an answer to a perplexing problem of life. But no one has ever told me that it works.

The scriptures, and experience, combine to indicate that knowledge should be gained at night. In other words, study at night.

Some people have thought mistakenly that they should get their answer through study. It doesn't work that way. Study produces facts for knowledge. But answers for the problems of life do not come from a set of facts. They come from our GOD. And that comes EARLY IN THE MORNING.

The mental pictures we have of Abraham Lincoln studying for his law examination all include a kerosene lamp by a book. In other words, he needed light to study at night.

Many universities use the lamp in their logo because we associate study at night with illumination of the mind.

Do not mix up the idea of study with the experience of understanding. They are not the same. And unfortunately, we usually cannot pass up the step of study to arrive at understanding. It is true that our GOD does zap us with wisdom now and then, but the usual pattern is to get knowledge through the study of facts at night and then get understanding of how to apply that knowledge later on, usually EARLY IN THE MORNING.

DREAMS AND NIGHTMARES

Our GOD spoke to Joseph in several dreams in order to deliver JESUS CHRIST out of the hands of His enemies.

Scientists are now conducting sleep laboratories at leading universities. They have discovered that all of us are sensitive to outside influences twice during our normal sleep cycle; once while we are falling asleep and once as we are awakening from a good normal sleep. They tell us that is when we dream; but the dream we remember is the one we had while we were waking up.

You may have already noticed that about yourself. Now you see that you are not so strange. Most everyone follows that pattern.

But did you notice that you and your children receive your bad dreams - your nightmares - as you are starting to fall asleep?

Many people have said that they noticed that when their children call out of their sleep in fright, it is when their little eyeballs are moving rapidly under their eyelids.

We have discovered that is the best time to stand beside their baby bed and tell them in a pleasant voice: Momma loves you, Daddy loves you, Jesus loves you, everything is all right, you can do it, etc.

I have heard it said that some people have been successful in talking their children out of a nightmare that way and at that time.

And I have heard testimonies that complete healing and deliverance from nightmares results from vocal prayer next to the bed when the child's eyeballs are rapidly moving under their eyelids.

Recently published articles tell us that our soldiers were brainwashed by their Vietnamese captors while they were sleeping. The guards made anti-American suggestions when they noticed that our men were at that stage of sleep when their eyeballs moved rapidly back and forth under their eyelids.

In other words, a person can be programmed for good or for bad when they are in that sensitive state of consciousness. That could indicate that it is a good idea to pray, "Now I lay me down to sleep. I pray the Lord my soul to keep."

I don't think that it is a good idea to fall asleep with the radio on, anymore.

Our GOD sends angels, thoughts and dreams to us in our sleep when we are most sensitive to His spiritual messengers. Prophets of our GOD learn to place their own minds in that altered state of consciousness at any time of the day or night in order to sharpen their spiritual sensitivity and receive communication from our GOD. Some preachers say that an alarm clock is a detriment to our own spiritual lives because it deprives us of that time when we are normally spiritually sensitive.

Spiritual dreams and spiritual visions occur to us when we are not all the way awake and when we are not all the way asleep

It is a little like the state in which you find yourself six miles past your turnoff on the interstate highway and you have no idea how it happened or where the time went. You were a thousand miles away. Even though you were driving your car - "you were out of it!"

WAKE UP !

Did you ever wonder why most people resent it when they are abruptly awakened from a deep sleep?

The Bible addresses that problem in Proverbs 27:14 which says:

"He that blesseth his friend with a loud voice, rising EARLY IN THE MORNING, it shall be counted a CURSE to him."

One high school lad I know has placed that scripture on his bedroom door - and I think it is meant for his dad.

It could be that we have a subconscious desire to stay in that state because underneath it all we know that is when we hear from our GOD, at least that is a good way to look at it if you are among the people who strongly resent being abruptly awakened.

NIGHT ARGUMENTS

The seeds of most every divorce are sown late at night according to all of my counselling experiences. For the most part, the family arguments that are the worst are at night. Usually someone says, "If you don't do this, I'll do that."Or,"If you do that, I'll do this."

Really, you should never make a threat or promise to do anything late at night, and especially when you are emotional.

You say you don't get emotional? O.K., I'm writing to someone else right now.

On the other hand, you should never promise to do things that you like to do late at night either. Emotions cannot be trusted, especially late at night. Some

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adults have lived to regret the promises and decisions that they made late at night, and very few young ladies get themselves into trouble in a family way by following their emotions early in the morning.

JOY IN THE MORNING

"Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning" (Psa. 30:5).

Have you noticed that your own deepest depressions occur late at night when you are tired? Even the situation plays on T.V. usually show the violent arguments late at night, and often in a bedroom. And when a movie producer wants to show deep remorse he shows a woman throwing herself across the bed weeping, because the night, a bed and weeping are all closely associated in our mental images.

Our Bible tells us that joy is associated with morning. In order to picture the idea of joy, Walt Disney drew birds singing, the sun arising over the hill and a beautiful Snow White stretching herself from a restful sleep all to the accompaniment of the bright sounds of a hundred harps. That's joy in the morning.

Several different maturing Christians have privately expressed to me the idea that they are shocked and dismayed to discover that the church altar call on Sunday night or Wednesday night is no longer as meaningful to them as it once was.

I think that is according to the pattern. There is nothing really wrong with my friends. Here's why.

The altar is a place of sorrow, repentance, remorse, tears. There is a real place for that in our lives. Some say, but why can't I get answers from GOD at the altar like our minister says I should?

The answer is in the general pattern. Go to your church altar call for repentance and tears in your night services. But don't expect answers. Just expect relief.

Your answers and your directions come from our GOD in the MORNING.

GO FOR IT !

I believe that the scriptures teach us to listen for the voice of our GOD EARLY IN THE MRONING. That is when you first wake up. Actually, it is when you are not all the way awake and you are not all the way asleep. Someone called it the twilight zone.

Then you should get up and work hard all day. Add a little play and singing now and then.

After supper get a good book and read it. Study books at night.

Get a good night's sleep and get ready to hear the voice of our GOD EARLY IN THE MORNING.

"I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and MORNING star" (Rev. 22:16).