

Daily Devotional, April 29, 2020

For most of us right now, each day is a hard day to get up and get going. Each of our days seem to run together, some days making us downright anxious. I can remember having some jobs in my life where it was hard to sleep at night for dread of having to get up and go to work the next morning, due to some dreadful task I had to face that day. Right now, it's not necessarily dreadful tasks that we fear, it's often the dreariness of being caged up like a wild animal in our own homes, with no end in sight.

How many of you have had instances where you have forgotten what day it is and have had to realign your schedule after discovering you had somehow "lost" a day? If that's you, you have my sympathy. It has also happened to me! But, let me also give you a word of encouragement:

And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:19 {NIV}

Paul tells us that "God will meet all your needs." God is always mindful of every need of His children and He has promised to meet all of them. 'All' means *all*. That includes things like food and clothing, but it also includes grace for living. God is willing to supply you with His strength for you to get up in the morning to begin each new day, whether it is to supply you with the ambition to complete another day of work, or to plot new ways to fill your day with meaningful activity for your own betterment or in service to others. What's more, God's supplies aren't limited. They are in proportion to God's riches in glory. God is able to carry out exceptionally and abundantly, triumphs above anything we can think or ask.

Hudson Taylor, who was a great missionary to China during the 1800's, was known to have said, "**When God's work is done in God's way for God's glory, it will not lack for God's supply.**" As believers and followers of Jesus Christ, our work for Him doesn't end once Sunday service is over. Every day we are to be on mission with Him; even at home, which is our new place for school or our places of employment, or the only place to temporarily spend your retirement.

Rather than trying to just make it through another dull day, let me encourage you to try approaching it with the mindset and anticipation that God has some special things He wants us to accomplish. Make this day a day of new adventure. Perhaps we will have the opportunity today to say or do something that might greatly help and encourage another person. Perhaps we will have the opportunity to share the gospel. Perhaps God will use us on this "very out of the ordinary" day to turn someone's life around.

Paul says to: **encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.** Hebrews 3:13

Today, be encouraged by being an "encourager". Make this an "extra"ordinary day!

Prayer: Heavenly Father, I ask You to strengthen me so that I can be built up to encourage others who lack hope in life through the trust and faith that I have in Jesus Christ, who has given me new hope in life everlasting. Amen