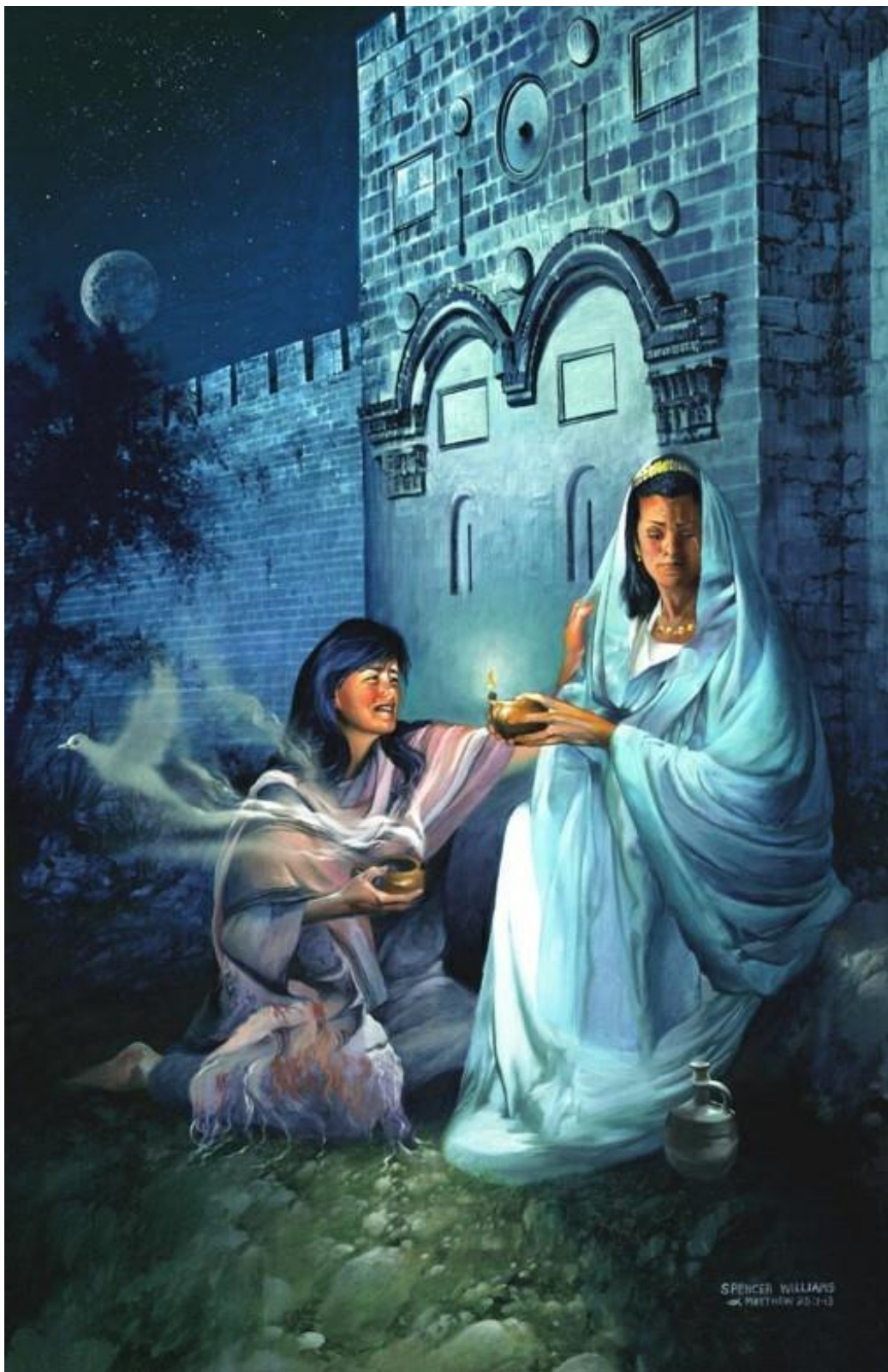


God helps those who help themselves

 sightedmoon.com/god-helps-those-who-help-themselves/

By Joseph F. Dumond

January 20, 2017



News Letter 5852-042

The Shemitah Year-The Acceptable year of Yehovah

The 22nd day of the 11th month 5852 years after the creation of Adam

The 11th Month in the Seventh year of the Third Sabbatical Cycle

The 3rd Sabbatical Cycle after the 119th Jubilee Cycle

The Sabbatical Cycle of Earthquakes, Famines and Pestilence

The Year of letting the land rest

The Sabbatical year that begins March 10, Aviv 2016 and goes to Aviv 2017

January 21, 2017

Shabbat Shalom to The Royal Family of Yehovah,

God helps those who help themselves

I have been having a problem with the things many “Brethren” say.

They repeat what many Christians say and then throw their arms in the air as if they cannot solve the situation.

They say, ‘When Jesus, Yehshua, or The Messiah, comes then He will fix it.’

“I do not know when the Sabbatical years are therefore I won’t keep them now and I will wait until Jesus/Yehshua tells me. Then I will keep it.”

“I can’t figure it out, therefore no one else could know. So I will wait until the Messiah come and then He can decide.”

What they are saying is that until that time when the Messiah comes, they will not try to solve or fix the problem at hand.

This is what people say about keeping or not keeping the Sabbath, or the Holy Days or the Sabbatical years. The Brethren say the same thing about the Sighting of the Moon or the Conjunction Moon to begin the month. They say the exact same thing, that when Yeshua comes then He will tell us when the year begins and when the barley is Aviv or not. Or whether we even need the barley to begin the year.

Yes, when the Messiah comes then we will know. Until then we just don’t know so why bother trying to figure it out, or why bother trying to resolve anything.

I call this defeatism. These people are defeated before they even tried. They sound righteous and know Hebrew. Some even teach the brethren and many follow them. Yet they will not bother or try to learn more truth. They are set in their own minuscule denomination and will not venture outside that box to learn from others.

Many pray for Yehovah to help them with this crisis or that situation.

He hears the prayers of the righteous. Those who keep the Sabbath, the Holy Days and the Sabbatical years and those do these things at the proper time. Those who keep the commandments and serve Him. He is listening and watching.

Do you ever wonder why your prayers are not being answered? Read the above sentence again. If you will not keep the Sabbatical year, if you keep the Holy Days at the wrong time or if you keep the Sabbath on the wrong day, then you can bet Yehovah does not hear you.

So you pray and then sit there and wait, expecting Him to do it all for you.

One of the most quoted scriptures is, "God helps those who help themselves."

Actually it is not a scripture at all.

The sentiment appears in ancient Greek tragedies of which only fragments now remain. In his *Philoctetes* (c.409 BC), Sophocles wrote, "No good e'er comes of leisure purposeless; And heaven ne'er helps the men who will not act." And in the *Hippolytus* (428BC) of Euripides appears the speech, "Try first thyself, and after call in God; For to the worker God himself lends aid."

A similar version of this saying "God himself helps those who dare" better translated as "divinity helps those who dare" "*audentes deus ipse iuvat*" comes from Ovid, *Metamorphoses*, 10.586. The phrase is spoken by Hippomenes when contemplating whether to enter a foot race against Atalanta for her hand in marriage. If Hippomenes were to lose, however, he would be killed. Hippomense decides to challenge Atalanta to a race and, with the aid of Venus, Hippomense was able to win the race.

The same concept is found in the fable of Hercules and the Wagoner, first recorded by Babrius in the 1st century AD. In it, a wagon falls into a ravine, or in later versions becomes mired, but when its driver appeals to Hercules for help, he is told to get to work himself. Aesop is also credited with a similar fable about a man who calls on the goddess Athena for help when his ship is wrecked and is advised to try swimming first. It has been conjectured that both stories were created to illustrate an already existing proverb.

The French author Jean de La Fontaine also adapted the first of these fables as *Le chartier embourbé* (*Fables* VI.18) and draws the moral *Aide-toi, le ciel t'aidera*. (Help yourself and Heaven will help you too). A little earlier, George Herbert had included "Help thyself, and God will help thee" in his proverb collection, *Jacula Prudentum* (1651). But it was the English political theorist Algernon Sidney who originated the now familiar wording, "God helps those who help themselves", apparently the first exact rendering of the phrase. Benjamin Franklin later used it in his *Poor Richard's Almanack* (1736) and has been widely quoted.

The Canadian society *Aide-toi, le Ciel t'aidera* (Help yourself and Heaven will help you too) is credited with introducing the celebration of Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day for French Canadians, and was founded by Louis-Victor Sicotte.

Aide-toi et Dieu t'aidera (Help yourself, and God will help you) was the motto on the ship's wheel of the famous UK-built Confederate sea raider CSS Alabama, captained by Raphael Semmes during the American Civil War.

The beliefs of Americans regarding this phrase and the Bible has been studied by Christian demographer and pollster George Barna of The Barna Group. To the statement "The Bible teaches that God helps those who help themselves"; 53% of Americans agree strongly, 22% agree somewhat, 7% disagree somewhat, 14% disagree strongly, and 5% stated they don't know. Of "born-again" Christians 68% agreed, and 81% of non "born-again" Christians agreed with the statement. In a February 2000 poll, 53% strongly agreed and 22% agreed somewhat that the Bible teaches the phrase. Of the 14 questions asked, this was the least biblical response, according to Barna. A poll in the late 1990s showed the majority (81%) believe the concept is taught by the Bible, another stating 82%.

Despite being of non-Biblical origin, the phrase topped a poll of the most widely known Bible verses. Seventy-five percent of American teenagers said they believed that it was the central message of the Bible.

Barna critiques this as evidence of Americans' unfamiliarity with the Bible and believes that the statement actually conflicts with the doctrine of Grace in Christianity. It "suggests a spiritual self-reliance inconsistent with Christianity" according to David Kinnaman, vice president of the Barna Research Group. Christian minister Erwin Lutzer argues there is some support for this saying in the Bible (2 Thessalonians 3:10, James 4:8), however much more often God helps those who cannot help themselves, which is what grace is about (the parable of the Pharisee and the Publican, Ephesians 2:4–5, Romans 4:4–5). The statement is often criticized as espousing Semi-Pelagian model of salvation, which most Christians denounce as heresy.

The bottom line then is there is Biblical support for the modified expression: God helps those who help themselves to the extent that their motive aligns with His divine Will. Otherwise, it's just a person helping themselves, without a reference of whether a god sanctions it or not as being His Will.

So do you believe you are saved by grace? Have you brought your Christian heresies over to your Torah walk?

Are you one of those who crossed over from the lies of Christianity to begin learning about the Torah? Then as you grew in Torah you brought those false teachings you thought you left behind and are now applying them or adding them to the Torah?

Col 3:23And whatever you do, do *it* heartily, as to the Lord and not to men; 24knowing that from the Lord you shall receive the reward of the inheritance. For you serve *the* Lord Christ. 25But he who does wrong shall receive *justice* for the wrong which he did, and there is no respect of persons.

1Co 9:24Do you not know that those running in a race all run, but one receives the prize? So run, that you may obtain. 25And everyone who strives for the mastery is temperate in all things. Then those truly that they may receive a corruptible crown, but we an incorruptible. 26So then I run, not as if I were uncertain. And so I fight, not as *one who* beats the air. 27But I buffet my body, and lead *it* captive, lest proclaiming to others I myself might be rejected.

Php 4:13I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Pro 16:3Roll your works upon Jehovah, and your thoughts shall be established.

Those of you with you Christian baggage are starting to get a little nervous about now. Am I saying you're saved by works? Let's read the whole of the bible and not just the selected out of context verses that some do as justification for not keeping the Torah. These being the saved by grace crowd.

Let me share right now this parable. Take note you **MUST BE PRODUCING FRUIT**. You are that tree spoken of here. The question is are you baring good fruit or evil fruit?

Mat 7:18A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruits, nor *can* a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. 19Every tree that does not bring forth good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20Therefore by their fruits you shall know them. 21Not everyone who says to Me, Lord! Lord! shall enter the kingdom of Heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in Heaven. 22Many will say to Me in that day, Lord! Lord! Did we not prophesy in Your name, and through Your name throw out demons, and through Your name do many wonderful works? 23And then I will say to them I never knew you! Depart from Me, those working lawlessness!

If you are not keeping the Torah, if you are not obeying the commandments; if you have perverted the truth and twisted it to suit your own heresy; if you are not keeping the Holy Days at the proper time; or if you have changed the Saturday Sabbath to any other day of the week; or if you are not keeping the Sabbatical years, then the fruit you are producing is from an evil tree. I do not care how holy you say you are, your fruit shows you to be a corrupted tree.

Yehshua is going to say to you He never knew you because you produce lawless fruit; evil fruit.

Now pay attention to the last verse above.

And then I will say to them I never knew you! Depart from Me, those working lawlessness!

Who are those who are working lawlessness?

Joh 9:31But we know that God does not hear sinners, but if anyone is God-fearing and does His will, He hears him.

Joh 10:27My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

That word hear can also be understand My voice. These are those who hear and obey and understand the will of Yehovah. They are not sinners, or Yehovah would not know them.

1Jn 3:4Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness, for sin is lawlessness.

Those not keeping the laws are the lawless ones spoken of. Those not keeping the laws are practicing sin. If you are not keeping the law, of which the 4th commandment is to keep the Sabbath the Holy Days of Lev 23 and Sabbatical years. If you're not doing this then you're a sinner. If you're a sinner Yehovah does not know you. These are those who are corrupted trees producing evil fruit.

Have I been describing you?

Now read about those infamous ten virgins. 5 of them have no oil. What is that oil?

Mat 25:1 Then shall the kingdom of Heaven be likened to ten virgins, who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. 3The foolish ones took their lamps, but took no oil with them. 4But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. 5While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. 6And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom comes! Go out to meet him. 7Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. 8And the foolish said to the wise, Give us *some* of your oil, for our lamps have gone out. 9But the wise answered, saying, *No*, lest there be not enough for us and you. But rather go to those who sell, and buy for yourselves. 10And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came. And they who were ready went in with him to the marriage, and the door was shut. 11Afterwards the other virgins came also, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. 12But he answered and said,

Truly I say to you, I do not know you.

Mat 25:13Therefore watch, for you do not know either the day or the hour in which the Son of Man comes.

There are some who devote their entire lives to being a Priest or a Nun. Others devote it to being a Pastor or Sunday School teacher. Others feed the poor and raise money for the homeless. These are "Good" People..... or are they?

As we just read in Matthew Yehovah never knew them even though they cast out demons in His name. And did mighty and wonderful works in His name. Is this some of you. Is this me?

But there is more. These workers of lawlessness spoken of in Matthew are said to be unrighteous in Luke.

Luk 13:24 Strive to enter in at the narrow gate. For I say to you, many will seek to enter in and shall not be able. **25** And once the Master of the house has risen up and has shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us, and He shall answer and say to you, I do not know you; from where are you; **26** then you shall begin to say, We ate and drank in Your presence, and You have taught in our streets. **27** But He shall say, I tell you, I do not know you; from where you are. Depart from Me, all workers of unrighteousness! **28** There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you will see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and yourselves being thrust out.

Who are these, then?

Rev 22:10 And he said to me, Do not seal the Words of the prophecy of this Book; for the time is at hand. **11** He acting unjustly, let him still act unjustly. And the filthy, let him be filthy still. And the righteous, let him be righteous still. And the holy, let him be holy still. **12** And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to give to each according as his work is. **13** I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the Ending, the First and the Last. **14** Blessed *are* they who do His commandments, that their authority will be over the Tree of Life, and they may enter in by the gates into the city. **15** But outside *are* the dogs, and the sorcerers, and the fornicators, and the murderers, and the idolaters, and everyone who loves and makes a lie.

Everyone who adds other holidays commits idolatry, because you are worshiping another god through those holidays. You won't give them up because you love the lie. Some of you reading this just did this very thing by keeping Christmas or Chanukah. But you refuse to keep the Holy Days Yehovah said to keep in Lev 23 and to keep them at the proper time. And you refuse to keep the Sabbatical year. You just will not do it.

And just how is it that we become righteous?

Psa 119:172 My tongue shall speak Your Word, for all Your Commandments *are* righteousness.

It is by the keeping of the commandments that we become righteous. Not by leaving out certain parts we do not want to do, nor by adding things not found in the Torah.

Psa 119:86 All Your Commandments *are* faithful; they persecute me *with* lying; help me.

Psa 119:138 In Your testimonies You have commanded righteousness and faithfulness exceedingly.

Psa 119:139 My zeal has eaten me up, because my enemies have forgotten Your Words. **140** Your Word *is* very pure; therefore Your servant loves it. **141** I *am* small and despised; *yet* I do not forget Your Commandments. **142** Your righteousness *is* an everlasting righteousness, and Your Law *is* the truth.

Rom 7:12 So indeed the Law *is* holy, and the commandment is holy and just and good.

Rom 7:14 For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin.

If you are not keeping the commandments, Yehovah does not know you. You are not righteous, and your faith is not true nor pure. If you say you love Jesus and are saved by grace, you're a liar if you are not keeping the commandments.

1Jn_2:4He who says, I have known Him, and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

Pro 28:9He who turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer *is* a hateful thing.

Think about this one point. Does Yehovah know you and does He hear your prayers?

Isa 58:6Is not this the fast that I have chosen? To lose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed ones go free, and that you break every yoke? 7Is it not to break your bread to the hungry, and that you should bring home the wandering poor? When will you see the naked and cover him; and you will not hide yourself from your own flesh? 8Then shall your light break out as the dawn, and your health shall spring out quickly; and your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of Jehovah shall gather you. 9Then you shall call, and Jehovah shall answer; you shall cry, and He shall say, Here I *am*. If you take the yoke away from among you, the pointing of the finger, and speaking vanity; 10and *if* you draw out your soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall your light rise in darkness, and your darkness *shall be* as the noonday. 11And Jehovah shall always guide you and satisfy your soul in dry places, and make your bones fat; and you shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water whose waters fail not.

The naked, hungry and poor that Isaiah is speaking of are those poor in spirit, those who have no light in them and are naked, not covered by the Torah. Those who are hungry to hear the truth but have been lied to all their lives. Read it again with this understanding. He is not talking about physical things, no, Isaiah is speaking of spiritual things.

Zec 7:11But they refused to listen, and gave a stubborn shoulder, and made heavy their ears from hearing. 12And they made their hearts adamant from hearing the Law and the Words which Jehovah of Hosts has sent through His Spirit, by the former prophets. And great wrath came from Jehovah of Hosts. 13And it will be, as He called, and they did not listen, so they called, and I did not listen, says Jehovah of Hosts.

2Ti 4:2preach the Word, be instant in season and out of season, reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine. 3For a time will be when they will not endure sound doctrine, but they will heap up teachers to themselves according to their own lusts, tickling the ear. 4And they will turn away *their* ears from the truth and will be turned to myths.

What is the oil that those five foolish virgins did not have extra of?

Psa 119:105 *NUN*: Your Word *is* a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path.

Isa 60:1 Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of Jehovah has risen on you. 2For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness *the* peoples; but Jehovah shall rise on you, and His glory shall be seen on you. 3And the nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawning. 4Lift up your eyes all around, and see. All of them gather themselves; they come to you. Your sons shall come from far, and your daughters shall be nursed at *your* side. 5Then you shall fear and become bright, and your heart shall throb and swell for joy; because the abundance of the sea shall turn to you, the wealth of the nations will come to you.

We are entering the end times when the whole earth will be dark. But the light that is to be burning in you, that zeal in you, that consumes you and makes you speak of the commandments each time you open your mouth, this is the light that you must let shine. It shines because of the studying you have done to learn those things pertaining to Yehovah and you have obeyed. THEN once you have done your part the nations come to you because of your wisdom and knowledge and understanding.

Isa 11:1And a Shoot goes out from the stump of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. 2And the Spirit of Jehovah shall rest on Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of Jehovah.

1Sa_16:13And Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the spirit of Jehovah came on David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

Isa_61:1The Spirit of the Lord Jehovah *is* on Me; because Jehovah has anointed Me to preach the Gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

The poor here again are those who lack the Torah. They are poor in spiritual understandings.

Luk_4:18“The Spirit of *the* Lord *is* on Me; because of this He has anointed Me to proclaim the Gospel to *the* poor. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim deliverance to the captives, and new sight to *the* blind, to set at liberty those having been crushed,

Act_10:38how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with *the* Holy Spirit and with power, and He went about doing good, and healing all those who were oppressed by the Devil, for God was with Him.

Read again Isaiah 11. It is telling you the 7 spirits of Yehovah. We have shown this in past News Letters to be likened to the Menorah with its seven lamps. It was part of our teaching on the meaning of the Eighth Day Feast.

Isa 11:1And a Shoot goes out from the stump of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. 2And the Spirit of Jehovah shall rest on Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of Jehovah.

Pro 31:10 Who can find a woman of virtue? For her value *is* far above rubies.

The 7 spirits of Yehovah are likened to the 7 Feasts of Yehovah. They can also be likened to the 7 Sabbatical cycles in a Jubilee cycle. They can also be likened to the 7 Millennial days. But there is much more. Do you see it yet? Do you get it?

Look at Shavuot. The third Holy Day you are commanded to keep.

Act 2:1 And in the fulfilling of the day of Pentecost, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly a sound came out of the heaven as borne along by the rushing of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And tongues as of fire appeared to them, being distributed; and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled of the Holy Spirit, and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them utterance. 5 And dwelling at Jerusalem there were Jews, devout men out of every nation under heaven. 6 But this sound occurring, the multitude came together and were confounded, because they each heard them speaking in his own dialect. 7 And they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, Behold, are not these who speak all Galileans? 8 And how do we each hear in our own dialect in which we were born? 9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, 10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya around Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabians, we hear them speaking the great things of God in our own languages. 12 And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying to one another, What does this mean? 13 But others mocking said, These men are full of sweet wine. 14 But Peter, standing up with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and said to them, Men, Jews, and all who dwell at Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to my words. 15 For these are not drunk as you suppose, for it is *the* third hour of the day. 16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel: 17 “And it shall be in the last days, says God, I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh. And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. 18 And in those days I will pour out My Spirit upon My slaves and My slave women, and they shall prophesy. 19 And I will give wonders in the heaven above, and miracles on the earth below, blood and fire and vapor of smoke. 20 The sun shall be turned into darkness and the moon into blood, before that great and glorious Day of the Lord. 21 And it shall be *that* everyone who shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

It was also on this very same day of Shavuot that the Torah was given to Moses.

Exo 19:16 And it happened on the third day in the morning, that there *were* thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mountain. And the voice of the trumpet was exceedingly loud, so that all the people in the camp trembled. 17 And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God. And they stood at the lower part of the mountain. 18 And Mount Sinai was smoking, all of it, because Jehovah came down upon it in fire. And the smoke of it went up like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly. 19 And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and became very strong, Moses spoke, and God answered him by a voice. 20 And Jehovah came down upon Mount Sinai, on the top of the mountain. And Jehovah called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

This was the day Yehovah came to dwell with us. He will dwell with us IF we agree to His commandments and then do them. They are for our good and it was on this day of Shavuot that the spirit of Yehovah came to dwell with us and it was on this day that His Holy Spirit anointed the Apostles. And this anointing has gone out in these last days and this is why you are now studying the Torah and love the things you are learning and this is why you keep the Holy Days and the Sabbatical year as well as the weekly Sabbath. His spirit poured out on you

to awaken you from your poor state of being naked. Now you are being clothed in the righteousness of Yehovah.

Now do you get it?

Pro 4:1Sons, hear the instruction of a father, and listen in order to know understanding. 2For I give you good teaching; do not forsake my law. 3For I was my father's son, tender and only *beloved* in the sight of my mother. 4He also taught me, and said to me, Let your heart hold fast my words, keep my commandments and live. 5Get wisdom, get understanding; forget not; nor turn away from the words of my mouth. 6Do not forsake her, and she shall preserve you; love her, and she shall keep you. 7Wisdom *is* the main thing; get wisdom; and with all your getting get understanding. 8Prize her, and she shall lift you up; she shall bring you to honor when you embrace her. 9She shall give to your hand an ornament of grace; she shall shield you with a crown of glory. 10Hear, O my son, and receive my sayings; and the years of your life *shall be* many. 11I have taught you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in the right paths. 12When you go, your steps shall not be narrowed, and when you run, you shall not stumble. 13Take fast hold of instruction; do not let go; keep her; for she *is* your life.

Where do you start?

Psa 111:9He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever; holy and awesome *is* His name. 10The fear of Jehovah *is* the beginning of wisdom; all practicing them *have* good understanding; His praise stands forever.

You begin by first fearing Yehovah. This is respecting our Father and obeying his commandments. It is a fearful respect.

Pro 1:7The fear of Jehovah *is* the beginning of knowledge; but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Pro 15:31The ear that hears the reproof of life shall remain among the wise. 32He who refuses instruction despises his own soul, but he who hears reproof gets understanding. 33The fear of Jehovah *is* the instruction of wisdom, and before honor *is* humility.

If you want to gain wisdom then you must keep the commandments. For those of you who understand the Prophecies of the Jubilee cycles, here is the reason why you understand them. You understand because Yehovah has poured on you His spirit of understanding. You gained wisdom in the Torah and you obeyed the commandments. It is only for this reason that you understand end time prophecy.

Dan 12:8And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O my Lord, what *shall be* the end of these *things*? 9And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words *are* closed up and sealed till the time of the end. 10Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.

Let us now get back to the subject at hand. Does God help those who help themselves?

Mat 25:14 For *it is* as if a man going abroad called *his* own servants and gave them his goods. 15And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to each according to his ability. And he went abroad at once. 16And going he who had received the five talents traded with them, and made another five talents. 17And likewise he who *had received* two, he also gained another two. 18But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the earth and hid his lord's silver. 19After a long time the lord of those servants came and took account with them. 20And so he who had received five talents came and brought another five talents, saying, Lord, you delivered five talents to me. Behold, I have gained five talents above them. 21His lord said to him, Well *done*, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful over a few things; I will *make* you *ruler* over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord. 22He also who had received two talents came and said, Lord, you delivered two talents to me. Behold, I have gained two other talents above them. 23His lord said to him, Well *done*, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful over a few things, I will *make* you *ruler* over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord. 24And he who had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew that you were a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter. 25And I was afraid and went and hid your talent in the earth. Lo, you have yours. 26His lord answered and said to him, Evil and slothful servant! You knew that I reaped where I did not sow, and gathered where I did not scatter, 27then you should have put my money to the exchangers, and coming I would have received my own with interest. 28Therefore take the talent from him and give *it* to him who has ten talents. 29For to everyone who has, *more* shall be given, and he will abound. But from him who has not, even that which he has shall be taken away from him. 30And throw the unprofitable servant into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

If you claim to be saved by grace and then do nothing to gain more oil, more of Yehovah's spirit in you, then you are no better than this lazy and evil servant. If you will not keep the Holy Days when they come nor the weekly Sabbath nor the Sabbatical years which teach you wisdom about the spirit and plan of Yehovah, then you are an evil and lazy servant.

Now read James.

Jas 2:14My brothers, what profit *is it* if a man says he has faith and does not have works? Can faith save him? 15If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, 16and if one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, but you do not give them those things which are needful to the body, what good *is it*? 17Even so, if it does not have works, faith is dead, being by itself. 18But someone will say, You have faith, and I have works. Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith from my works. 19You believe that there is one God, you do well; even the demons believe and tremble. 20But will you know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? 21Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? 22Do you see how faith worked with his works, and from the works faith was made complete? 23And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was imputed to him for righteousness, and he was called the friend of God." 24You see then how a man is justified by works, and not by faith only. 25And in the same way, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she had received the messengers and had *sent* them out another way? 26For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

Let me share this one point before I end this teaching.

Your child wants a new bicycle really, really badly. They whine and beg and ask over and over. But when you go to see them in their rooms, it is a pig sty. They have no respect for you, talking back to you and speaking evil of you to their friends. Everything you ask them to do they do not do it. Are you going to give them that bike?

When you kneel and pray and ask Yehovah for this or that and then get up and will not keep His commandments and tell others how to commit idolatry by worshiping other gods, you are doing the same thing to Yehovah as this child above is doing to her parents.

On the other hand, if that child asked for the bike and pleaded for it, then went out to get a lemonade stand and worked it for the entire summer, if their rooms were clean and kept that way and they diligently did their homework from school, then you would want to help that child to get that bike.

When you ask to be rich from Yehovah, do you then go out and buy a lottery ticket or do you set your mind to working hard to gain your wealth? Once you have prayed, what do you do in order to help bring about what your heart seeks? And are you seeking His will in these things?

Praying is showing your faith. Faith without works is a dead faith.

You are commanded to pray for the peace of Jerusalem. So you pray, but what do you do? Peace is Shalom in Hebrew and it means to destroy the authority of chaos. After you have prayed do you teach others the truth of the torah or help others who are? Do you actively seek to destroy all chaos that is against Yehovah?

Do you use the talents given to you to do a work that promotes the Kingdom of Yehovah? Or have you buried your talents in your own mind because you were hurt the one time you tried?

Is Yehovah going to say to you, well done good and faithful servant?

Get to work seeking wisdom by studying and gaining knowledge and understanding of Yehovah's torah. Keep it and obey it, walk it out so that you understand it. This is how you gain understanding and wisdom and knowledge. Be a doer of the law and not just a hearer only.

All of these verses point to the importance of using all of your God-given abilities to do your best. But at what point do you allow Yehovah to do the rest? When you are exhausted? When you are injured or incapacitated? No, you allow Yehovah to work from the very beginning. Before you do your best, commit your effort to Yehovah. He promises to accomplish His purpose through you.

Yehshua said, "**seek** and ye shall find, **knock** and it shall be opened unto you, **ask** and ye shall receive." (Mat.7:7,8) If you don't go around looking, you're not going to find. Maybe all nine doors are shut and you're only going to find one open, but are you just going to sit there and say, "Lord, reveal it to me"?—No! Yehovah expects you to put feet to your prayers.

Abraham walked the land. Knock on each and every door and do not stop knocking until Yehovah has the one He wants you to go through opens up to you.

Do you remember Paul said that the Spirit prevented him from speaking in Asia? Acts 16:6. That is Paul knocking on doors and seeing which ones were open to him and which were not. We all must do the same and keep on pressing forward.

Ask Yehovah to show you and then seek the answers. You must work your faith by striving to achieve those things you have asked Yehovah to do.

Prayer and no action

Let God do it.

Waiting for Jesus to fix it.