

WALKING IN WISDOM (**Colossians 4:5**) Number #26

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All Scripture quotations from the Editor are from the New King James Version

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There Are No Minor Servants Of The Lord

By John T. Polk II

David made this very clear when, after a victory over the Amalekites, upon his return:

"Then David took all the flocks and herds they had driven before those *other* livestock, and said, 'This *is* David's spoil.' Now David came to the two hundred men who had been so weary that they could not follow David, whom they also had made to stay at the Brook Besor. So they went out to meet David and to meet the people who *were* with him. And when David came near the people, he greeted them. Then all the wicked and worthless men of those who went with David answered and said, 'Because they did not go with us, we will not give them *any* of the spoil that we have recovered, except for every man's wife and children, that they may lead *them* away and depart.' But David said, 'My brethren, you shall not do so with what the LORD has given us, who has preserved us and delivered into our hand the troop that came against us. For who will heed you in this matter? But as his part *is* who goes down to the battle, so *shall* his part *be* who stays by the supplies; they shall share alike.' So it was, from that day forward; he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel to this day" (**1 Samuel 30:20-25**).

Those who had gone "down to the battle" were no more important than those who had stayed "by the supplies." The front line soldiers put themselves in harm's way, but might not have had nothing to come home to if their "base" had not been protected! David's declaration was fair and equitable enough that "he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel to this day." A military phrase for this is "I've got your 6," meaning, "I'll protect you from behind." Pilots in combat called out positions of attacking aircraft in terms of a clockface. If "12" was attacking, then position "6" needed defending, so a buddy would call this out. Police also use the expression. Those who cover the "6" are just as necessary as those doing the fighting.

God has made this a part of His Plan:

"But, beloved, we are confident of better things concerning you, yes, things that accompany salvation, though we

speak in this manner. For God *is* not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, *in that* you have ministered to the saints, and do minister. And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises"

(**Hebrews 6:9-12**).

God remembers nameless brethren unfailingly doing unknown good things to numberless saints. It is easy for the Devil to diminish one's obedience, disparage efforts and discourage Christians from completing their course. The Devil's work stopped the rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem in **Ezra 4:1-5:2**; the Prophet Zechariah was sent to say: "For who has despised the day of small things?" (**Zechariah 4:10**). Every person who either was active in the rebuilding, providing meals, caring for their children, or in whatever way encouraged that effort, was doing essential service for the LORD.

In Heaven, in addition to the 144,000 from the tribes of the children of Israel, John pictured those surrounding The Throne of God thusly:

"After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' " (**Revelation 7:9-10**). AND they have work to do:

"Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, 'Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?' And I said to him, 'Sir, you know.' So he said to me, 'These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them'" (**Revelation 7:13-15**).

"**Where did they come from?**" This question is answered that, because of the Resurrection of Christ, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" (**1 Corinthians 15:58**). "They" are "disciples of all nations" (**Matthew 28:19**) whose names are written in the

Lamb's Book of Life. Ancient Egypt had a Book of the Dead, but the Living Lord has His Book of Life. "And I urge you also, true companion, help these women who labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names *are* in the Book of Life" (**Philippians 4:3**). Some are named in Scripture, but the vast majority are not. While the Apostles, Prophets, Preachers, Elders, and Deacons in the church of Christ may be known to us, the "great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues" will stand "before the throne and before the Lamb." Everyone who serves the Christ will make up that "multitude." There is no job, work, or effort any Christian may do that is not be noticed by God, and no one is more impressive than any other of us, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad" (**2 Corinthians 5:10**). It is as Peter said: "Then Peter opened *his* mouth and said: 'In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him'" (**Acts 10:34-35**). David may have been foreshadowing the church of Christ, for "as his part *is* who goes down to the battle, so *shall* his part *be* who stays by the supplies; they shall share alike" (**1 Samuel 30:24**) is still God's Rule.

This is why edifying words are found in the New Testament: **Hebrews 6:9-12**; "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil" (**Ephesians 6:10-11**); "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ" (**Colossians 3:23-24**); "Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the brethren and for strangers, who have borne witness of your love before the church. *If* you send them forward on their journey in a manner worthy of God, you will do well" (**3 John 5-6**); "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart" (**Galatians 6:9**).

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Salted Speech Colossians 4:6

- ~ ***"The best way to escape from a problem is to solve it."***
~ ~ Alan Saporta
- ~ ***"Sure I am of this, that you have only to endure to conquer."***
~ ~ Winston Churchill
- ~ ***"Men did not love Rome because she was great. She was great because they had loved her."***
~ ~ G. K. Chesterton

The Value Of Every Scripture

1. Matthew 22:29 Jesus answered and said to them, "**You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God.**

***All Scriptures Show Either:
The Promise of God OR The Power of God!***

2. 2 Peter 3:16 as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which **untaught and unstable [people] twist to their own destruction, as [they do] also the rest of the Scriptures.**

***All False Doctrines Are Taught By:
Untaught & Unstable People AND Twisted Scriptures***

3. John 2:22 Therefore, when He had risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this to them; and **they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said.**

***All Scripture About Jesus Christ Records Either:
What God Predicted OR What Jesus Did Or Said
TO FULFILL ALL OF GOD'S WILL***

4. 2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture [is] given by inspiration of God, and [is] profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, **17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

***All That Is Scripture Is:
FROM God Completely AND FOR Mankind's Completion***

—John T. Polk II