

Psalm 23:1
The LORD is
my shepherd;
I shall not
want.



Our Shepherd's Opinion

1 Corinthians 4:1-4 (ESV)

1. This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.
2. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.
3. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself.
4. For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. **It is the Lord who judges me.**
5. Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.

Judge Ourselves First

MATTHEW 7:1

» 1 † Judge not, that ye be not judged.

» 2 † For **with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged**: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.

» 3 † And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?

» 4 † Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye?

» 5 † **Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out** the mote out of thy brother's eye.

HEBREWS 12:14-15

» 14 † Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

» 15 † Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;

Unrealistic
Expectations

are

Premeditated
Resentment

Unrealistic Expectations are Premeditated Resentment

- When we hold **rigid and unrealistic expectations** of others or situations, we set ourselves up for disappointment and resentment when those expectations are not met.
- It is natural to have certain expectations in life. We should approach them with **flexibility, understanding, and grace.**

Unrealistic Expectations are Premeditated Resentment

Constant praise and admiration

- Expecting that everyone should always praise and admire you (or your child) can be unrealistic.
- It's important to experience constructive feedback and learn how to handle both positive and negative evaluations.



Unrealistic Expectations are Premeditated Resentment

Special treatment or entitlement:

- The belief that you (or your child) should always receive preferential treatment or special privileges.
- Fairness and equality are essential values in society.



Unrealistic Expectations are Premeditated Resentment

Protection from all negative experiences:

- Wanting to be shielded (or to shield your child) from any form of discomfort, conflict, or disappointment is unrealistic.
- We need to be able to navigate challenging situations, learn problem-solving skills, and develop resilience to become well-rounded individuals.



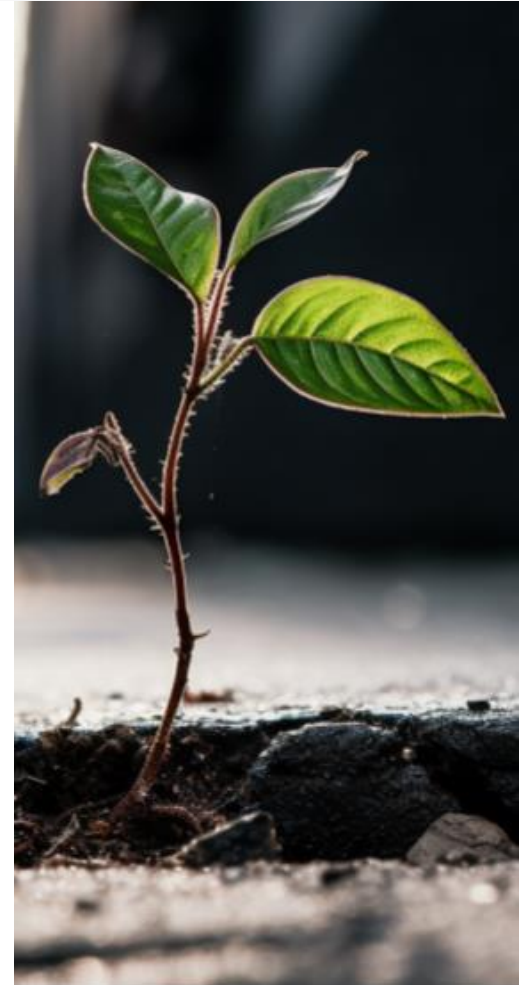
Bitterness:
anger and disappointment
at being treated unfairly;
resentment.



Unrealistic Expectations are Premeditated Resentments

James 4:1-3 (NIV):

- "What causes fights and quarrels among you?
- **Don't they come from your desires** that battle within you?
- **You desire but do not have**, so you kill.
- You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight.
- You do not have because you do not ask God.
- When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives,
- that you may spend what you get on your pleasures."



- And we know that a seed, when it falls in the right kind of ground; not upon rocks, with no root; nor in thorns and thistles, that would soon choke it out; but in good, rich, fertile faith. Every seed will bring forth of its kind.
- And we know that every seed, or promise of God, will bring forth of its kind, what it promised, if it strikes the right ground, the ground that's prepared, ready; all the rocks has been thrown out, **and the roots, and the bitterness, and selfishness, and indifference, and jealousy, has all been grubbed out; that root of bitterness that springs up, that sometimes so spoils the thing that God is trying to do.**
- We pray, God, that that won't be among us, but that the good Word will find good ground in these.



Hurt/Disappointment

Resentment

Rumination

Grudge-Holding

Manipulation
(Control,
Bullying)

Hurtful Behavior
(Rumors, Gossip,
Self-Harm, etc.)

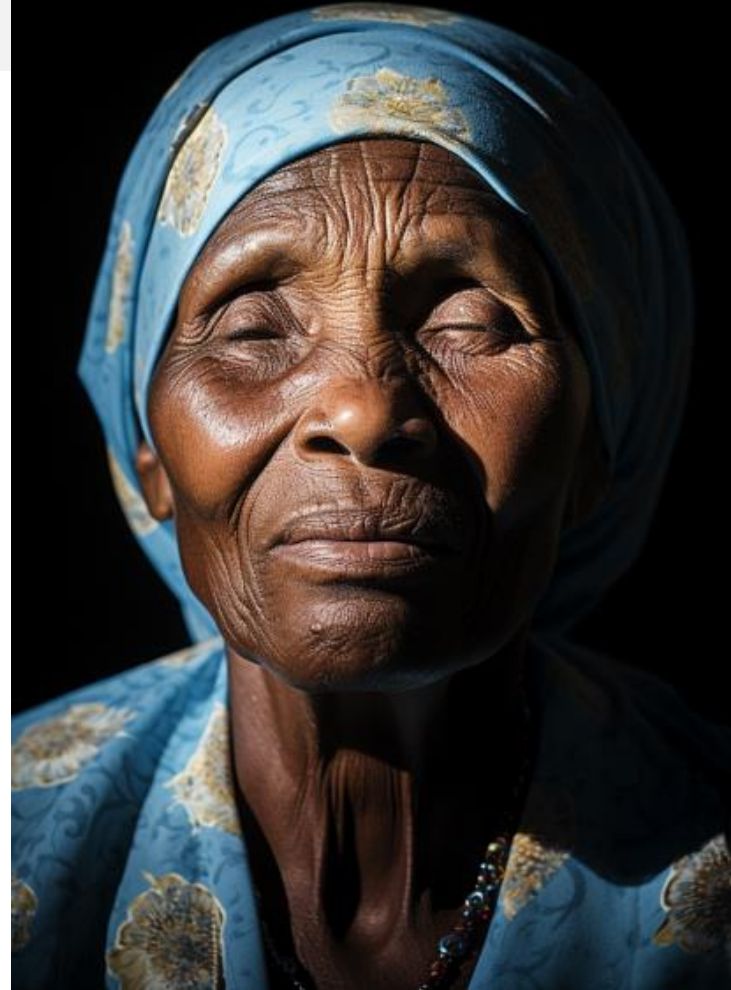


BE CONTENT

Philippians 4:11-12 (KJV):

"Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, **in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.**

I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need."



“...power apart
from **character** is
Satanic.
But power with
character is fit to
rule.”



“...power
apart from
character is
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But power
with **character**
is fit to rule.”

"Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power."

Abraham Lincoln

Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely.

Lord Acton

"Character, not circumstances, makes the man."

Booker T Washington

"Happiness and moral duty are inseparably connected."

George Washington

"Character may almost be called the most effective means of persuasion."

Aristotle

58-1221E THE.UNITY.OF.ONE.GOD.IN.THE.ONE.CHURCH_
JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-16 N-8 SUNDAY_

- "These signs shall follow believers,"
- not negative thinkers, not intellectual church members,
- but borned again believers who's come from the intellectual to the heart where God takes throne in His control room,
- to control your emotions,
- to control your faith,
- **to control your character.**

58-0512 LIFE_ EVERETT.MA MONDAY_

- Now, the Christian church should have real character then.
- And if the Life of Christ is in the church of Christ, then it's got to have the character of Christ.
- It'll produce the Life of Christ.
- It's just no more than just what we call in the south, common sense.
- If the Life of the Spirit of Christ is in the church, it has to produce that Life, because **the life that's in you, makes your character.**

Christian Character

- **Love**
- **Goodness**
- **Forgiveness**
- **Compassion**
- **Joy**
- **Faithfulness**
- **Honesty**
- **Contentment**
- **Peace**
- **Gentleness**
- **Generosity**
- **Courage**
- **Patience**
- **Self-Control**
- **Servanthood**
- **Modesty**
- **Kindness**
- **Humility**
- **Obedience**
- **Steadfastness**

- Many times that **people judge people** by the way they dress or by their stature.
- Man is not judged by how big he is and how strong's his muscles; **man's judged by character and character alone.**
- I've seen men that weighed two hundred pounds and didn't have an ounce of man about them.
- **Man is judged by character, what he is in his heart.**
- **And Christ was not judged by physical strength, but He was judged by character.**

- You see, **a man's character is made known by his works. Whatever you are, your works prove what you are.** No matter how much you testify, whatever you say, pro or con, that has nothing to do with it; your works tell what you are, tells what you are inside.
- Every job that you do manifests what you are. And you business men, if you just do a patched up job, see what I mean, just a halfway job, don't do that. If you can't do it right, don't do it at all. That's right.
- When you come to Christ, if you can't absolutely sell out lock, stock, and barrel, and come to Christ, don't come at all.
- But when you really want to be a Christian, stand out, make it real. That's what God wants you to be. And that'll prove...
- **Your works will prove what your character is. Your character is known by the works that you do.**

- Love one another, above everything. Love one another.
- No matter what the devil tries to say!
- Now you're all one great big sweet group now, but remember my warning, see, **Satan won't let that stay that way.** No, sir.
- He'll shoot everything, if he has to bring somebody in to make his target.



- He'll bring some critic or unbeliever in, and sit him down, **and cause him to fellowship with you under the quietness and things, and then he'll shoot that guy with some kind of a poison stuff**, and he'll start through the church with it.
- Don't you take sides with it. Don't you have nothing to do with anything else.
- **You stay right loving and sweet and kind to one another.**
- Pray for that man, that he'll be saved too, or that woman, or ever who it is, just pray for them.
- **And stick one with another.**



Be Content

51-0506A BELIEVEST.THOU.THIS_ LOS.ANGELES.CA SUNDAY_

And He came to this world as my example. And He came as your example **to just be content** with such as we have.

LUKE 3:14

And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do? And he said unto them, Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and **be content** with your wages.

Philippians 3:11

Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith **to be content.**

Hebrews 13:5

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and **be content with such things as ye have**: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

HEBREWS 12:14-15

» 14 † Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

» 15 † Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;

HEBREWS 12:16-17

» 16 † Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.

» 17 † For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.

HEBREWS 12:18-21

» 18 † For **ye are not come**
unto the mount that might be touched,
and that burned with fire, nor unto
blackness, and darkness, and tempest,
» 19 † And the sound of a
trumpet, and the voice of words; which
voice they that heard intreated that the
word should not be spoken to them any
more:

» 20 † (For they could not
endure that which was commanded,
And if so much as a beast touch the
mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust
through with a dart:

» 21 † And so terrible was the
sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly
fear and quake:)



Exodus 19

61-0209 JEHOVAH.JIREH_ LONG.BEACH.CA THURSDAY_

- Now, now, that covenant lasted Israel on up till they made their final mistake.
- **Exodus 19**, hundreds of years later, when God had... Look what grace had provided: the unconditional covenant, not on any grounds at all, **but just on grace it was provided.**
- When they were taking their journey to the promised land, as God had promised back here--Abraham, his seed, would sojourn in a strange land for four hundred years under bondage, but would come out.
- Look, they was already out from under the bondage.
- **God, by grace, had provided them a prophet, a Pillar of Fire, a sacrificial lamb, a greatest revival they'd ever had; and they was standing on the banks dancing, beating tambourines, and having a real Pentecostal jubilee.**
- Everything, their enemies all killed behind them, and everything, **and yet they wanted something to argue about.**
- They wanted to get a law so they could have something to do into it.

The Covenant

EXODUS 19:3-6

» 3 † And Moses went up unto God, and the LORD called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel;

» 4 † Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself.

» 5 † Now therefore, **if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant,** then **ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people:** for all the earth is mine:

» 6 † And **ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation.**
These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

The Covenant

1. Obedience to God's Voice

2. Special Relationship (Treasure)

3. Kingdom of Priests

4. Distinct Identity (Holy Nation)

Exodus 19:8

And all the people answered together, and said, **All that the LORD hath spoken we will do.**

And Moses returned the words of the people unto the LORD.



Not by Works

62-0601 TAKING.SIDES.WITH.JESUS_
JEFFERSONVILLE.IN COD FRIDAY_

"Not by works, not by deeds, not by power, not by might; by My Spirit, saith God." Not what I done, what I am, or what I will be; but what He is. And I am in Him. And whatever He is, I'm part of Him. Amen. I'm saved because I'm part of Him. And, He, He is God. And I'm part of Him, being His son. That's right. **So ain't what I done, what I will do. It's what He has done.** That's my trust, right there. All right.

Not by Works

Matthew 6:27

Which of you **by taking thought** can add one cubit unto his stature?

by Taking Thought (Self-Improvement)

- Mindfulness
- Goal Setting
- Behavior Modification
- Support Groups and Communities

Not by Works

Legalism:

- **the belief that salvation** or favor with God **can be earned** through strict adherence to religious rules, rituals, and moral codes. Believing that ones own efforts and good works can secure their salvation.
- This mindset of salvation through works **can lead to a self-righteous attitude** and **a judgmental outlook towards others** who do not adhere to the same set of rules.
- It **can also create a sense of pride in one's own achievements** and **a constant fear of falling short** or not measuring up to the required standard.

Not by Works

Ephesians 2:8-9:

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

Romans 3:28:

"Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law."

Romans 9:32-33:

"Wherefore? Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumblingstone; As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed."

I Corinthians 4:7

For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?

- Moses represented the law.
- God gave the children of Israel the law because that they wanted the law.
- God didn't want them to have it.
- That's man's choice.
- In Exodus 19, they said, "You give us something to do to merit our salvation."
- We'll keep a law if You'll give it to us, in other words.
- But it never was God's plan.
- It's better just to quit planning yourself and just use His plans.
- I find that much easier to take His plan.



« E-65 † And the dove was not claved apart, but the animal, showing the difference between them, that there would be a time that law would change to grace, and so forth, **grace was first. And grace had already provided a Saviour down in Egypt. They already had a Moses to deliver them out. They already had a sacrifice. They already had everything, but where Israel made her final, fatal move is in Exodus 19, where she taken on, and wanted law, and rejected grace. That's right.**

Grace is always right; not what you do; it's what you believe.

It isn't works, lest any man should boast.

It's by grace are you saved through faith.



Grace

- unmerited favor
- freely given by God
- without **any requirement** for humans to earn it.



...For **ye are not come** unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest,

60-1125 CONFERENCE_ SHREVEPORT.LA FRIDAY_

« E-33 † The children of Israel on the road back, they had another conference with God, Moses did at the Red Sea. We'll call that the Red Sea conference. When right in the line of duty lay trouble. And listen Christians: **There's where you'll make your fatal mistake.** There's where Israel made her fatal mistake. When she asked for a law to serve God by. In Exodus 19, after grace had done provided a saviour, Moses, a prophet, done provided a lamb, done provided a covenant, done provided all these things **and yet they wanted something to do themselves. They wanted some theology.**

That's what's the matter today. If we'd have left Pentecost the way it was at the beginning... **But we had to have something to argue about. We had to be oneness, twoness, threeness, Church of God...** Oh, my. All these riding hump-backed camels of one hump, two humps, three humps and so forth. **What difference does it make how many humps a camel's got as long we're riding in? What difference does it make, whether you're in a Ford or a Chevrolet, just keep moving.**

...For **ye are not come** unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest,

What difference does it make, whether you're in a Ford or a Chevrolet,
just keep moving.



HEBREWS 12:22-24

- » 22 † **But ye are come unto mount Sion**, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,
- » 23 † To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,
- » 24 † And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

HEBREWS 12:22

But **ye are come** unto mount Sion, and
unto the city of the living God, the
heavenly Jerusalem, and to an
innumerable company of angels,

SOMEBODY IS
GOING TO MAKE
THIS WORD LIVE
TODAY



HEBREWS 12:25-29

» 25 † See that ye **refuse not him that speaketh**. For if they escaped not who refused him that spake on earth, much more shall not we escape, if we turn away from him that speaketh from heaven:

» 26 † Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven.

HEBREWS 12:27-29

» 27 † And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that **those things which cannot be shaken may remain.**



He is going to blast and rock this sin-cursed world, my brother, my sister, and there is only one place that can stand that shock, and that is in the fold of the Lord Jesus. And I would beseech you while God's mercy is still available to you, that you give your whole life, unreservedly to Jesus Christ, Who as the faithful Shepherd will save you and care for you and present you faultless in glory with exceeding great joy.



MATTHEW 7:24-27

» 24 † Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

» 25 † And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

» 26 † And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

» 27 † And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.



HEBREWS 12:27-29

» 28 † Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:
» 29 † For **our God is a consuming fire.**

“He is a consuming Fire that burns up all your unbelief and your dross.”



HEBREWS 13:1

- » 1 † Let brotherly love continue.

- » 2 † Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

- » 3 † Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body.

- » 4 † Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

HEBREWS 13:5-8

» 5 † Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

» 6 † So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

» 7 † Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.

» 8 † Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

HEBREWS 13:9-12

- » 9 † Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.

- » 10 † We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle.

- » 11 † For the bodies of those beasts, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned without the camp.

- » 12 † Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.

HEBREWS 13:13

» 13 † Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach.

» 14 † For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come.

» 15 † By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

» 16 † But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

HEBREWS 13:17-20

» 17 † Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

» 18 † Pray for us: for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly.

» 19 † But I beseech you the rather to do this, that I may be restored to you the sooner.

» 20 † Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,

Hebrews 13:21-28

» 21 † Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

» 22 † And I beseech you, brethren, suffer the word of exhortation: for I have written a letter unto you in few words.

» 23 † Know ye that our brother Timothy is set at liberty; with whom, if he come shortly, I will see you.

» 24 † Salute all them that have the rule over you, and all the saints. They of Italy salute you.

» 25 † Grace be with you all. Amen.