

1-14-2018 Weekly Messages  
The Meditation of the Week: Psalm 17: 1-15  
Text: Philippians 3: 4-14  
Word of God Title: **The prize of the high calling of God for Christian**

Jesus Christ spoke to a man who did not believe in him and persecuted Christians in the church of God; thereafter he was born again. Afterwards he was martyred for the sake of Christ.. Now we hear his testimony through the book of Acts. As to the events that took place on his way to Damascus to arrest Christians, Luke testified:

**" And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:**

**4And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?**

**5And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.**

**6And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?**  
(Acts 9: 3-6)

As soon as he had divine meeting with the resurrected Jesus, words flew out of his mouth saying, "**Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?**" He realized instantly that the life he lived in his own life was a totally wrong life, and he realized that Jesus, who came as a man, was the Lord God whom he knew. It is in the word that he confessed, "**Lord,**"

His life until he met with the Lord Jesus Christ confessed that he had lived firmly in believing that he would be righteous before God if he kept the law given through Moses. Therefore, Christians whom he saw seemed to be a thorn in his eyes, for they were saying, they are justified when they believe in Jesus. Not only that, but also those who are building their own righteousness through cultivating through some religion or through

their own conscience today, Christians are considered as the thorn in their eyes. They also observe their laws and ethics and build up their own righteousness.

But he did not know that keeping the law is merely to clean the outside of the trash can that is their body. He did not know that cleaning the flesh like a trash cannot take away many sins like trashes in the body of man. He did not know either that only the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ could cleanse all the iniquities in conscience. However, every time he saw Christians who had been cleansed by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, he felt great anger. And yet he did not realize that there was a sin of rage in him. The law God given to man was that they could not observe, so that through the law they may understand the iniquities in them, and come before the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Apostle Paul lived a life of witness unto Jesus whom he had met since he met with him. He realized that it was his mission of his life to preach Jesus who gives eternal life to those who do not know Jesus whom he met. Even today, when men meet with Jesus, they used to say, "**Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?**"

When Apostle Paul met with Jesus and knew that the knowledge of Jesus Christ was the Excellency, and that he regarded everything as dung, and wanted to live a life of knowing Jesus Christ through the words of God, Then Jesus Christ had given many revelations, and he has given us fourteen books in the New Testament recording the revelations of Christ he received from the Lord.

He testified that he was not ashamed of the gospel of Christ that whoever believes in the Lord Jesus Christ is justified to receive eternal life. He also testified that this gospel of Christ is the power of God that gives salvation unto them that believe. In other words, if we believe in the death of Christ for our sins and his resurrection in our hearts. He testified of the

gospel of grace so that whosoever may receive the eternal life through the Holy Spirit upon believing in him.

Before Jesus raised up the dead Lazarus, Jesus told his sister Martha:

**" I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:**

**26And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?**

**..... Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?"** John 11: 25,26, 40)

After he had said this, Jesus cried out with a loud voice toward the grave where Lazarus was lying for four days after he died saying, "**Lazarus, come forth!**" At that moment, Lazarus, who died, came forth, bound hand and foot with grave clothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin Jesus manifested himself as the Creator God; when he said, let there be light! and there was light..

There shall be the day when Jesus Christ calls the names of them that died in Christ for them rise again form the dead.. But it is impossible for the natural men not born again of the Spirit to receive the eternal life. Apostle Paul testified to them who could not believe the resurrection of the dead, according to the height of their eyes, about the resurrection of the dead:

**" Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die:**

**37And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain:**

**38But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body.**

**39All flesh is not the same flesh: but *there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds.***

**40There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another.**

"(1 Cor 15: 35-40)

Apostle Paul lived a life of fellowship with Jesus Christ in Spirit while experiencing extreme sufferings following after his death and resurrection that Jesus Christ had lived on earth . He also confessed that he lived in the hope of resurrection when the time comes he also rise again from the dead. Therefore, in the hope of resurrection, his life was able to keep believing as he ran the race keeping his faith looking forward the rewards of the high calling looking at the hope of the resurrection ahead of him, forgetting what is behind him.

That's right! The years we have passed by are times beyond which we can never return again. Therefore, during our short life time as the width as the hand, we have to look forward the day of Christ when Jesus Christ appear in the air again to clothe us the body to be changed as the immortal and incorruptible when he calls our names. (1 Thess. 4: 16-19, 1 Corinthians 15: 51-55)

Apostle Paul testified of this hope to the saints of the Philippian church:.

**" For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:**

**21Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.**

" (Philippians 3: 20-21)

Amen! Hallelujah!