

Daily Verses August 2012

August 1

Power; wealth and earthly splendour

John 18:36 'Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world...'

An earthly kingdom is known by its power; wealth; and outward splendour.
The kingdom where Jesus reigns is in the hearts and lives of His people.
His power brought us salvation;
His wealth is our eternal inheritance;
His splendour is seen by His love working in us.

August 2

Teachers producing teachers

2 Timothy 2:2 'And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, the same commit to faithful people, who shall also be able to teach others.'

The message of new life in Christ is reproductive.
Life produces life.
Teaching must also be reproductive
People who represent the gospel with their lives
should also be able to present the gospel to those who need to hear.

August 3

Jesus our Mediator

1 Timothy 2:5 'For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus;'

A mediator is someone who stands in the gap in order to bring peace.
Jesus is the only Mediator between God and man.
If He wasn't God He couldn't save us;
if He had not become Man He couldn't reach us.
We have peace with God through the Lord Jesus Christ.
He is our peace.

August 4

Resist steadfast in the faith

1 Peter 5:8-9 'Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith.'

Resist means to stand against; steadfast is to stand firm.
We stand against the devil by standing firm in the faith.
As we grow in Christ, we must learn to put on Christ in our daily life.
We are saved by His grace; kept by His word; and led by His Spirit.

August 5

The hope of His calling.

Ephesians 1:18 'The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling,'

A calling is something we can give our lives to do.
It is the opportunity to be part of something that is bigger than ourselves.
There is no higher calling than to be in Christ;
to be united with Him so that Christ is our life.
The food and drink that will bring growth
to the life of Christ in us is found in the scriptures.
We become strong in our Christian life as we feed upon His word;
walk in His ways;
and rely upon His strength and not upon our own.

August 6

We are His riches

*Ephesians 1:18 '...and what are the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints'.
We are His riches; the value He saw in us is revealed by the price Jesus paid for us.*

We are His riches;
the value He saw in us is revealed by the price Jesus paid for us. He gave His life for us.
He became like us so we can be like Him;
a glorious people changed into His likeness.
We are His inheritance;
a people belonging to God.

August 7

His power toward us

*Ephesians 1:19 'And what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe,
according to the working of His mighty power'.*

The power of Jesus is far beyond all other.
The power of death could not hold Him;
all powers no matter how evil are under His feet.
He overcame them all for us so that we can be victorious in Him.

August 8

A life of worship

Hebrews 13:16 'But to do good and to share in fellowship forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.'

A sacrifice is an offering that is given as an act of worship. The whole of the Christian life is associated with worship. Doing good and caring for one another are opportunities to express our love for one another; and it is the way we express our love and appreciation for all that Jesus Christ has done for us. We can only worship the Lord with our life by offering back to Him the love that He has given us.

August 9

Praying in symphony.

Matthew 18:19 '...if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of My Father which is in heaven.'

The words 'shall agree' literally means 'a symphony'. There is power in prayer when God's people are in perfect harmony with one another and pray together with one unified voice.

August 10

The words we speak

Colossians 4:6 'Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer every man.'

We are known by the way we speak. Grace is associated with joy and kindness. Words that are seasoned with salt are not hastily spoken. Our words must be kind; considerate; and chosen wisely.

August 11

The Spirit of the Lord brings freedom

2 Corinthians 3:17 'Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.'

The Spirit of the Lord brings us into the freedom of new life in Christ.

It is the freedom of being born into the family of God;
the freedom of having a new nature;
the freedom to love others as Christ loved us;
the freedom to be holy;
and the freedom to be joyful knowing that the Lord is our Helper and our strength.

August 12

The faithfulness of the Lord

2 Thessalonians 3:3 'But the Lord is faithful, who shall establish you, and keep you from evil.'

The faithfulness of the Lord is always working for the good of His people.
His word strengthens us so we can stand in difficult times.
He gives wisdom so we can lead others.
He guards and protects us so no evil thing can ever overcome us.

August 13

Boldness; confidence; assurance

Hebrews 4:16 'Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.'

In Christ we have boldness; confidence; and assurance.
All fear is gone; our boldness is in Christ; He is our righteousness.
All timidity is gone; our confidence is in Christ; we are accepted in Him.
All doubt is gone; our assurance is in Christ; His Spirit confirms His word within us.
We can speak with boldness because it is Christ who lives in us.

August 14

Prayer is the key to prevent self leading our spiritual life.

Luke 5:15-16 '...and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by Him of their infirmities. And He withdrew Himself into the wilderness, and prayed.'

Jesus did not seek recognition from the crowd.
He moved away from the crowd to pray.
If we do our own will;
seek the recognition of the crowd;
and desire self exaltation then there is no need to pray.
Prayer keeps our heart fixed upon the Lord; His glory; His will;
and His working in our life.
Prayer is the key to prevent self
from taking over the leadership of our spiritual life.

August 15

Examine yourselves

2 Corinthians 13:5 'Examine yourselves, whether you be in the faith; prove your own selves. Do you not know yourselves that Jesus Christ is in you?'

It is by our character Christ is seen to be in us.
His presence in us will be seen by our love for His word;
love for His people;
love for the lost;
and love in control of our actions and thoughts.
Honesty; integrity; and diligence will show His righteousness in us.
Steadfastness and patience will reveal His strength in us.
Love, joy, and peace will show His power working in us.

August 16

The Lordship of Christ

Romans 6:14 'For sin shall not have dominion over you: for you are not under the law, but under grace.'

Have dominion means 'to be lord over'.
Sin is enthroned in our life by the desires of self.
It seeks to hide beneath a mask of respectability.
Religious rituals and good works can elevate the throne of self
but they can never remove the power of sin.
The law condemns and brings fear of punishment
but it can never produce life.
Faith in Christ alone is able to remove the throne of self
and bring us into the freedom of new life.
The lordship of sin is bondage; the Lordship of Christ is freedom.

August 17

Like Christ

1 John 4:17 'Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as He is, so are we in this world.'

Our boldness is in Christ.
He hides us in His life; covers us with His righteousness;
and fills us with His love.
We have no fear of judgment; Jesus died for us.
We have boldness in judgment; Christ lives in us.
We are accepted in Him; united with Him; righteous in Him.
His Spirit dwells in us changing us into His likeness.
His love; His power; and His word work in us
so that we are seen to be like Him.

August 18

Spiritual warfare

2 Corinthians 10:4 '(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;).'

Spiritual warfare requires spiritual weapons.

It is Christ alone who is victorious.

We can only live the Christian life by His life dwelling in us.

We must live in His strength; move in His power; and be led by His Spirit.

Prayer enables us to draw upon the resources available to us in Christ.

His love is able to break through barriers and open hearts to the gospel.

His word makes us strong so we can overcome in every circumstance.

His Spirit empowers us so we are always able to do His will.

August 19

In everything give thanks

1 Thessalonians 5:18 'In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.'

Thankfulness beautifies the believer.

We thank Him for His unfailing love that surrounds us;

His word that works in us;

His grace that is freely given to us;

His righteousness that covers us;

His perfect peace that keeps us;

His life that dwells in us;

His presence being always with us; and

for all the wonderful blessings that are given to us in Jesus Christ.

August 20

He strengthens us according to our need.

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

The Lord does not promise us an easy road;

He strengthens us according to our need.

No matter how difficult the circumstance

He gives strength to go through it.

We can trust in His unseen hand protecting us;

leading us; and bringing us through.

It is not pleasant to live under the pressure of difficult circumstances or the sorrow of afflictions.

But it is in unfavourable circumstances

that the power of Christ is clearly seen to be in us.
Christ alone gives peace in troubled times;
joy in the face of sorrow;
and love that is able to control every action and desire.

August 21

The foundation of our faith is Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 3:11 'For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.'

The foundation of our faith is Jesus Christ.
His blood alone cleanses from sin.
He alone is eternal life.
Any other foundation will eventually fall.
Religion cannot save;
good works will not justify;
salvation is the gift of God in Jesus Christ.

August 22

Christ, who is our life.

Colossians 3:4 'When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall you also appear with Him in glory.'

When the life of Christ dwells in us</p>
</p>then the power of His life will be seen working through us.</p>
</p>We know we have His life because</p>
</p>His word fills our heart with joy even in hard times;</p>
</p>His love grows in us like a tree producing the fruit of His character;</p>
</p>and His peace makes us unshakeable in the security of His provision.</p>
</p>He does not lead us in the path of our choosing,</p>
</p>He leads us in the path of His choosing so that we will become like Him.
He is preparing His people for the day of His appearing.
On that day the life of Christ in us will be revealed by its glory
but until then it will be known by its fruit.

August 23

Jesus Christ, our unchanging God.

Hebrews 13:8 'Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.'

His power will never diminish;
His love will never change;
His glory never fades;
His word will never fail;

and His kingdom will never end.
Those who walk with Him now will reign with Him forever.
His unchanging nature is holy,
and all who love Him, love holiness.

August 24

Repentance unto life.

Acts 11:18 'When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then has God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.'

Repentance means to change our thinking.
It is more than remorse or sorrow over sin.
True repentance is not sin centred; it is Christ centred.
It moves us away from sin to Christ.
Repentance will change our thinking but faith in Christ alone can bring new life.
We cannot change the past but we do not need to remain in its grip.
Repentance is necessary throughout our Christian life
as it will keep us from following the trends of the world
and set our focus upon His kingdom and His righteousness.
Repentance looks away from sin to life.

August 25

The turnaround from self reliance to dependence upon Christ.

Matthew 18:3 'And said, Verily I say unto you, Except you be converted, and become as little children, you shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.'

Conversion means to turnaround.
It is a complete change of direction.
All who follow Christ must be willing to turn from the independence of self
to the total dependence of a Christ centred life.
Greatness is not found in self dependence;
it is found in being totally dependent upon Christ.
We are not to be children in understanding
but we are to be children in our reliance upon Christ and His word.
Humility is dependence upon Christ.
Pride is found in self reliance.

August 26

The glory of the church is Jesus.

Ephesians 5:27 'That He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.'

The church that the Lord will present to Himself is not an institution.

It has nothing to do with organised religion.
The church is the people.
It consists of all who trust in Christ alone for salvation;
it is all who have received new life in Jesus.
The glory of the church is Jesus.
He is the life of the church.
A glorious church is where Christ reigns
in the hearts and lives of His people.

August 27

Christ alone is our propitiation.

Romans 3:25 'Whom God has set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood,'

Everything God does must be righteous and just.
He cannot deny His own nature.
Forgiveness of sin must be both just and right.
In Christ there is forgiveness because His sacrifice satisfies
the righteous demands of the holiness of God on our behalf.
In Christ there is reconciliation with God because
He took upon Himself the wrath of God towards sin.
By faith in His sacrifice our sinful condition is crucified with Christ
and we are raised with Christ to newness of life.
Jesus Christ alone is our propitiation.
He alone was worthy to become sin on our behalf
so that we can be righteous in Him.

August 28

The greatest sin is to reject the love of Christ.

Ephesians 3:19 'And to know the love of Christ, which passes knowledge, that you might be filled with all the fullness of God.'

The love of Christ is beyond human understanding.
He loved us because He is love.
He gave Himself for us so that we can give ourselves to Him.
He took our sin so we can be His people.
The greatest sin is to reject the love of Christ.
As we experience His love we will be drawn closer to Jesus.
His love will fill our heart with the desire for holiness
and put in us the desire for His word.
When His love is in control of our thoughts,
our words, and our actions
then the world will see that Christ is alive in us.

August 29

The Lord strengthens us.

2 Timothy 4:17 'But the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me;'

The Lord not only stands with us in difficult times, He strengthens us.
The Holy Spirit empowers us so that we can stand firm at all times.
We should not be too disappointed when people let us down.
The Lord is with us.
He gives the strength to face every trial.

August 30

We have peace with God through faith alone.

Romans 5:1 'Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:'

God declares the sinner righteous
on the basis of his or her faith in Christ,
and the sufficiency of the cross
declares God to be just in doing so.
A justified person is completely free from all condemnation.
The sin that held us captive is not only paid for by the death of Christ,
it is also removed from us as far as the east is from the west.
Justification is the gift of God.
Good works cannot bring peace with God.
We have peace with God through faith alone
in all that Jesus Christ has done for us.

August 31

His purchased possession.

1 Peter 2:9a 'But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people;'

The word translated peculiar in the King James Bible
is the Greek word 'peripoiesis' which means 'a purchased possession'.
When we receive Christ then we are His purchased possession.
We cannot live as we please.
Our lives are to be for His glory.
We are the dwelling place of God;
we are the temple where His presence dwells.
Everything we do is an opportunity to worship with our life.
We are priests unto God offering the sacrifices
of a life filled with love for the Lord Jesus Christ.