



Seriously

Note for 20251022 – Ps 34:18

1. Opening

Welcome to the Devotionals of The House of Bread. In the Word we read that we are to receive the Word of GOD by the Spirit, so I strongly urge you to pray before you receive the Devotional. Let Christ take the lead in your Spiritual Development.

Introduction

Once more, our devotional message comes from today's verse of the day, but today I must do it a little differently than usual to carry over the sequence of events. So, let's start with the Verse of the Day.

2. Scripture Text

Psalm 34:18 KJV

"[18] The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; And saveth such as be of a contrite spirit."

<https://bible.com/bible/1/psa.34.18.KJV>

3. Devotional Reflection

I have said many times that the LORD is the One Who prepares the notes, I am just the message (or something in that line of speech.) This morning's title was given to me in my home language of Afrikaans, "In alle êrens." At first, I thought the message today was to be done in Afrikaans, but admittedly I have been writing music in my language since the weekend.

Someone I consider to be a close friend, Pastor Tommy Pretorius (an Afrikaans speaking Pastor) who often poses questions to me, asked me if I can give any single verse that speaks of "slain in the Spirit?" My direct answer was that I could not think of one single verse that spoke of it directly. Not in those words, in any way, but that it might point to someone that has been spiritually harmed. So, pretty much, someone who suffers from a crushed heart. I mentioned the matter of separation between Paul and Barnabas. (Do you see it yet?)

Though the question was posed yesterday, and I could not think of one verse, and search results did not come up with one either, by the Verse of the Day, through the YouVersion Bible App, GOD weighed in on the conversation between friends and gave His answer. Maybe it will be clearer if I gave this verse to you from another version of translation.

Psalm 34:18 NASB2020

“[18] The Lord is near to the brokenhearted And saves those who are crushed in spirit.”

<https://bible.com/bible/2692/psa.34.18.NASB2020>

Maybe we should go back to some heritage of the Word and look at the "Complete Jewish Bible."

Tehillim (Psa) 34:19 CJB

“[19] Adonai is near those with broken hearts; he saves those whose spirit is crushed.”

<https://bible.com/bible/1275/psa.34.19.CJB>

So, you know who I am messaging right after this, right?

In all seriousness, a closer translation of the title I received, GOD is involved in our daily lives if only we can consider Him in all our ways. He prepared the Verse of the Day long before the question was laid in Pastor Tommy's heart (even if it was just in a joyful way to test a friend's knowledge of the Word of GOD.) The Lord gave the Title for this Note before I even knew what the Verse would be today. And so, the Glory belongs to the LORD (as it always should) in this morning's message. The message to you this morning is not just that He is in conversation between two friends, but also in the preparation for our days, and then the verse, (written by King David who walked with the Spirit of GOD so long ago,) also comes to tell us that the Most High God is also the One that is near to the one who is broken-hearted and saves the one with a crushed spirit. ADONAI gets the Honour and the Praise, just as we were taught by the Lord's Prayer, by Jesus Christ our Saviour, His only begotten Son, Whom ADONAI, our Father in Heaven sent to be the Saviour of mankind.

So, seriously, which man can claim fame in any way, individually? But GOD can (and He might just have.) It brings a smile to my face, how about you? (Seriously!) And, with this title, it almost seems like GOD did it with a straight face. Though, we should be very careful contributing human definition to the Almighty.

I understand that there is a high probability that maybe you are not in such a joyful place right now, as this world is truly testing the believers in these days we are living in. I was somewhat discouraged myself last night, learning that the platform I use to prepare the songs I write, has employed moderation practices that prevent worship music in my home language of Afrikaans, but was quite okay to assist when I translated the lyrics into English. Without getting political, there is still somewhat of a sword being drawn through the heart in that experience. Now, you tell me if the LORD is near to those who are heart-broken and whether the LORD just proved His Word true in this experience in a joy-filled way? What is testimony, and Who prepares it? GOD gets that Honour, my friends, and I hope you have instances like this that confirms that in your hearts too, even when it lands on even a slightly discouraged heart.

4. Closing Paragraph

Bring the Word of GOD to your heart, and in remembrance thereof, you will be encouraged. When the Word becomes a living Word in your day, you will be the one walking with a smile upon your face, when this world tries to make you frown, even brings your heart to evoke tears from your eyes. So, GOD dries the tears of those who have injured hearts, because we know, "In all seriousness, GOD has our backs."

Selah, Shalom.

5. Resources

Playlists:

Over the last few months and years, we have compiled a few playlists on SoundCloud. Feel free to explore it, download it and share with friends and family.

Find playlists at: <https://soundcloud.com/houseofbread4u/sets>

NEW: Download Music



We have added the ability for you to download the music you heard in the devotionals. You can listen to the song before hitting the “Download” button to know it is the right song you wanted. For now, at least, these are free downloads, and my hope is that I can keep it free. Enjoy!

Link: <https://music.thehouseofbread.co.za/index.php>

Radio Stations:

House of Bread Music Radio App

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