

Daily Verses

January 2012

January 1

In Christ are all the resources we need.

Isaiah 40:31 'But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles;'

In Christ are all the resources we need to rise above the difficulties.
We are united with His life;
filled with His love;
and empowered by His Spirit.
His joy remains steadfast within us.
He lifts us to the heights where we trust in His promises;
rely on His strength;
and rest in His care.

January 2

Jesus came to give His people a new heart.

Deuteronomy 5:29 'O that there were such a heart in them, that they would fear Me, and always keep all My commandments,'

The law could never change the heart; obedience was not enough.
The Lord longed for a people who could feel what He feels and love what He loves.
Jesus came to give His people a new heart.
In Christ we are made completely new
so we can feel what He feels;
love as He loves;
and desire all that He desires.

January 3

The church is not hierarchical, it is reproductive.

Numbers 11:29 'O that all the LORD'S people were prophets, and that the LORD would put His Spirit upon them!'

The church is not hierarchical, it is reproductive.
In Christ we are one body;
His life dwells in us;
His Spirit has been given to us.
The Christian life is exciting because we are priests unto God.
Our life is an offering of love to the Lord.
The Spirit of God is a river of life
that flows out to others through His body.

January 4

If we follow the world we will think like the world.

Philippians 1:15 'Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will:'

If we follow the world we will think like the world.
Selfish ambitions can motivate us even when preaching Christ.
Pride will promote self;
but humility sacrifices itself to lift others up.
When we love Christ then
our desire will be to please Him regardless of the cost;
our joy will be in knowing we are in His will.

January 5

The Lord looks for faithfulness.

2 Chronicles 16:9 'For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is perfect towards Him.'

The Lord sees the needs of His people.
In Christ all the promises of God are ours.
If we walk in His ways and trust in His word;
He will show His strength on our behalf.
His love towards us never changes;
His presence with us removes all fear.

January 6

Tested so we can grow in grace.

2 Chronicles 32:31 'God withdrew from him, to try him, that He might know all that was in his heart.'

The life of Christ dwells in His people.
His word guides us; and His Spirit leads us.
The Lord will never leave us.
He allows us to be tested so we can grow in grace.
He strengthens us in the trial.
He does not lead us with an iron rod.
He teaches us daily to love Him;
to obey His word;
and to listen to His voice.

January 7

Love for Christ develops out of relationship.

Psalm 31:23 'O love the LORD, all you His saints: for the LORD preserves the faithful, and plentifully rewards the proud doer.'

Love for Christ develops out of relationship.
As we grow in His word;
and walk in His love;
we will learn to love Him more.
If we love Him we will
be willing to take the lowest place;
be faithful in serving Him;
and love others as He loved us.
Pride puts self on the throne of our life;
but love for Christ lays its life down for Him.

January 8

We are dependent upon the Holy Spirit.

Zechariah 4:6 'Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the LORD of hosts.'

The Christian life is entirely the work of the Holy Spirit.
We are dependent upon Him.
Only the Holy Spirit can produce new life in Christ.
Freedom in Christ is being led by the Holy Spirit.
The way of holiness is growing in truth
so the fruit of the Spirit is seen in us.
Effective prayer must be in the Holy Spirit.
The gifts of the Spirit are given to us
so we can move in the power of the Holy Spirit.

January 9

Maturity in Christ.

1 John 2:14 'I have written unto you, fathers, because you have known Him who is from the beginning.'

Maturity in the Christian life is seen by
wisdom that knows how to act;
peace that rests in His provision;
trust that stands upon His word;
and compassion that reaches out to those who need Christ.
Knowing Him is to be united with Him in intimate relationship.
It is to know His character;
to rejoice in His goodness;
and to speak with Him as a friend in close communion.

January 10

A servant is to be trustworthy; loyal; faithful; and obedient.

Colossians 3:24 'Knowing that of the Lord you shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for you serve the Lord Christ.'

A servant is to be trustworthy; loyal; faithful; and obedient.
A trustworthy servant can be depended upon at all times.
Loyalty endures hardship;
faithfulness serves without self interest;
obedience does not seek an easier path.
Our love for Christ will be seen by our joy in serving Him;
and by the extent that we are willing to share His love to others.

January 11

The most important duty; greatest privilege; and highest call.

1 Corinthians 7:23 'You are bought with a price; do not become the servants of men.'

No higher price could be paid.
Jesus gave all for us so that we can be His people.
We are set free in Christ to be the children of the living God.
We do not have the mentality of a slave;
we have the responsibility of being His servants.
We serve others with diligence because we serve the King;
everything we do represents Him.
This is the most important duty;
the greatest privilege;
and the highest call.

January 12

The standard we are to live by is Christ.

James 2:12 'So speak, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.'

The standard we are to live by is Christ.
We stand in the liberty He gives.
It is His life dwelling in us.
We live by the power of God and not in our own strength.
We are set free from the anxiety of the world by the promises of God.
We are free to love others because Christ loved us;
free to show mercy because He has forgiven us.
We are stewards of His love; and the ambassadors of His word.

January 13

A better covenant.

Hebrews 8:6 '...He is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.'

The old covenant could never produce holiness.
It could not change the heart.
The new covenant removes our guilt;
wipes away all our sin;
makes us completely new;
brings us into a family relationship with God;
puts a new heart within us;
and gives to us the inheritance of all the promises of God.
Jesus has done everything for us.
We can only receive the benefits He gives;
we can do nothing to earn them.

January 14

Sin separates and condemns; Christ reconciles and sets free.

Colossians 1:21 'And you, who were once alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now has He reconciled'.

Sin separates us from God;
causes the wrath of God to be upon us;
and brings death.
If we love sin;
and choose to remain united with it;
and reject the offer of salvation in Jesus Christ;
then our sin will condemn us and ultimately destroy us.
If we receive Christ;
the power of sin is broken;
we are united with God;
free from condemnation;
and in Jesus Christ we have new life.

January 15

The only safe place is to fully trust the Lord.

Luke 12:29 'And do not seek after what you shall eat, or what you shall drink, neither be of a doubtful mind.'

The only safe place is to fully trust the Lord.
If we stay too close to the shore;
relying on our own resources;
we will become shipwrecked.
If we waver between trusting the Lord and self reliance

we will never experience the depths of the love of God;
or know the expanse of the mercy of God.
It is only when we launch out fully;
trusting in Jesus Christ alone;
and resting in His provision;
that we will find the peace of God in our life.

January 16

Salvation in Jesus Christ must be experienced.

Psalm 34:8 'O taste and see that the LORD is good:'

Taste is more than knowledge; it is a personal experience.
If we never commit our life to Christ;
we will never experience His salvation.
Knowledge of the scripture is not enough;
regarding scripture to be true is not enough;
we must have a personal relationship with Jesus.
We receive Him by trusting fully in all that He has done for us.
It matters not how good or bad we are;
if we desire Christ with all our heart
He will make us completely new;
and fill our heart with the joy of His salvation.

January 17

Jesus put compassion above religious practice.

Matthew 9:36 'But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion on them,'

Compassion is more than sympathy.
Real compassion associates itself with the needs of others.
It does not condemn but seeks to lift up.
The religious leaders hated Jesus
because He put compassion above religious practice.
He loved the outcast and associated Himself
with those regarded as the worst of sinners.
The same compassion should be seen in His people
so that others can be lifted by the power of the gospel.

January 18

There is no firm foundation outside of Christ.

Luke 9:24 'For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for My sake, the same shall save it.'

There is no firm foundation outside of Christ.

Pride will keep us from Christ
but the prosperity of the world has no lasting value.
Its riches can soon be lost;
the most powerful leaders will soon be gone;
and time will make the young grow old.
It is in Christ alone we stand secure.
His riches will never fail;
His power will never fade;
and the life He gives will never end.
When we trust in Jesus we find life.

January 19

Religion will not hold in the storm.

Matthew 7:24 'Therefore whoever hears these sayings of mine, and does them, I will liken him unto a wise man, who built his house upon a rock:'

Religion will not hold in the storm.
Jesus Christ alone is the rock on which we can depend.
There is no other sure foundation.
It is Christ and not the Church that saves.
We have life by trusting Jesus;
and truth is found by trusting in His word.
If we build our life on Christ and His word
then we find power that overcomes the downward pull of the world;
and freedom to walk in new life.

January 20

The beauty of Jesus seen as we walk in His love.

Galatians 5:18 'But if you are led of the Spirit, you are not under the law.'

The law changes behaviour but only the Holy Spirit changes hearts.
The more we grow in Christ, the more His love will control our actions.
The beauty of Jesus will be seen in us as we walk in His love.
It is by His word dwelling in us that we grow in truth;
it is by His Spirit leading us that we grow in His love.
When our heart is filled with the love of Christ
it will keep us from sin;
it will give us a concern for the welfare of others;
and it will put in us the desire to reach others for Christ.

January 21

The world cannot compare with knowing Jesus.

Matthew 13:43 'Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.'

Our inheritance in Christ is glorious.
We know we have eternal life because Christ lives in us.
We know we shall see Jesus because the scripture tells us;
and the Spirit of God confirms His word within us.
We know we shall be like Him
because the Holy Spirit is changing us into His likeness.
We know His glory will be seen in us
because we are His people;
united with Him;
and we shall be with Him forever.
The world cannot compare with knowing Jesus.

January 22

The gift of God in Jesus Christ is open to all.

Ephesians 2:13 'But now in Christ Jesus you who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.'

The gift of God in Jesus Christ is open to all.
He alone was worthy to take our sin.
His blood alone was able to save us.
In Christ alone we are reconciled with God;
and brought into the family of God.
His love gave all for us;
His gift is beyond worth.
There is no person the grace of God cannot save;
there is no sin the blood of Jesus cannot cleanse;
there is no life that cannot be made new by the power of the gospel.

January 23

The Christian life is a relationship.

1 Corinthians 6:17 'But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.'

The Christian life is a relationship.
It is not a religion we follow; it is being made one with Christ.
It is not legalism; it is life.
We follow holiness because Christ lives in us.
We love the Bible because it teaches us who we are in Christ;
it helps us to understand our new life in Christ;
and enables us to trust in the promises of God.
We are not led by a set of rules but by love.
It is because we are in relationship with Christ
that we desire to live for Him;
to walk in His ways; and to let His love be seen in us.

January 24

The power of the gospel must be experienced.

Mark 12:24 'And Jesus answering said unto them, Do you not therefore err, because you do not know the scriptures, nor the power of God?'

The power of the gospel must be experienced;
we need to enter into truth.

It is only by knowing Jesus personally
that we can know and understand scripture.

Theology alone cannot produce life.

If we glory in scripture rather than Christ;
or seek to gain prestige from the gospel
rather than desiring the power of God to work in our lives;
we will soon be opposing the gospel we claim to represent,
and stand in the way of those who would preach Christ.

January 25

Freedom from the hold of superstition; magic; and religious idolatry.

Acts 19:19 'Many of those also who used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men:'

There is wonderful freedom, joy, and peace in knowing Jesus.

When we receive Christ, we are set free from the hold
of superstition; magic; and religious idolatry.

Union with Christ means separation from the world.

We trust not in idols but in the living God.

He gives power to overcome temptation;
strength to face the trial;
and His word gives us assurance to trust Him in all things.
He leads us in the right way;
He will never leave us.

January 26

Having our heart fixed on Jesus.

Colossians 3:2-3 'Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For you are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.'

Christianity is new life.

If we try to live the Christian life in our own strength, we will fail.

When our heart is fixed on Jesus and all He has done for us
then we can live in the freedom of new life.

The person we were is crucified with Christ; all that we are is in Him.

He gave His life for us so that we can be His people.
In Christ we are the family of God; children of the King.
It is because Christ lives in us that we can be like Him.

January 27

All things belong to the Lord.

1 Corinthians 10:26 'For the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof.'

All things belong to the Lord
but we are to be the stewards of His provision.
When we honour the Lord with all He has given us
then His blessing will be upon our life.
In Christ we have freedom
so we can love others as Christ loves them.
We are not free to do as we please.
Love not selfishness must control our actions
because the things we do represent the Lord Jesus Christ.
The world cannot satisfy a heart filled with greed,
but there is wonderful contentment in serving Jesus.

January 28

Persecution is guaranteed if we follow Christ.

Matthew 5:10 'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.'

Righteousness cannot lower its standard
and truth cannot bend with the time.
If we love Christ then we will follow after righteousness.
If we love His word then we will follow after truth.
If we desire Christ we must be willing to be despised by the world.
Persecution is guaranteed if we follow Christ.
If we conform to the world, we will be accepted by the world.
But only in Jesus will we find the peace, joy, and love that cannot be taken away.

January 29

New life in Christ will produce a love for scripture.

1 Timothy 4:13 '...give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.'

New life in Christ will produce in us a love for scripture.
We will grow in the Lord to the extent that we feed upon His word.
If His word is in our minds then the fire of God can burn in our hearts.
If we read the scripture daily then our eyes will remain focused upon Jesus.
If we encourage one another in the scripture

then we will become strong
and able to make wise decisions.
It is by the power of His word working in us
that we can let Christ be seen
in a world that needs Jesus.

January 30

The Christian is to be as salt in the world.

Matthew 5:13 'You are the salt of the earth: but if the salt has lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted?'

The Christian is to be as salt in the world.
The life of the Christian should stand in stark contrast to
the pollution caused by sinful desires;
the corruption rooted in selfish ambitions;
and the decay of a society led by lust and greed.
We are not told to condemn the world.
We are to be like salt that preserves and keeps from corruption.
We lead by example.
Not fighting for a cause but presenting Christ through our life,
our love for one another,
and by the preaching of the gospel.

January 31

He loved us when we were far from Him.

Romans 10:20 'I was found by those who sought Me not; I was made manifest unto those who asked not after Me.'

It is because of His love for us that He draws us to Himself.
He loved us when we were far from Him.
He was there watching over us even when we did not desire Him.
He led us to the place where we could receive new life in Christ.
He brought us low so He could lift us high.
He makes those who were rebels into messengers of His grace.
He sends His people into all the world;
His love extends to all nations;
His grace reaches out to all people.