**Walk Through the Bible**

**Lesson Number Twenty**

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**Abraham sends his servant to find a wife for Isaac – Isaac and Rebekah are married – Sarah and Abraham die**

Abraham made his servant (probably Eliezer of Damascus - Gen. 15) take an oath that he would go to Abraham’s people and find a wife for Isaac. Abraham made Eliezer promise NOT to find a wife from the Canaanites.

Canaan was a son of Ham and Ham was one of the three sons of Noah. We studied, earlier in the book of Genesis, that Ham did something to Noah and because of that, Ham’s son and his descendants were cursed. Noah could not curse Ham because he and his brothers, Shem and Japeth, had already been blessed. We also know that the fallen angels had mixed with the human race, causing giants. Many of the Canaanites were giants and very wicked. Giants could not be saved because they had not spirit as we do. They were known for cannibalism and for their extreme wickedness.

God destroyed the earth with the second cataclysmic flood when fallen angles mated with human women and giants were born to them. Only Noah and his family were unaffected by the blood of these fallen angels so the world had to be destroyed so that Jesus would be able to come from a Godly bloodline.

When Moses delivered the Hebrews out of Egypt, in the wilderness there was a time when they were told to kill men, women and children in the land. The reason for that was that they were descendants of the fallen angels.

**Genesis 24:9-14 (NLT)**

**9**So the servant took an oath by putting his hand under the thigh of his master, Abraham. He swore to follow Abraham’s instructions. **10Then he loaded ten of Abraham’s camels with all kinds of expensive gifts from his master, and he traveled to distant Aram-naharaim (the city of Nahor in Mesopotamia).** There he went to the town where Abraham’s brother Nahor had settled. **11**He made the camels kneel beside a well just outside the town. It was evening, and the women were coming out to draw water.

Aram-Naharaim was the region near Haran where Abraham, his father Terah and Lot lived for a while before traveling on down to Canaan.

**12**“O Lord, God of my master, Abraham,” he prayed. “Please give me success today, and **show unfailing love to my master**, Abraham.

This is the attitude we should have toward our employers! Even when we feel like they aren’t doing the things they should or if we feel they are mistreating us, we should always pray for them.

If you can’t feel this way about your employer, you should seriously seek another job.

In Matthew 5:44 and Luke 6:28 we are told to pray for those who curse us and to pray for those who despitefully use us.

**13**See, I am standing here beside this spring, and the young women of the town are coming out to draw water. **14**This is my request. I will ask one of them, ‘Please give me a drink from your jug.’ If she says, ‘Yes, have a drink, and I will water your camels, too!’—**let her be the one you have selected as Isaac’s wife.** This is how I will know that you have shown unfailing love to my master.”

Notice that the servant wanted the girl that **GOD HAD SELECTED!**

**God will** **ALWAYS ANSWER YOUR PRAYERS when ask Him ACCORDING TO HIS WILL!**

**James 4:2,3 NLT**

You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous of what others have, but you can't get it, so you fight and wage war to take it away from them. Yet **you don't have what you want because you don't ask God for it.** 3And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong--you want only what will give you pleasure.

The King James Version says “You ask amiss.”

Let’s address two issues here:

1. God wants us to have fun on this earth and God is not opposed to us having nice things or to us having pleasure!

God blessed Abraham with riches, not only in silver and gold but also in livestock and in servants. **God loves you every bit as much as He did Abraham! You live under a covenant with God that is even better than the one Abraham had!**

When we let our “THINGS” come in the way of our relationship with God, that is when they become a problem.

**Just the other day, I got on Facebook and a girl I had gone to school with had a new last name. I immediately recognized the name. This girl is a believer and has been posting scripture and Christian things on Facebook for quite some time. She was married but I found out through a mutual friend that she started talking to a single guy from my hometown on Facebook and earlier this year began an affair with him. The guy involved has been dating all the single women in my little hometown and apparently some married women! The girl I know eventually left her husband for this new guy.**

**The new guy had been dating every single girl in my hometown and apparently married women too. She told a mutual friend of ours that she did this to try and get her new husband and his son saved! Can you see just how foolish this is? She left a husband who knows the Lord saying that her reason was that he was not leading spiritually as he should. Not only did it destroy her witness but she is living in adultery with a man who does not know the Lord! We know, from the scriptures, that we are NOT to be UNEQUALLY YOKED with unbelievers!**

It may have been her desire to be married to this guy instead of her husband but it certainly was not what God means when He says He wants to give us the desires of our heart in Psalm 37:4 (“Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.”)

God wants to give us the desires of our heart IF they are in line with His Word or IF they won’t lead us away from Him!

God doesn’t want you to live in a little tin shack. He wants you to be able to provide for your family. Some believers think they have to live on “Barely Get Along Street” all their lives to be right with God. Then you have others who jump off in the ditch on the other side of the road. They have to have their multi-million dollar home, a $200,000 car, a yacht and such. **God wants us to live between the ditches!**

1. We **ABSOLUTELY can KNOW** God’s will in MOST AREAS!

How many times do you hear someone pray, “Lord if it is Your will!” When you KNOW God’s Word you rarely need to pray this way!

**The ONLY thing MANY “Christians” know about God’s Word is what they have been told by someone else or what they read in a book somewhere!**

If you are not **“in the Word of God**” for yourself, I rebuke you now, in Jesus’ name! You cannot and will not live a victorious life in Christ if you are NOT IN THE WORD FOR YOURSELF! You CANNOT depend on me or Pastor David or a TV Preacher or a book to deliver the Word of God to you. You MUST study God’s Word for yourself! You MUST!

Reading Christian books is good but you must make sure they line up with the Word of God. How are you going to be able to do this if you don’t read the Bible for yourself? I know a lot of Christians who spend more time reading “Christian” books than they do the Bible! It should not be this way.

I saw a book in a Lifeway Bookstore that was written by a woman I know. It has to do with sexual abuse. This woman had been married to one of my very best friends who has gone on to be with the Lord. She is a licensed counselor and she has done more to mess people up than to help them. Many people would think since her book is a “Christian” book and is available in Christian bookstores that it must be very good. This is not always the case! You MUST be in the Word of God to know if a book lines up with the Bible or not.

Isaiah tells us in Isa. 55:11, that God’s Word WILL NOT come back void! It WILL accomplish what it sets out to do. Even if you only read three verses a day, God can do something with those verses! I have often said zero times anything is ZERO! If you are NOT reading God’s Word, you are going to get ZERO benefits from it!

Calling yourself a Christian is easy. BEING a true **FOLLOWER OF CHRIST** is another thing!

**Matthew 7:21, 22 ESV**

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but **the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven**. 22 On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ 23 And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

**Revelation 3:16 ESV**

So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you – **VOMIT YOU** - out of my mouth.

If you aren’t SOLD OUT to Jesus, stop playing church! Just get out and stop wasting everyone’s time! Jesus was sold out for you! He gave **EVERYTHING** He had to save you! You need to make a choice today! Are you going to be **ALL IN** or are you going to be **ALL OUT**! I’m telling you, it will be easier on the person who never knew the Lord than on those who are lukewarm Christians!

**John 1:12 NLT**

But to all who believed him and accepted him, **he gave the right to become** children of God.

“Wow!” you may say. “What does that mean?” “I’ve believed Jesus and accepted Him but there is still more?” “Now I have the **right to become** a child of God?” “I thought I already was?”

Once you accept Christ, you have the choice to get to know Him or you can be lukewarm and never really know anything about Him.

When I was born, I was the son of Jack and Glenna McMullan. They could have left me with someone else and moved away. Even if I never saw them again in my life, I would always be their son. But, as they raised me and provided for me, I got to KNOW them and became their SON! Believing in Jesus and accepting Him as your Savior is **just the start**!

**You may say, “Jay, pray for me that God will give me more faith” and I will tell you that I WILL NOT pray for you for more faith. It is a waste of my time and of your time. You can pray for more faith, you can beg and cry before God for more faith, you can fast for forty days to gain more faith but all of that is totally useless and a waste of your time! Why? Because you DO NOT know what God’s Word says concerning faith!**

The Bible is very clear on how we receive faith. First, ALL MEN are given a measure of faith. Without it, none of us could be saved.

**Romans 12:3b (KJV)**

,,,God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

After that, our faith can grow but it **comes ONLY by one way!** Paul gave us the key to this,,,

**Romans 10:17 (NKJV)**

**17**So then faith ***comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**

**Oh how I want you to get that in your spirit!**

As you immerse yourself in the Word of God, your faith will grow! Who is the Word? Jesus! As you read the Bible and study it, you also get to KNOW God, the Father and His will!

We KNOW the Father by KNOWING who Jesus is! Therefore **you can know God’s will for almost every aspect of your life! If not, ask Him!**

For goodness sake, STOP praying, “If it be your will!” Get to know what God’s will is and pray accordingly!

**John 14:7**

**If you had really known me, you would know who my Father is.** From now on, **you do know him and have seen him!"**

If you can’t find an answer for what God’s will is, in the Bible, and by knowing God’s nature, then ask God.

**James 1:5 NLT**

If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking.

Abraham KNEW God and he had amazing faith! You can have amazing faith too IF you do what Paul told us and get into the WORD OF GOD FOR YOURSELF!!!

Okay, so back to Eliezer, Abraham’s servant. He was praying and asking God which girl He wanted for Isaac.

**15**Before he had finished praying, **(Notice that God answered his prayer before he was even through praying)** he saw a young woman named Rebekah coming out with her water jug on her shoulder. She was the daughter of Bethuel, who was the son of Abraham’s brother Nahor and his wife, Milcah.**16**Rebekah was very beautiful and old enough to be married, but she was still a virgin. She went down to the spring, filled her jug, and came up again.**17**Running over to her, the servant said, “Please give me a little drink of water from your jug.”

**18**“Yes, my lord,” she answered, “have a drink.” And she quickly lowered her jug from her shoulder and gave him a drink. **19**When she had given him a drink, she said, “I’ll draw water for your camels, too, until they have had enough to drink.” **20**So she quickly emptied her jug into the watering trough and ran back to the well to draw water for all his camels.

**Camels drink a LOT OF WATER so this was to be no easy task!** “a thirsty camel can drink as many as **30 gallons** (**135 liters**) of water in about 13 minutes.” <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/weepingcamel/thecamels.html> And remember, there were ten camels here.

Water weighs approximately 8 pounds per gallon so for just one camel, this could have been as much as 240 pounds of water that Rebekah may have carried to the watering trough for only one camel! She could have carried as much as 2,400 pounds of water!

**21**The servant watched her in silence, **wondering whether or not the Lord had given him success in his mission.**

**God had just answered Eliezer’s prayer and yet, he still wondered if God had given him success. This does not make much sense to me but we do it all the time as Christians. We see God move miraculously on our behalf and then we still wonder if God is with us! It is insanity at its best!**

In 1 Kings 19, we see the prophet Elijah had just had a GREAT victory and had killed the prophets of Baal. When Jezebel heard about it, she put out a decree to have him killed. So Elijah ran for his life and hid out under a tree. He had a pity party for himself even though he had seen God move miraculously!

Elijah did not have the Holy Spirit living inside of him but we do! We can walk in constant victory if we will walk in the spirit!

**22**Then at last, when the camels had finished drinking, he took out a gold ring for her nose and two large gold bracelets for her wrists.

**23**“Whose daughter are you?” he asked. “And please tell me, would your father have any room to put us up for the night?”

**24**“I am the daughter of Bethuel,” she replied. “My grandparents are Nahor and Milcah. **25**Yes, we have plenty of straw and feed for the camels, and we have room for guests.”

**26**The man bowed low and worshiped the Lord. **27**“Praise the Lord, the God of my master, Abraham,” he said. “The Lord has shown unfailing love and faithfulness to my master, for he has led me straight to my master’s relatives.”

**28**The young woman ran home to tell her family everything that had happened.**29**Now Rebekah had a brother named Laban, who ran out to meet the man at the spring. **30**He had seen the nose-ring and the bracelets on his sister’s wrists, and had heard Rebekah tell what the man had said. So he rushed out to the spring, where the man was still standing beside his camels. **31**Laban said to him, “Come and stay with us, you who are blessed by the Lord! Why are you standing here outside the town when I have a room all ready for you and a place prepared for the camels?”

Laban was a shady character at best. We will see later on in Genesis just how shady he is when Isaac’s son, Jacob takes a wife. **AFTER** Laban had seen the golden nose ring and the golden bracelets that Eliezer had given Rebekah and heard what the servant had told her, he came running out and invited him to stay with them. Rebekah showed Eliezer kindness **BEFORE** he had given her any gold or told him who he was.

**32**So the man went home with Laban, and Laban unloaded the camels, gave him straw for their bedding, fed them, and provided water for the man and the camel drivers to wash their feet. **33**Then food was served. But Abraham’s servant said, “I don’t want to eat until I have told you why I have come.”

“All right,” Laban said, “tell us.”

**34**“I am Abraham’s servant,” he explained. **35**“And **the Lord has greatly blessed my master; he has become a wealthy man.** The Lord has given him flocks of sheep and goats, herds of cattle, a fortune in silver and gold, and many male and female servants and camels and donkeys.

**36**“When Sarah, my master’s wife, was very old, she gave birth to my master’s son, and my master has given him everything he owns. **37**And my master made me take an oath. He said, ‘Do not allow my son to marry one of these local Canaanite women. **38**Go instead to my father’s house, to my relatives, and find a wife there for my son.’

**(Eliezer goes on to tell the story of what had just happened in the next few verses – Go on down to verse 48)**

**~~39~~**~~“But I said to my master, ‘What if I can’t find a young woman who is willing to go back with me?’~~**~~40~~**~~He responded, ‘The Lord, in whose presence I have lived, will send his angel with you and will make your mission successful. Yes, you must find a wife for my son from among my relatives, from my father’s family.~~**~~41~~**~~Then you will have fulfilled your obligation. But if you go to my relatives and they refuse to let her go with you, you will be free from my oath.’~~

**~~42~~**~~“So today when I came to the spring, I prayed this prayer: ‘O Lord, God of my master, Abraham, please give me success on this mission.~~**~~43~~**~~See, I am standing here beside this spring. This is my request. When a young woman comes to draw water, I will say to her, “Please give me a little drink of water from your jug.”~~**~~44~~**~~If she says, “Yes, have a drink, and I will draw water for your camels, too,” let her be the one you have selected to be the wife of my master’s son.’~~

**~~45~~**~~“Before I had finished praying in my heart, I saw Rebekah coming out with her water jug on her shoulder. She went down to the spring and drew water. So I said to her, ‘Please give me a drink.’~~**~~46~~**~~She quickly lowered her jug from her shoulder and said, ‘Yes, have a drink, and I will water your camels, too!’ So I drank, and then she watered the camels.~~

**~~47~~**~~“Then I asked, ‘Whose daughter are you?’ She replied, ‘I am the daughter of Bethuel, and my grandparents are Nahor and Milcah.’ So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her wrists.~~

**48**“Then I bowed low and worshiped the Lord. I praised the Lord, the God of my master, Abraham, **because he had led me straight to my master’s niece to be his son’s wife.**

This is the way God is! If we will sincerely ask, according to His Word and then **EXPECT** to receive the answer to our prayer, He will give us what we prayed for!

Many of us have been taught that if we **EXPECT** God to do something then we aren’t being HUMBLE. We are to come **BOLDLY** to the throne of Grace (Heb. 4:16)!

**Hebrews 11:6 (KJV)**

But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must **believe that he is**, and ***that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.**

In order to please God we must:

1. **Believe He is**
2. Believe **He is a REWARDER** of them that diligently seek Him!

This means we MUST EXPECT God to do what He says. EXPECT God to answer your prayers!

**Mark 11:24 KJV2000**

Therefore I say unto you, whatever things you desire, when you pray, believe that you will receive them, and you shall have them.

Satan HATES God’s Word and he **HATES this verse!** You just won’t believe how many “Christians” get angry over what Jesus said in this verse! **Many of them have gotten mad at me for quoting what Jesus said!** Some ask, “Why didn’t God answer my prayer?” Then they come up with all kinds of excuses as to why they didn’t see an answer to their prayer. We MUST learn to EXPECT God to do what He says He will do! **If we don’t see an answer to our prayer, we should back up and judge ourselves and see where we missed it! God doesn’t miss it!**

**Matthew 7:7, 8 ESV**

“Ask, and **IT WILL** be given to you; seek, and **YOU WILL** find; knock, and **IT WILL** be opened to you. 8For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

You have been lied to by well-meaning ministers and other believers WHO DO NOT UNDERSTAND GOD’S WORD when you have been told you have to pray and pray and pray for something. Well, just how many times do you have to pray for something before God hears your prayer and answers it? 1,000 times? 5,000 times? **NO!** you do NOT know your Father and His nature! Jesus said your answer comes **WHEN you pray!**

**If you really believe you receive WHEN you pray, you will have no need to pray again for the same thing. If you don’t believe God hears you the first time, then pray again until you finally believe He hears you.**

Now, realize this is when you are praying the prayer of faith for yourself. You can’t make another person believe or accept the Word of God.

If God didn’t answer your prayer, it wasn’t something God did wrong. Ask Him where you missed it. Don’t ask me, I don’t know you like God knows you! God’s Word is true and does NOT lie. If you pray, do what Jesus said. Pray and immediately believe you have received the answer to your prayer. Then wait for the promise to be manifested. (Hebrews 10:35,36) You may not see an immediate manifestation of the answer but according to His Word, He answered WHEN you prayed! Do you believe what God’s Word says? Do you believe the Words of Jesus?

So back to our story about Abraham’s servant. He is still talking to Laban, Rebekah’s brother.

**49**So tell me—will you or won’t you show unfailing love and faithfulness to my master? Please tell me yes or no, and then I’ll know what to do next.”

**50**Then Laban and Bethuel replied, “The Lord has obviously brought you here, so there is nothing we can say. **51**Here is Rebekah; take her and go. Yes, let her be the wife of your master’s son, as the Lord has directed.”

**52**When Abraham’s servant heard their answer, he bowed down to the ground and worshiped the Lord. **53**Then he brought out silver and gold jewelry and clothing and presented them to Rebekah. He also gave expensive presents to her brother and mother. **54**Then they ate their meal, and the servant and the men with him stayed there overnight.

But early the next morning, Abraham’s servant said, “Send me back to my master.”

**55**“But we want Rebekah to stay with us at least ten days,” her brother and mother said. “Then she can go.”

**56**But he said, “Don’t delay me. The Lord has made my mission successful; now send me back so I can return to my master.”

**57**“Well,” they said, “we’ll call Rebekah and ask her what she thinks.” **58**So they called Rebekah. “Are you willing to go with this man?” they asked her.

And she replied, “Yes, I will go.”

**59**So they said good-bye to Rebekah and sent her away with Abraham’s servant and his men. The woman who had been Rebekah’s childhood nurse went along with her. **60**They gave her this blessing as she parted:

**“Our sister, may you become  
    the mother of many millions!  
May your descendants be strong  
    and conquer the cities of their enemies.”**

**61**Then Rebekah and her servant girls mounted the camels and followed the man. So Abraham’s servant took Rebekah and went on his way.

**62**Meanwhile, Isaac, whose home was in the Negev, had returned from Beer-lahai-roi. **63**One evening as he was walking and meditating in the fields, he looked up and saw the camels coming. **64**When Rebekah looked up and saw Isaac, she quickly dismounted from her camel. **65**“Who is that man walking through the fields to meet us?” she asked the servant.

And he replied, “It is my master.” So Rebekah covered her face with her veil.**66**Then the servant told Isaac everything he had done.

67And Isaac brought Rebekah into his mother Sarah’s tent, and she became his wife. **He loved her deeply** **(other versions say “Isaac loved Rebekah”)**, and she was a special comfort to him after the death of his mother.

In that day and age, there were no wedding ceremonies. To remove a girl from her parents was enough to signify a marriage. Marriage has been performed in many different ways over the centuries. In pioneer times in Kansas, there were many places that did not have ministers or judges who could marry a couple. To recognize a marriage, there was a celebration and at that time, the couple was considered to be married. When the married couple returned to their home, they would put their shoes outside the door at night until a circuit preacher or circuit judge came along to make the wedding “official.”

God is the one who ordains marriage. Just because someone has a piece of paper from a government office does not necessarily mean that God ordains that marriage. The United States Supreme Court just ruled that marriage between people of the same sex is legal and cannot be stopped. **This does not mean God accepts gay marriage!** The same goes for divorce. Just because a couple gets a piece of paper saying they are divorced. They may not be divorced in God’s eyes.

**Isaac LOVED Rebekah!** I think that is one of the most beautiful passages in the Bible. Rebekah loved Isaac and she was a great comfort to him when his mother, Sarah, died. Isaac had a special love for his mother and his son, Jacob, had a special love for his mother Rebekah.

**Husbands and Wives Need to Learn How to Love Each Other!**

**Ephesians 5:21-33 (NLT)**

**21**And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

**22**For wives, this means submit to your husbands as to the Lord. **23**For a husband is the head of his wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Savior of his body, the church. **24**As the church submits to Christ, so you wives should submit to your husbands in everything.

**25**For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her **26**to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God’s word.[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+5&version=NLT" \l "fen-NLT-29291b" \o "See footnote b)] **27**He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault. **28**In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as they love their own bodies. For a man who loves his wife actually shows love for himself. **29**No one hates his own body but feeds and cares for it, just as Christ cares for the church. **30**And we are members of his body.

**31**As the Scriptures say, “A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.”[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+5&version=NLT#fen-NLT-29296c)] **32**This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. **33**So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

**Titus Chapter 2 (NLT)**

As for you, Titus, promote the kind of living that reflects wholesome teaching. **2**Teach the older men to exercise self-control, to be worthy of respect, and to live wisely. They must have sound faith and **be filled with love and patience.**

**3**Similarly, teach the older women to live in a way that honors God. They must not slander others or be heavy drinkers. Instead, they should teach others what is good. **4These older women must train the younger women to love their husbands and their children, 5to live wisely and be pure, to work in their homes, to do good, and to be submissive to their husbands.** Then they will not bring shame on the word of God.

**6In the same way, encourage the young men to live wisely. 7And you yourself must be an example to them by doing good works of every kind.** **Let everything you do reflect the integrity and seriousness of your teaching. 8Teach the truth so that your teaching can’t be criticized.** Then those who oppose us will be ashamed and have nothing bad to say about us.

**Make sure everything you teach is based upon the Word of God! Use scriptures that will back up your doctrine. Be a STICKLER for the Word of God. Dake, Kenyon and Hagin (all three have had a huge part in shaping what I believe) have been criticized widely but all three of them were serious about basing all their doctrines on the Word of God even though other Christian leaders opposed them. Don’t worry about what others think of you if you are doing God’s work and you have based all your doctrine on His Word! Jesus told us we would be persecuted for following Him.**

**9**Slaves must always obey their masters (the Bible does not condemn slavery. It does, however, teach how a slave should respond to his master and how a master should treat his slaves) and do their best to please them. They must not talk back **10**or steal (pilfer), but must show themselves to be entirely trustworthy and good. Then they will make the teaching about God our Savior attractive in every way.

**11**For the grace of God has been revealed, **bringing salvation to all people** **(People of all races and nationalities). 12**And we are instructed to turn from godless living and sinful pleasures. **We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God,13while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, will be revealed.** **14**He gave his life **to free us from every kind of sin,** to cleanse us, and to make us his very own people, totally committed to doing good deeds.

**15**You must teach these things and encourage the believers to do them. You have the authority to correct them when necessary, so don’t let anyone disregard what you say.