

God's Peculiar Treasure

#0753
1982

Study Given by W.D. Frazee—November 26,

“Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto Myself. Now therefore, if ye will obey My voice indeed, and keep My covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto Me above all people: for all the earth is mine: And ye shall be unto Me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel” Exodus 19:4-6.

If we would just listen and do what He says, He wants us to be so close to Him, so precious near, that we would be a peculiar treasure unto Him above all the people on the earth. What a privilege. Or is it a privilege? It just depends upon whether a person is born again or whether he isn't. If a person is born again he rejoices in the liberty of knowing what being a peculiar treasure to God means. If he isn't born again, he looks upon it as bondage.

Everyone in this world is on one side or the other of bars that make a jail. People who are behind the bars know they are there and would like to get out. But sad to say, some people who are behind the bars, being like their peers that are around them, think that the people who are outside the bars are the ones that are in jail. How does it look to you?

Notice how the New Testament echoes this message:

“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light” 1 Peter 2:9.

The word peculiar used here does not mean odd, extreme, or fanatic. It doesn't have any such connotation. It is something special. They will be looked upon by a godless world as peculiar. Don't worry about that. But it isn't the peculiarity as viewed from the world that makes them His treasure. It is the other way around. It is being His treasure that makes them peculiar.

In both the Old and New Testaments God uses the figure of marriage to symbolize the union between Him and His children. God's plan is not polygamy. In giving Adam one wife and Eve one husband He showed His glorious ideal. When He speaks in the Second Commandment of the decalogue of Himself as a jealous God, He reminds us that He desires to have with His children a peculiar relationship.

What a strange thing it would be for a bride to desire to be just like everyone else in the relation to her husband. It is unthinkable. This is the picture of those who choose the friendship of this world and do not know their holy privilege.

So using that figure of spiritual adultery, James says:

“Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God” James 4:4.

What would you think of a bride who would say, Yes, I love you, husband. But I love a dozen others to, and I want to be impartial and kind to all of you. God save us from all such travesty. You are a peculiar people because you belong to Jesus in a very special way, and your loyalty is to Him and Him alone. Our desire to please is to please Him. We are willing to walk the lonely road with Jesus. Enoch walked with God, and he was peculiar in his generation. Abraham was a friend of God.

“And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle” Exodus 33:11.

Face to face in communion with God. Heart to heart. Mind to mind. What a privilege. Oh friends, some people are going to join in the song of Moses. I trust you will all enter into that fellowship with Jesus.

Notice Moses' prayer:

“And he said unto Him, If Thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence. For wherein shall it be known here that I and thy people have found grace in thy sight? is it not in that thou goest with us? so shall we be separated, I and thy people, from all the people that are upon the face of the earth” Exodus 33:15-16.

Moses said, Lord, I cannot go without You. An excepted people is a separated people. Separated from what? From everything else in the world. They are peculiar in that they belong to Jesus. They get their directions from Him. Their one desire is to please Him. They are not asking what is done in this institution and that institution; what the people in this church and that church are doing. They are asking only one thing:

“Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven” Matthew 6:10.

Won't it be wonderful when God has a people in this world that has that character written in their foreheads? The happiest people in all this world are those whose names are written in heaven, and the name of Jesus is written in their minds

and hearts. "So shall we be separated, I and Thy people, from all the people that are upon the face of the earth." God hasten the day. What do you say?

This experience of living for Jesus, all alone as far as those around us are concerned, can be successfully entered into only by those who spend time alone with Jesus to know Him personally.

The Song of Solomon is an inspired love song. It represents that beautiful love between bride and bridegroom, between wife and husband. It represents the union between Christ and His people. So there is much in this beautiful song for every husband and wife to study, and there is much in it of spiritual value to everyone whether married or single, because God has represented the union between Him and each soul. Notice the expressions of appreciation from bride to bridegroom and bridegroom to bride:

"I am the rose of Sharon, and the lily of the valleys. As the lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters. As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste. He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love" Song of Solomon 2:1-4.

The fellowship of the soul with the One who is life is represented in these beautiful, graphic, meaningful words. I cannot read your minds, but I ask you to examine your heart. Is Jesus the lover of your soul? Do you love Him? Does He love you? Do you know He loves you? Oh, if that experience is real you can take the experiences of life that come to test. You can take the misunderstandings of those about you, the disapproval of those who ought to approve you. But unless you have that, all the human approval you get will never satisfy you. Never.

Imagine the bride and bridegroom passing hours and days and weeks with no communication. What is the matter? It is a lack of experience. So with the soul who needs an experience with God that lets hours and days and weeks go by without real communion with Jesus. You can't manufacture it. You can't fake it. You must seek for it with all your hearts. We get acquainted with Jesus like we get acquainted with people by spending time with them. There is no substitute. There is no way to get it in a capsule and swallow it. There is no way to have it injected into you with a needle. Nothing of the kind. We get acquainted with Jesus by spending time with Him.

"I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste." The last time I was in the Chicago I noticed that dozens of people were crowding in to get their lunches, and they were eating standing up. They were so much on the move that they weren't even given seats. They go and get their sandwich and a cup of coffee and stand there and eat and drink. Well, it has its advantages if your plane is called right away. But that is not this picture. I sat down under his shadow with great delight.

Did you ever see people doing that? I don't happen to have what is supposed to be on my wrist. When people are doing this they say, What is happening? How much time have I got? Some people are eating that way. What a shame when people are spending so much time trying to get some money so they can get something to eat and have to stand.

Some are having their devotions that way too, aren't they?

Somebody says, Brother Frazee, we are supposed to be on time.

Indeed, friends. Let's make our first time on time with Jesus every morning.

"I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste. He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love." This is picture of relaxed, loving fellowship. Time to eat. Time to commune. Time to enjoy fellowship. You can't rush it. If you want to know Jesus and the joy of being alone with Him it takes time.

"The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned,
that I should know how to speak a word in season to him
that is weary: He wakeneth morning by morning, He
wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned" Isaiah 50:4.

We need a good breakfast before we start out for a day's work. Oh, our souls must be fed. Let's feed our souls before we feed our bodies. What do you say?

A word in season is the right word at the right time. How can you get wiser than that? Too much of what is called education tends to speak many words, even right words, at the wrong time. How do you know to say the word? The Holy Spirit must give it to you.

The Devil knows the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation. He didn't have to scratch his head to quote the text to Jesus in the wilderness of temptation. He had it right on the end of his tongue. He is adept at quoting Scripture. He says the right word at the wrong time as he did with Jesus. He tried to use the words of Scripture to get Jesus to do something that would have been displeasing to His Father.

There are many people engaged in the same thing today. They quote Scripture and inspired writings to try to prove something that is not so at all. It is the right word but the wrong application. So we need not only the right word, but we need the right application. How do we get it? The Holy Spirit must give it to us. And morning by morning alone with God it is our privilege to get tuned in. We talk to Jesus and He talks back to us. This is the experience in being alone with God. And let me make it very simple. If we are going to live the life of being alone with God in our lifestyle, we must have back of it the experience of being alone with God in spiritual communion. Unless we have that the other will simply build up into a pharisaical exclusiveness, which is nauseating to God and man, or else we will drift away from it and become just like the common herd. God save us from all such.

You woke up this morning. How did you wake up? Did your alarm clock wake you up? Every time you wake up, whether it is the dawning light of the new day, or some noise, or an alarm clock, the reason you wake up is because God wakes you up. Don't forget it. Unless He does, you do not wake up. Every beat of the heart, every breath of the lungs, is the working of the omnipotent power of God.

Why does He wake you? Because He wants to visit with you. Will you disappoint Him? It is a wonderful thing to go to sleep with the thought of Jesus in our minds so we wake up with that same thought. That is a ritual, but it is an experience. It will be that way in the resurrection. The Christian who has gone to sleep with his eyes on Jesus will wake up in the resurrection with his eyes on that same Christ and Lord. Oh, let us cultivate that habit. Let's practice that experience night by night as we go to sleep and morning by morning as we wake up. This is the last thing of one day and the beginning of a new day. This is the way to be happy. This is the way to be wise. There is no substitute for it. All the so-called education in the world does not lead you to this experience. Even though you memorize the entire Bible, unless it leads you into a personal experience with Jesus, what is it? It is like reading books on nutrition as a substitute for eating. It won't give you very many calories or proteins or minerals even though you can talk about them.

Here is heaven's last appeal to the church on earth. Here is the heavenly Bridegroom's voice appealing to His bride to let Him in and let their fellowship be close. Let's listen to His voice:

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me" Revelation 3:20.

Do you know why more people don't let Jesus in? Do you know why more people don't enter into this experience of being alone with God?

"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent" Revelation 3:19.

We are living in an age and a generation where millions of people think that love means permissiveness. They have no idea what rebuke and love have in common. They haven't the slightest conception that reproof would have anything to do with affection. They do not know love. It is a sad, selfish generation.

But God has chosen you and me to learn a better way, and to experience a better way, and demonstrate a better way.

Does Jesus love you? How do you know it?

Someone says, I just feel it inside.

Does He ever rebuke you? It is a wonderful thing when we have gotten well enough acquainted with Jesus that we want that kind of love. If you really love someone, don't you want to please them? If you displease them either ignorantly or

carelessly, wouldn't real love on your part for them be reflected in a desire to find out what it is that caused you to miss the mark?

The sweetest experiences of fellowship with Jesus are in letting Him tell us what needs to be changed in our lives. Some people are so afraid that someone is going to tell them what is wrong in their lives that they act that way with Jesus. I am sorry that some of us have made it difficult for some people. Some parents with their children, some teachers with their students, some pastors with their members. But I bid you in Jesus' name look past all those human ambassadors and look directly to Jesus.

The best of human beings may fumble. They may do it in an unkind way. God help us not to do. Jesus will do it in a kind way, but He will do it. He will point out the sin of the life. And when He does it in the secret place of prayer, what shall we tell Him. Shall we tell Him to mind His own business, and we will run our own lives? No. We shall say, Dear Lord, I know You love me, and that is why You are telling me. Oh Lord, If you love me enough to die for me, I love you enough to live for You.

Just a few days ago I came across a new gem. It is in this book, *The Upward Road*:

"Night after night scenes have been presented to me of little companies pleading with God. He would show them some idols they had been cherishing. Some would give this up, and some would not. But the light of heaven shone from the faces of those who had put away their idols. Then other idols would be shone to them, and again some would put these away. But the light of heaven shone upon all who would give up all for Christ"
The Upward Road, page 267.

What an experience. Here are people praying. How does Jesus answer? He begins to talk about some idols in their lives. It may be someone they love better than they love God. It may be some article of dress or diet that they are enamored with. It may be some music that is hard for them to get help from Jesus with. It might be some jealousy, envy, faultfinding, or criticism. It could be any one of a thousand things. The point is that Jesus, by His Holy Spirit, answers the prayers of those who are seeking to get close to Him and says, If you want to get close to me, here is something I want to take out of you life.

Some said take out the idols. Some said no. What happened with those who said take them out? Their faces shone with the light of heaven. They were shone more idols and the process went on. And this is the experience that must be had alone with God. There are some things that are settled in meetings like this. But the real experience you must have if you are to be successful must be alone with God.

There are several reasons for this. God has many things to sharpen you and polish you on that no preacher will ever talk to you about. No preacher knows you enough to sharpen you up and polish you up the way God wants to. God will

reprove you about things that your best friends may not dare talk to you about. God talks to me about a lot of things that other people don't talk to me about either because they don't know them or don't dare to. But will I give Him what He talks to me about? I thank Him that He gives me Himself to take it out of my heart. I want Him to keep on and not get discouraged because I have been such a slow student.

To most people it seems that I have lived quite a while. I am getting along in years. God lets some of us live as long as we have because we haven't finished our school yet. I know people a lot younger than I who have gone to their rest that I am going to see in the kingdom. I have preached the funeral for more than one person I knew was ready. But I thank God that He has given me more time to ripen up.

What shall we do with the time we have left? We shall say, Dear Lord, pour it on. I want to run the way of Your commandments.

Jesus lover of my soul,
Let me to Thy bosom fly.

Oh, that there may come into our hearts a longing to be alone with Jesus in the daily walk, alone with Jesus in daily communion.

"The Lord will not accept the work of any man that has not been done in tenderness and love and kindness."
The Upward Road, page 267.

Oh, I wish that all the surgery I have tried to do for God I had done with a knife sharpened by love. Some surgery needs to be done, but not with a full knife. It is the Holy Spirit that makes the sword edged with power. I want to learn to do everything I do in love and tenderness. The Lord will not accept the work of any man that is not done in tenderness and love and kindness. He has not set us as rulers to lord it over His heritage.

Jesus told the rich young man what was wrong with him. He did not make him go and sell all he had and give to the poor. He was a rich young man who did his own thing. Jesus did not force him to change. He made it clear to him what he needed to do. Jesus loved him.

Does Jesus love you enough to point out some weakness in your lives? If you love someone enough you may point out some weakness in their lives, but don't try to make them. Don't lord over them.

"Let others be moved by Christ just as we desire to be moved by Him" *Ibid*.

Why? Jesus loves the sweet response of the soul because He has told him to do it. Not only is Jesus happier that way, but you are happier that way. You are happier when you discover something in the Bible or the Spirit of Prophecy by the impression of the Holy Spirit for yourself that needs changing in your life.

How many of you can think of something definite that God has changed somewhere along the line that nobody had ever talked to you about? You discovered it by the Holy Spirit. If you have had that experience you know what I am talking about. If you haven't, open your heart heavenward and say, Dear Lord, anything, everything, if only I can be like You.

Somebody says, The trouble with me is that I think other people think I ought to do this and that and the other thing, and I don't think so.

Don't do what they think. Do what you believe God wants you to do, and be happy in it.

Everybody in this world is either too strict or not strict enough. You heard me right. If that needs interpreting, ask the Holy Spirit to interpret it to you. But it simply means that you have to have an experience all alone with God when it comes to some of the tiny little details of life. And don't let it worry you.

What happens to those who walk in the light?

“But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin” 1 John 1:7.

The basis of fellowship is not that everybody sees every detail just as I do. The basis of Christian fellowship is walking in the light that God sheds on each individual's pathway. So don't let it worry you if somebody eats a little different than you do, or dresses different than you do. Pray God to guide them, and pray that God will guide you. But if you want fellowship with Jesus in His church, you must walk in the light that God shines on you. Be very tolerant of others. Be careful to please the Lord Himself.

Take LIGHT and put DE in front of it. What do you have? DELIGHT. What does that mean? Joy and happiness. Light is associated with joy and happiness. Truly light is sweet, and a pleasant thing it is to behold the sun. If we want to be happy, it is the way of light.

Once again I appeal to you to enter into this personal fellowship of being alone with Jesus. Let's send Him the word that we appreciate Him.

Copyright 2019. All rights reserved.

W.D. Frazee Sermons
P.O. Box 129, Wildwood, GA 30757
1-800-WDF-1840 / 706-820-9755
www.WDFsermons.org
support@WDFsermons.org