

Follow your Impression

"I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." Psalm 37:25

Happy Sabbath, Saints of God. May this message reach you, abiding in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The reality is that we are living in a time of world-wide uncertainty. Its better known as a pandemic. One president under great anxiety, cried out. "There is nothing we can do, we have tried everything we know to do. It now in the hands of God." So saints of God, if you are like me, many questions are on your mind. Questions like, how long will this crisis last? When will our church building be opened? Will I lose my job? My spouse, or sibling has covid-19, will they survive? Is this the time of the end? Is there a message in all this chaos? etc. etc.

I am reminded of a story about a young lady called Jenny. She had not been a Seventh-day Adventist for long. Her faith had been tested many times in recent months. When she and her mother accepted Jesus and His message her father was very unhappy. He did everything he could to make it miserable for the two new Christians. Jenny who lived in Australia was attending Avondale College, one of our re-known educational institutions. Like many students, it was a battle and a match to keep the bills paid. Then her mother died. It was a terrible blow. Her father had demanded she quit school and help him in his office. Without his knowledge or permission Jenny caught the train back to Avondale to continue her education.

Here was where the troubles increased - trouble in paying the tuition fee and for accommodation every month. She was getting farther and farther in debt. Over, and over again the kindly business manager reminded her that the account must be paid. The day of reckoning had arrived. If money was not forthcoming that very day, Jenny must retire from her studies. Jenny had no one to turn too. What would you do? Many of us, have a support system around, although there is uncertainty all around us. We are confident that maybe our children, sibling, close friends are their to help in our time of need. However, not all our members are as fortunate as most of us. Some do not have that kind of support, some have no support at all.

Many of these members do not like asking the church, for financial help because of various reasons. However, that support is there. In Jenny's case, being a new and young members, she may have been unaware of the churches support system. Being in need, Jenny prayed for guidance, she needed to get some money. I speak as one who has tasted and seen that the Lord, hears and answers prayer. Someone say Hallelujah! The Bible plainly states, *"and they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek thee."* (Psalm 9:10) This is a promise that all can claim. God will not forsaken us when we seek Him. We can believe that God's promises are sure and steadfast, because, *"God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?"* (Numbers 23:19)

This week my wife told me she is impress by God to deliver some shopping for a neighbour, who does not seem to be working. We went through the back door because we did not want to embarrass the family. Many times when we get impression like this we tend to dismiss it. And many times we forfeit the blessing of the Lord. Because when we bless others, we in turn are blessed. When we invest in others, God will invest in us.

While Jenny was in dire straits, even before her request was made God was on the case, did you hear what I said, God was on her case. Right now, whatever you are going through God is on your case. In Jenny's case, God was working through a missionary couple hundreds of miles away at the Batuna Training School far north in the Soloman Islands. Elwyn Martin and his bride, Alma, had just arrived as missionaries. For some reason they could not understand, they were deeply

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impressed that their friend Jenny back in Avondale needed help. They had no money, so you cannot give what you do not have, I guess would be our rational. Yet the burden rested so heavily upon their hearts that Elwyn went to the treasurer of the mission and asked for a twenty-five dollar advance. This unusual request was granted. Saints of God we need to have not only a burden for souls, but a burden for one another. With such a crisis as this, let us allow God to lead us to be a blessing to one another.

The inspired Word, opens the windows of heaven to give great hope to those who are going through times of crisis. The pen of Inspiration states,

“Our heavenly Father has a thousand ways to provide for us of which we know nothing. Those who accept the one principle of making the service of God supreme, will find perplexities vanish and a plain path before their feet.” (The Ministry of Healing, pp. 480-482)

There is however, a condition, you need to make God supreme in your life. God is not limited to our thinking, we only have to walk with faith. We just have to believe, position ourself, and never cease moving forward.

While Jenny's hearts are aching under a load of care, another missionary who was returning to Australia added some more to their gift, and three months later he personally took the money to Jenny in Avondale. But Jenny never knew where the twenty-five dollars came from.

Now, the thrilling part of the story. The money was the exact amount of Jenny's debt, and it arrived the very day that she had to either pay her bill or leave school. Three months before Jenny's crisis God had impressed friends hundreds of miles away to meet her need. King David was right - the righteous are never forsaken, and go begging bread, He will provide! Remember! Remember! *"We have nothing to fear for the future"—"EXCEPT."* What is the exception? *"Except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history."*-- Life Sketches, p. 196.

In the darkest days of earth's history, when appearances seem most forbidding, we need to have faith in God. He is working out His will, doing all things well in behalf of His people. The strength of those who love and serve Him will be renewed day by day. So saints of God, do not gather together all tomorrow's liabilities and cares and add them to the burden of today. Why, *"Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."* Matthew 6:34.

So brothers and sisters, *"May the LORD bless you and keep you; may the LORD cause His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; may the LORD lift up His countenance toward you and give you peace."* (Numbers 6:25)

Please continue to pray for those who are ill, those who are going through bereavement, those who are hurting, spiritually, mentally and physically. Pray that some soul will accept Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

Have a blessed Sabbath day.