Daily Devotionals

Faithful Servants of God
About the Writers

Nathan Noel Rogers has served as the pastor of the Longview Missionary Baptist Church in Longview, Texas since 2010. Nathan grew up in East End, Arkansas and attended East Union Missionary Baptist Church as a child. He was saved in 1992 when he attended camp at Pine Springs Camp with a friend from Faith Missionary Baptist Church in North Little Rock, Arkansas.

In 1994 Nathan moved to Sheridan, Arkansas where he met his high school sweetheart and eventual wife Ericka (Taylor) Rogers. They were married in 1999. They have two children, Bethany and Micah.

Nathan surrendered into the gospel ministry in 1999 while a member at Lonoke Baptist Church in Morrilton, Arkansas. He has served churches in Morrilton, Harrison, Cave City, Arkansas and Longview, Texas.

Nathan has attended seminary classes at the Missionary Baptist Seminary in Little Rock, Arkansas, Central Arkansas Baptist Bible Institute in Benton, Arkansas and Texas Baptist Institute and Seminary in Henderson, Texas. Nathan has received Bachelor’s degrees in Theology, Bible Ministry and Youth Ministry. He has also served on the teaching staffs at Central Arkansas Baptist Bible Institute and Texas Baptist Institute and Seminary.

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Mark David Clements is senior pastor at New Liberty Baptist Church in Garland, Texas. He has been married to Jenny since 1996 and God has blessed them with four children: Noah, Mahlah, Nathan and Rhoda. Mark is a graduate of Texas Baptist Institute and Seminary, and he and his family were privileged to serve in the southern Philippines as missionaries for seven years. During these seven years, Mark served as an instructor and Dean of Students at Philippine Missionary Baptist Seminary and planted Grace Baptist Church. Mark is passionate about studying, teaching and preaching God’s Word and helping people experience transformed lives through faith in Christ.

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Beverly Barnett grew up in a Missionary Baptist deacon’s home, was saved at the age of nine and joined Hatley MBC, Hatley, MS. She married Nicky Barnett in 1971. Bro. Barnett has pastored in Alabama, Arkansas, Mississippi and Florida for the past twenty-eight years. In each of Brother Barnett’s pastorates, Beverly has taught children in Sunday School or children’s church.

Beverly returned to school in 1985 and graduated with honors as a LPN. In 1991, she graduated from Northwest Alabama Community College with an associate degree and became a registered nurse. She has been a guest writer for “Women of the Harvest” magazine, her hometown newspaper and writes a monthly newsletter. She continues to study the art of writing.

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March Scripture Readings

- February 26: Leviticus 21—24; Matthew 14:1-14
- February 27: Leviticus 25—27; Matthew 14:15-36
- February 28: Numbers 1; 2; Matthew 15:1-20
- March 1: Numbers 3; 4; Matthew 15:21-39
- March 2: Numbers 5; 6; Matthew 16
- March 3: Numbers 7; Matthew 17
- March 4: Numbers 8; Matthew 18:1-14
- March 5: Numbers 9; 10; Matthew 18:15-35
- March 6: Numbers 11; 12; Matthew 19
- March 7: Numbers 13; Matthew 20
- March 8: Numbers 14; 15; Matthew 21:1-22
- March 9: Numbers 16; Matthew 21:23-46
- March 10: Numbers 17; 18; Matthew 22:1-22
- March 11: Numbers 19; 20; Matthew 22:23-46
- March 12: Numbers 21; 22; Matthew 23:1-19
- March 14: Numbers 25; 26; Matthew 24:1-26
- March 15: Numbers 27—29; Matthew 24:27-51
- March 16: Numbers 30; 31; Matthew 25:1-30
- March 17: Numbers 32; Matthew 25:31-46
- March 18: Numbers 33; 34; Matthew 26:1-29
- March 19: Numbers 35; 36; Matthew 26:30-56
- March 20: Deuteronomy 1—3; Matthew 26:57-75
- March 21: Deuteronomy 4—6; Matthew 27:1-44
- March 22: Deuteronomy 7—9; Matthew 27:45-28:20
- March 23: Deuteronomy 10; 11; Mark 1:1-20
- March 24: Deuteronomy 12; 13; Mark 1:21-45
- March 25: Deuteronomy 14; 15; Mark 2
- March 26: Deuteronomy 16—18; Mark 3
- March 27: Deuteronomy 19; 20; Mark 4:1-20
- March 28: Deuteronomy 21; 22; Mark 4:21-41
- March 29: Deuteronomy 23; 24; Mark 5:1-20
- March 30: Deuteronomy 25; 26; Mark 5:21-43
- March 31: Deuteronomy 27; Mark 6:1-29
Paul’s Testimony

1 Timothy 1:13-17

“This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.” 1 Timothy 1:15, 16.

You have to admire Paul’s authenticity in his writing. He wasn’t afraid to share who he was and what he had come from. When Paul calls himself the chief of sinners, he was being totally transparent about his past. What Paul was trying to help his readers understand is that the gospel of Jesus can redeem even the vilest of sinners. Paul was openly involved in apprehending, imprisoning and even delivering unto death those who preached Jesus. His testimony was that if someone who openly persecuted the people of God could know salvation, anyone could be saved.

Like Paul, when we are open about our testimony, it reveals the power that exists within the gospel. For people to know how the gospel can impact even the darkest sins in their lives, they have to hear the stories about how the gospel has already transformed the lives of other sinners. Never be afraid or ashamed to share your testimony. Like Paul, your story may not paint the prettiest picture of you, but the gospel testimony is not about making us look good. It’s about showing that Jesus is good. It is the story of how Jesus stepped into our darkest place and redeemed us from sin’s grip. Like Paul, all of us that know Jesus Christ have a story worth telling.

JUST A THOUGHT
Like Paul’s testimony, every believer has a gospel testimony that needs sharing.

Nathan Rogers
The Purpose of the Law of Moses

Galatians 3:19-25

“But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster,” Galatians 3:23-25.

There are many misconceptions out there in the world that a person can somehow earn salvation. Many of these come from a misunderstanding of God’s Law. People read the Old Testament Law of Moses and assume that it exists as an attainable standard for living a holy life. Some believe that if a person could just keep the Law, he would somehow find favor in God’s eyes and achieve holiness. This couldn’t be further from the truth. Today’s Scripture clearly shows us that the Law was never intended to be a rubric for achieving salvation.

We see in today’s passage that the Law was our “schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ” (verse 24). Sure, the Law establishes a standard for holiness, but the Bible is also clear that it is a standard that we are incapable of achieving. It shows us how utterly sinful we are and how much we need Jesus. The Law totally eliminates our ability to be justified through works and demonstrates that we must “be justified by faith” (verse 24). When we place our faith in Jesus, the Law no longer has dominion over us. We are no longer condemned by its unachievable standard. The blood of Jesus covers our failures. This is the truth of the gospel. God’s Law condemns us, yet we are redeemed by His only begotten Son.

JUST A THOUGHT
The purpose of the Law of Moses was to reveal to us our need for a Savior.

Nathan Rogers
God Entrusted Us 
with the Gospel

1 Thessalonians 2:1-6

“But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we 
speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts,” 1 Thessalonians 2:4.

One of my most prized possessions is a watch that my dad gave me. It is not necessarily a special watch or an expensive watch. It’s just a simple windup wristwatch that he was given for being selected to play in the state high school football all-star game, but it is special to me because he gave it to me. I don’t know that I have ever cared for any material thing the way I have this watch. I’m not a very sentimental person, and I don’t really hang on to things. This watch has been different because it came from my father. I plan to pass it on to my son one day. I hope he will value it just as I do. It is amazing how we long to share those things that we value.

This is how it is with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Sure, the gospel is immensely more valuable than a wristwatch, but the principle is the same. Today’s passage says, “We were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel” (verse 4). Just like my father passed his watch on to me, our Heavenly Father has passed the gospel on to us, His children. He has entrusted us with the greatest message from God to mankind. We cannot take this task lightly. God intends for us to share this valuable message. God could have chosen many ways to ensure that His gospel is shared with the world, but He chose to trust us with it. We cannot let Him down.

JUST A THOUGHT
God chose to entrust the greatest message to earthly messengers.

Nathan Rogers
The Anointing
of the Holy Spirit

Luke 4:14-20

“And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, the Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord,” Luke 4:17-19.

This passage was originally part of Isaiah 61. Isaiah was filled with the Spirit of the Lord to preach to those in Babylonian captivity, but we can also see here in Luke 4 that the words of Isaiah were prophetic words about the Messiah.

Notice the people Jesus speaks about here in this passage. Jesus claims that God has sent Him to the “poor,” the “brokenhearted,” the “captives” and the “blind.” This speaks of all of us when we are in our sinful state and without the redemption of the Savior. Without Jesus we are spiritually poor. We have nothing to offer, and we are totally helpless. The gospel is God’s treasure presented as a gift to mankind. Without Jesus we are brokenhearted. True brokenheartedness is a heart void of God. Jesus is the heart mender. Without Jesus we are captive to sin with no way to free ourselves. Jesus sets us free by His grace. Without Jesus we are blind, unable to see the direction we are headed. Jesus restores our spiritual sight. Jesus was anointed by God to provide freedom to those trapped by sin.

JUST A THOUGHT
Jesus is God’s anointed messenger sent to destroy all the consequences of sin.

Nathan Rogers
We Owe It to God To Spread the Gospel

Romans 1:9-16

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek,” Romans 1:16.

Shhh...that is the message the world screams at Christians who are actively sharing the gospel. The cultural strategy of mankind is to shame the Christian believer into silence. It is easy to be shamed for taking a stance for Christ today. If the world can make the believer cower down with embarrassment at the name of Jesus, the gospel is silenced and Satan claims the victory. If the Christian is too ashamed to tell the story of Jesus, the name of Jesus will be hidden from view and the people of the world do not have to resolve the issue of God’s salvation in their own consciences.

We as Christians cannot allow ourselves to be silenced. We cannot allow Satan to use culture to shut out the gospel. The gospel is the good news. It is the only means by which the world can be saved. The eternal ramifications of silence on this issue are immense. People’s eternities are literally on the line. Do not be ashamed of the gospel of Christ. No matter how the world tries to silence you from spreading the truth of Jesus, allow today’s passage to be a rallying cry. Just as Paul, we should boldly proclaim, “I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ.” God made sure the gospel came to you and me. Our salvation was the result of His provision. We owe it to God to share this message to the world and not be shamed into silence.

JUST A THOUGHT

We cannot be embarrassed or ashamed of the gospel. We owe it to our Savior to spread the gospel.

Nathan Rogers
The Gospel Is for All Men Everywhere

Romans 10:12-15

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?” Romans 10:13, 14.

Preach Jesus and, if necessary, use words. Sayings like this are catchy and portray great principles, but they can never be used as an excuse to excuse us from verbally sharing the gospel. All men everywhere need to hear the gospel message. “For whosoever” in verse 13 of today’s reading encompasses the entirety of mankind. If we as believers are to reach the whole world with the gospel, we must actively speak the message of the gospel at every chance. It is the message of the gospel that connects the life we live to the message we embrace. That way there is never any confusion as to why the believer lives the life that he lives. Whether you prefer relational evangelism or confrontational evangelism, it is necessary we use an evangelism that includes words.

We do this so that lost people will believe the gospel and find salvation. Verse 14 makes it clear that it will be difficult for the world to call on Jesus and believe if there is no “preacher.” That is to say, there has to be one declaring the gospel message to the lost people of this world. Your family, friends, neighbors and coworkers will only hear the gospel if you share it with them. Make a point to share the message with those around you.

JUST A THOUGHT

The gospel is for all men everywhere. This is why it is so important that believers are active in preaching the good news.

Nathan Rogers
Hope in the Coming Jesus
Revelation 20:1-4

“And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years,” Revelation 20:4.

We all have good days and bad days and worst of all days. These are a part of life. I know the key verse today is talking about the second coming of Jesus, but I want to encourage you today about the rapture. One day, and I hope soon, Jesus is going to come back in the clouds, the trumpet is going to sound and we will be called up to be with Him forever. All the suffering, pain, heartache and grief will be over forever. We will see loved ones who have already passed from death unto life, meet family and friends we have never met, thank people who prayed for us and see those we had prayed for who accepted Jesus as their Savior. What a glorious reunion day that will be!

We will be able to see all the Bible characters in vivid color, talk with the apostles, praise Jesus, sing with perfect pitch and that will be just the beginning. As the old gospel hymn says, “Oh, what a day that will be, when my Jesus I shall see!” I cannot wait! How about you?

REFLECTION
I am not waiting to see Jesus because I am expecting great rewards; no, I am waiting to see Jesus so that I can thank Him for His love and sacrifice for me.

Beverly Barnett
All Human Governments Are Under God’s Control

Psalm 2:1-7

“Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion,” Psalm 2:6.

In most of our presidential elections someone is wringing his hands with anxiety and worry. I am not advocating that we should not be concerned, but we should not worry excessively because God has everything under His control. As good citizens of our great land we should be concerned with who is governing and ruling; and we should exercise our right to prayerfully consider and vote in every election that we are qualified to participate in, but not at the expense of our sanity.

When our leaders have a God awareness, those leaders will consult with God and follow Him. But even if they do not acknowledge God, He is still in control.

Think back to the Old Testament when the people of Israel would forget God or have corrupt God forsaking kings. God would always have a way to bring them back to Him; and as long as there are praying believers, He will do the same for our country. There were times God sent plagues on the Hebrews or besieged them by other armies. Sometimes, God allowed doubters to die and kings to be overthrown but because He loved them, He forgave them when they repented.

We do not know why God allows some governments or evil people to have power, such as Hitler in Germany who killed millions of Jews, or Pol Pot in Cambodia, who killed millions of his own men, women and children; but we cannot blame their evil actions on God. Their evil actions are because of their own choices.

REFLECTION

“All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing.” —Edmund Burke

Beverly Barnett