

The Vital Role of Remembering

Obviously we cannot progress in life without remembering. Daily, there is remembering our address, phone number, taking out the garbage and even remembering to eat (which I sometimes forget when I am neck deep in a good book).

But God teaches us that spiritual memory is vital, in fact it is a command. Throughout both testaments *remembering* is basic to serving God, serving one another and preserving our progeny. It was said many years ago that, "The church is always only one generation from apostasy." (I remembered that!)

Great monuments in scripture help us understand God's emphasis on remembering great events and great people. An "Ebenezer" (a stone of help) was placed to help the Israelites remember how God delivered them from the Philistines (read I Samuel 4 - 7).

Solomon's Temple was itself not only a place of worship but also a reminder that God had transitioned His people from the temporary tabernacle in the wilderness and had given them a permanent place in the promised land. Jacob's well, the threshing floor of Auranah, Mt. Zion itself, all stand as witnesses of God's providence to His people.

But those things are mere physical places and have no meaning without personal, internal memory. The same is true with us today, internally.

-Remember my Covenant, Genesis 9:15

-Remember this day, Exodus 13:3 (deliverance from Egypt)
(and Deut. 15:5)

-Remember biblical history, Romans 11:18

-Remember the things delivered by the Apostles, I Corinthians 11:2

-Remember the poor, Galatians 2:10

-Remember your life before you knew Jesus, and had no hope, Eph. 2:11, 12

-Remember biblical leaders and imitate their faith, Hebrews 13:7; II Pet. 3:2

-Remember from where you have fallen, and return, Revelation 2:5

God has great plans for all of His people, but we can never rise to His call until we *remember!*

-Ray Wallace