

Encourager for the Truth!

#3039 0205 23A

An encourager for the Truth begins the *day* in a positive way—like saying to someone you meet: *What a nice day God has given us; or God has been merciful in so many ways!* Start with the *positive* before even asking a question!

If Scripture is added Romans 15:5 “*May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus.* The name Barnabas is translated *Son of Encouragement* Acts 4:36.

Elisha the prophet was an encourager for the Lord. He had warned the King of Israel about the aggressive actions of Syria—that was why the Syrian king came to capture Elisha. God had been giving the prophet advance information before Syria could take any action.

2 Kings 6:14 “*Therefore sent he thither horses, and chariots, and a great host: and they came by night, and compassed the city about. 15 And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do? 16 And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.*”

As an encourager for the Truth, we can quote that verse when speaking with anyone going through a difficult time or a serious battle with Satan—“*Fear not: for they that be with us are more*

than they that be with them.” And including that we will *pray* for them—asking God to open their eyes to see the *reality* of that verse in regard to the situation facing them at the moment.

2 Kings 6:17 “*And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.*” The servant was enabled by God to *see* a host from Heaven—they would be safe, the enemy was outnumbered!

With the Lord’s help, we should always try to be the encourager due to the many problems people may be going through at any given time. Our brief life on earth and our eternal life in Heaven, is based on what Jesus came to do for us—that He died on the cross for our sins; And He rose to life three days later to enable *our* life to never be the same again—Galatians 2:20 “*I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live.*” It is a *huge* change and *different* life of faith in God!

We make our *choice* and take our *stand* of faith on the resurrection power of Jesus. If *we* will do *that*—we can encourage *others* to do that. If they ask *why* we believe what we believe, and *why* we live like we live—by *faith* in God and so *different* from the world—we can add that it is the doctrine of the New Testament, and Jesus set us the example. We live by the *Book!*

Daniel was an encourager for the Lord—he always did the will of God regardless of the risk. Wanting to obey God’s Word on food, he requested vegetables so as not to defile himself. Then his faith was *tested* when a law was *enacted*.

Daniel 6:7 “*All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man*

for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions.”

Daniel answered only to the Most High God and no one else. He would *do* what God had *commanded* him to do—no matter what the consequences would be. It was: *Always stand up for what is right, and let the chips fall where they may—God owns the chips anyway—so if they get scattered, He can bring them together.* God will *make* a way when there seems to be no way.

Daniel 6:10 “*Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.*”

Not only did Daniel *obey* God and *do* the right thing—but when he *prayed* to God, he made sure his *windows* remained open. He was obeying *God* when everyone else was obeying the *decree!* Daniel was an encourager for the Lord and just doing what was right.

Disobeying the unscriptural law called for the death penalty. AV Daniel 6:11 “*These men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God.*” Syrian law could not be *changed* once it was *signed*. AV Daniel 6:16 “*They brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.*” The king was *trying* to be an encourager but not sounding like one.

Daniel took a stand for the Lord, so God controlled the starving lions. When it seemed there was *no way*—God *made* a way! Daniel 6:19 “*The king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions.*”

The king still wanted to encourage Daniel, but the *fear* in his voice showed the *doubt* in his heart. 20 “*O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God,*

whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?"

Now it was Daniel's turn to be the encourager for the Lord on divine protection. 21, *"O king, live for ever. 22 My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me."*

It wasn't luck, or chance, or fate—it was God who made a way—and in a situation when there seemed to *be* no way. Now Daniel was the encourager—showing the king of the need to trust in God and on His divine power when facing imminent danger.

Most people would not be so bold when speaking with a government leader; or be so willing to state their faith in God if asked such a question. Some say, *I don't want to force my religion on anyone*—and we should *not force* our faith on anyone, but we can *share* our faith with someone, and we can *encourage* them to trust on God.

It is not a matter of *forcing* something on someone, but it is a matter of *telling* them of something important—it is an issue that includes eternity in Paradise.

We all know it is right to *tell children* about important things and *encourage* them to *do* them—Tie your shoes; be sure to brush your teeth; and eat the vegetables God gave us—Genesis 1:29. If we tell them *those* things, we should *also* tell them and *encourage* them in more important *spiritual* matters.

Deuteronomy 6:6 *"And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.*

8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your

house and on your gates." We must always be an *Encourager for the Truth!*

Mordecai was an encourager—and as the story goes. Esther 2:17 *"The king loved Esther above all the women, and she obtained grace and favour in his sight more than all the virgins; so that he set the royal crown upon her head, and made her queen instead of Vashti."*

Haman, the enemy of the Jews, plotted to have the entire nation destroyed—and it seemed he would succeed—if not for divine providence and intervention. Esther 4:7 *"Mordecai told [Hatach, the king's official] of all that had happened unto him, and of the sum of the money that Haman had promised to pay to the king's treasuries for the Jews, to destroy them.*

8 "Also he gave him the copy of the writing of the decree that was given at Shushan to destroy them, to shew it unto Esther, and to declare it unto her, and to charge her that she should go in unto the king, to make supplication unto him, and to make request before him for her people."

Mordecai was an encourager and urged Esther to do the right thing. Esther 4:11 *"All the king's servants, and the people of the king's provinces, do know, that whosoever, whether man or woman, shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, there is one law of his to put him to death, except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden sceptre, that he may live: but I have not been called to come in unto the king these thirty days."*

She meant: *It is a death sentence if I do what you suggest.* Mordecai replies Esther 4:13 *"Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews. 14 For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth*

whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

Mordecai was an encourager for the Lord—and he knew that even though things looked really *bleak*, he *also* knew that if there seemed to *be* no way, God would *make* a way. Mordecai encouraged Esther to tell the king of Haman's evil plot to destroy her people.

His encouragement urged the queen to stand up in faith on God for the nation of Israel. Esther 4:16 *"Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish."*

Mordecai was an encourager for the Truth and urging Esther to do the right thing, even though there was a definite risk. To approach the king without being summoned meant that the person could be executed—but watchmen are more concerned about doing what is *right*, than doing what is *safe*.

Esther placed everything on the line by faith in God to protect her. She made her request to the king, and all Israel was saved!

She *did* what was right because Mordecai encouraged her to trust God in faith—and God was faithful to deliver His people. Esther 7:10 *"They hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai."*

It is so important to always be an *Encourager for the Truth!*



www.fcgchurch.org

***Be on our free mailing list—contact:**

PO Box 24283

Philadelphia, PA 19120

info@fcgchurch.org

#3039 0205 23A