



Matthew 7:14

# Excellent Things

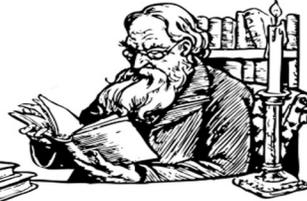
"Have not I written to thee excellent things..." Proverbs 22:20

A monthly teaching newsletter of *Narrow Way Ministries International* Issue 7 - Oct. 2018



"GO YE THEREFORE,  
AND TEACH ALL NATIONS"  
MATTHEW 28:19

## By Long Forbearing Is A Prince Persuaded



Dear Friends and Family,

Many times in my ministry, I have come under great attack from the enemy. When it has happened, God was watching my reaction and tested me further each time, as he does for all of us.

One passage that brings me great comfort during warfare like this is out of Psalms 31:13-14, "*For I have heard the slander of many: fear was on every side: while they took counsel together against me, they devised to take away my life. But I trusted in thee, O Lord...*" In many times in all our lives, the enemy will try to rise up to destroy us, but in this and in all situations, the Lord will be our defense, "*For we wrestle not against flesh and blood...*" (Ephesians 6:12).

But despite all of this, the Lord used this situation and spoke to me this morning a passage out of Proverbs 25 that I want us to look at today. My prayer is should you ever find yourself in a similar time of warfare, you will know how to properly respond. Moreover, I pray this Word will encourage and help you today as it has encouraged me.

Proverbs 25:15 says, "*By long forbearing is a prince persuaded, And a soft tongue breaketh the bone.*" The Hebrew word for *forbearing* means rapid breathing; something that is passionate inside of you that is rising up. The root word means to be displeased or enraged about something but not to do it or to yield to what is going on

inside of you. The Greek word for *forbearing*, that will be in some New Testament passages that I will get to, means to hold oneself up against; to put up with; to bear or endure; wanting to say or do something, but not doing it.

The Hebrew word for *persuaded* means to open or give room in a mental or moral sense. We all have been part of situations either with our family, friends, co-workers, people we don't know, etc. who are hard to deal with. They are either very stubborn, controlling, manipulative, or hard almost like a bone-like structure. It is difficult to penetrate and get through to them. It is amazing what we find as impenetrable. Can you imagine what others thought of the Apostle Paul before he got saved when he was vehemently persecuting Christians? But yet, when the glory fell, Paul's heart was pierced. In the glory, things can happen that otherwise would remain hard and stubborn.

Ecclesiastes 10:4 says, "*If the spirit of the ruler rise up against thee, leave not thy place; for yielding pacifieth great offences.*" The Hebrew word for *yielding* is the word *marpe* which comes from the root word *raphe* which is the Hebrew word that means a curative, healing, a medicine. In other words, when we properly yield, we are allowing the Spirit of God to move and bring healing to a situation. In addition to yielding, this passage tells us to not leave our place. So yielding does not mean to give up and let oth-

ers dominate or control. It simply means to forbear from reacting while not leaving your place and in doing so, you can pacify great offenses.

Proverbs 26:4-5 says, "*Answer not a fool according to his folly, Lest thou also be like unto him. Answer a fool according to his folly, Lest he be wise in his own conceit.*" These two Scriptures may seem to contradict, but the revelation is there are times to answer a fool, but most of the time we are to not answer a fool or we will become one ourselves. But in the case of Ecclesiastes 10:4, if we want a cure to come into a situation, we simply yield as Proverbs 15:1 says, "*A soft answer turneth away wrath: But grievous words stir up anger.*" Even if you are panting and about to lose your mind, forbearance literally means to not yield to that desire in you to respond. It means to not give into your baser inclinations or respond by how you are feeling at the moment for, "*by long forbearing is a prince persuaded...*"

A prince here could be a ruler or somebody in our lives that is controlling or very stubborn. I have ministered to so many wives over the years whose husbands refused to bow. The answer is not divorce. The answer is to allow the cure to be put into the situation. By yielding and a soft answer, grace can come to turn situations around.

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**JESUS IS PRECIOUS!**

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Here are some other translations of Proverbs 25:15:

*"By long forbearance and calmness of spirit a judge or ruler is persuaded, and soft speech breaks down the most bone-like resistance."*

*"By long suffering is a ruler persuaded..."*  
*"Through patience, a ruler can be persuaded, and a gentle tongue can break a bone."*

*"A judge is moved by one who for a long time undergoes wrongs without protest..."*

*"by a soft tongue even bone is broken."*  
*"Patient persuasion can break down the strongest resistance and even convince rulers."*

*"Patient persistence pierces through indifference and gentle speech breaks down rigid defenses."*

Forbearance does not mean surrendering your rights as a human being or to not defend or protect yourself. But it is saying to respond like Jesus. Consider what He went through. He was spit on, mocked, falsely accused, and what was His response? He said nothing except to say, *"Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do"* (Luke 23:34). What we need to concentrate on is becoming more like Jesus and acting like Him in this life. We need to put these principles into practice in our own trying situations because every one of us has somebody who are like these stubborn princes who seem proud and unbreakable. Ephesians 4:32 says, *"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."* Someday we all must start living like this and forgiving one another and stop responding vehemently and with the same anger that was thrown at us. We can win if we put the cure into play. We need to truly learn how to forbear because in doing so, we give room for our accuser to perhaps grow, change, or at the very least be open or make room to hear

what you finally have to say, for *"the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace"* (James 3:18).

Here's one final translation of Proverbs 25:15, *"Even a judge can be moved by one who has a long time undergone wrong things without protest."* How many times have people done us wrong? Self-preservation is in every single one of us. How many times can somebody do something to you before it provokes a response out of you? Peter asked Jesus once how many times we should forgive our brethren. Peter asked, seven times? Peter must have thought this was a big number trying to impress Jesus. Jesus took it to another level and said, *"Until seventy times seven"* (Matthew 18:21-22). Seven in the Bible is the number for perfection. Jesus is not saying that 490 times a day is the limit we forgive our brethren, but it means we keep on forgiving our brethren until we are perfected. Jesus has no limit on how many times a day He has forgiven us. So we, especially with our brothers and sisters in the body of Christ, need to keep on forgiving one another, forbearing one another, in order to bring true healing and the cure to one another.

So when you are panting and breathing heavily because something has been done wrong to you or something was said about you or somebody lied about you and you want to retaliate. Don't! Because if you show them the love of God, it may be, when the Lord sees that you have undergone wrong and you didn't react, that good will come to you, as well as them.

Consider David being betrayed by Absalom, his own son. David was hiding in the wilderness from his son. We knew David's true heart because when justice was served and Absalom was killed, he wept and said, *"O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!"* (II Samuel

18:33). David loved the son who betrayed him. But it all began when Absalom had stood out in the outer courts of the throne room by the gate talking to the people that had come for judgment and counsel. Absalom stole the people's hearts by whispering in their ears what he would have done differently from David. This is the greatest form of betrayal. In Zechariah 13:6 it says, *"I was wounded in the house of my friends."* Also in Psalms 55:12-14 it says, *"For it was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it: Neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me; then I would have hid myself from him: But it was thou, a man mine equal, My guide, and mine acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together, And walked unto the house of God in company."*

Furthermore, Absalom tried to take over the kingdom, so much so that David had to flee Jerusalem into the wilderness. While David is hiding in the wilderness, along comes a man name Shimei (II Samuel 16:5-12). Shimei cursed David and called him a bloody man, accusingly condemning him for his current situation. David's mighty men were there as well and Abishai asked David if he wanted him to go and cut off Shimei's head in response. Trust me, David had passion. I'm sure that request was very tempting to David to allow. I'm sure David thought about cutting off his head as well because he was more than capable. Sometimes we are even justified in doing some things in response. Even if we are right or justified in responding, in the Lord's eyes, it is still wrong. There is a timing for everything in God. But David passed the test. He said to Abishai, *"let him alone, and let him curse; for the LORD hath bidden him."*<sup>12</sup> *It may be that the LORD will look on mine affliction, and that the LORD will requite me good for his cursing this day"* (II Samuel 16:11-12). Before the day was over, David was back in Jerusalem, reigning as

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## Excellent Things

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king. And I believe it all happened because of David's response. God was testing David and he tests every one of us with people or situations like this.

Another example I want to look at is found in I Samuel 25 with the interaction between Nabal and David. Nabal's name in Hebrew means a fool. Nabal was a prosperous man. David and his men had been protecting Nabal's property and sheep while they were in the wilderness and David wanted something in return from Nabal for his men's sake. Nabal basically cursed David and accused him like Shimei did in regards to Saul the king. David was enraged after he heard Nabal's response. But when Abigail, Nabal's wife, realized that David was offended and hurt because of Nabal's response, she goes out to meet David bringing provision and an offering to David and his men. When Abigail finally meets David, she basically tells him to not regard this fool Nabal and says to David, *"but the soul of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of life with the Lord thy God..."* (I Samuel 25:29). If we will act like Jesus and not retaliate in our own situations, we will remain bound in the bundle of life. We will be surrounded, protected, and kept when we act like Jesus. David, when he saw Abigail's humility, took her advice and was spared from doing something rash to Nabal.

In Proverbs 16:14 it says, *"The wrath of a king is as messengers of death: But a wise man will pacify it."* Wise men will pacify even messengers of death because when you yield and pacify something, you put into operation the cure. It really all comes down to what Jesus said in John 12:24, *"Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit."* We bring forth fruit when we yield, die to ourselves, and do the right thing in situations. Those things in us that want to rise up to justify ourselves, respond hastily, react negatively, etc. we must

die to. It is the only way. Paul even went on to say, *"I die daily"* (I Corinthians 15:31).

Jesus wants to help us in our situations. In Matthew 11:28-29 He says, *"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."* Zephaniah proclaims that in the last days the Lord will *"leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor [humble] people, and they shall trust in the name of the Lord. The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity..."* (Zephaniah 3:12-13). God's remnant in the last days will be a humble people who will act like Jesus in every situation. They will respond like Jesus. Are you willing to die? The Hebrew word of *pacify* in Proverbs 25:15 means to cover, to placate. Love covers a multitude of sin, the Bible says (I Peter 4:8). In describing love (charity) in I Corinthians 13 Paul says love *"beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth"* (I Corinthians 13:7-8).

We need to give soft answers when people try to argue with us. We need to forbear. Romans 2:4 says, *"Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?"* We need to forbear and see the goodness in other people's lives and perhaps by doing so, they will respond and get saved. We are to be Jesus' living examples in this world. Paul also writes:

*"I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, <sup>2</sup>With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; <sup>3</sup>Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."* (Ephesians 4:1-3)

By forbearing, we keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Paul

writes also in Colossians:

*"<sup>12</sup>Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; <sup>13</sup>Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. <sup>14</sup>And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of God rule in your hearts..."* (Colossians 3:12-15)

Jesus did it. Paul did it. The Lord then expects us to do it. We are without excuse really, if we don't begin to put this principle into action in our lives. Proverbs 25:15 again says, *"By long forbearing is a prince persuaded, And a soft tongue breaketh the bone."* By patiently forbearing, we give time for people to be open to turning their hearts. It is akin to Isaac digging the wells of his father in Genesis 26. For each well that he dug, he was met with contention and strife. Instead of reacting to the strife and contention, he simply moved on and dug again another well. The last well he dug he named Rehoboth which literally means God has made room for me. Even though others may be in strife and in contention, we need to make a place where they eventually will be open to receive.

Never forget, even the hardest of hearts can be pierced by the love and forgiveness of God. From this day forward, let us all choose to forgive one another, forbearing one another, and yielding in order to make room for God's cure in every situation in which we find ourselves. That is my prayer for my life and for yours! May God's grace, his divine enablement, come upon us to act like Jesus upon the earth from this day forward! Amen!

All my love,

*Jesus Is Precious!  
Brother Sam*

**JESUS IS PRECIOUS!**

## Excellent Things

### New Destiny Fellowship

Wilmington, DE

This past month, Brother Sam and I travelled to Bishop Thomas Week's church, New Destiny Fellowship in Wilmington, DE. Brother Sam was invited to teach in their leadership class on Saturday morning, in their Sunday morning Bible class, and in their Sunday morning service.

First and foremost, we had such a glorious time there. We were received warmly and openly. They are truly family to us and Jesus really knits our hearts to those precious



people every time we go. I can't say enough about the love and kindness that emanated from every single person we met and it all flows down from their precious pastor, Bishop Thomas Weeks.

One of the highlights of the weekend that I want to share was during their Sunday morning service. Spontaneously during the meeting, Bishop Weeks stepped in and in the presence of God, anointed Brother Sam and publicly confirmed his apostleship over his life and over the work for Narrow Way Ministries. It was such a special moment, not only for Brother Sam but for Narrow Way Ministries as we move forward with the vision God has given us. I wanted to share this because I am so proud of my papa and all that he has had to overcome and face head on especially over the past few weeks. The Bible says, "Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth..." (Proverbs 27:2). I was able to video this moment during the meeting and have transcribed it below. These are the words of Bishop Weeks praying for our Papa Sam:

*"Brother Sam is one of the great teachers, prolific writers, and men of God of our time. He is also a great missionary, pastor, leader, and psalmist all wrapped up into one package standing before us today. Brother Sam, I want to lay my hands on you today and confirm your apostleship. I am not doing something today that you have not already earned or walked in. The greatness of this Brother Sam is you did this without a title and without pushing yourself forward. You did it because God has spoken. And this morning, in the body and company of the leadership here, the congregation at New Destiny Fellowship, and in the presence of God, I now lay my hands upon you, anoint you with oil, and confirm you. By the power and authority*



*that God has given me, I confirm your apostleship over Narrow Way Ministries. Where ever you go, men and women find a way and will come running to you because of the anointing God has set upon your life. Shine forth now. That anointing will speak for itself, that signs, wonders, and miracles shall follow you. You shall be able to lay hands on men and women, pastors in cities, be able to speak a word. When things happen - speak a word. And you will be able to loose joy. All this I speak in the name of Jesus, in the name of Jesus. Amen!"* - Bishop Thomas Weeks

Jesus is Precious, Brother Andrew

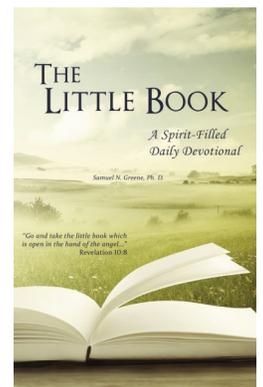


## We Appreciate You!

Brother Sam and Sister Katie send their love and deepest of gratitude for your faithfulness. Enough cannot be said how it ministers to them week in and week out. God is breaking through in so many ways and you have such a big part in that. May the blessing of the Lord be rich upon your life! Let us know if we can pray for you about anything!

Also, on our new website, [NWWorship.com](http://NWWorship.com), you will find Sam's devotional, The Little Book, now available in digital format. You can now go online and have it on your phone and take it with you wherever you go! For your convenience, here again is our contact information and the 3 different ways to give. Please stay in touch and let us know if there is anything we can do for you. If you ever desire for Brother Sam to come and visit your area, let us know as well. Receive all our love from Asheville, NC:

- 1) Call me, Andrew Jensen, at 904-514-0409 to give using your debit or credit card
- 2) Mail a check payable to "Narrow Way Ministries International" and mail it to:  
Narrow Way Ministries International, 825 C Merrimon Ave, PMB #300, Asheville, NC 28804
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