

We Are Not Alone

Will it help you to make it through the day knowing that you are not alone? Our universe is enormously vast with billions of solar systems, stars, and galaxies. Yet, we are not alone, God is with us.

When bad times come, God is still with us and is giving us what is best for us. Read the following to gain comfort from this fact: Job 9:8-9; 22:12-14; 26:7, 13; 37:3; 38:1ff, 33; and 42:2.

Our universe is vast, but God knows who we are, each and every one of us. He knows who we are, where we are, and he cares for us. Read the following to gain comfort from this fact: Psalm 8:3-5; 139:1ff; 147:3-6; Isaiah 40:12-31; 44:9ff.

God is with us in Jesus Christ. Jesus was called "Immanuel" meaning "God with us" (Matthew 1:23). Jesus came from God to save mankind (John 3:13; 6:38).

God knows what we need, even before we ask in prayer (Matthew 6:8,32; 10:29-31). God upholds us each day. In him we "live and move and have our very being" (Acts 17:25-28). So, stop living in fear and anxiety. God will not forsake us (Hebrews 13:5) and he will not forget the good we do (Hebrews 6:10).

Without God our universe would not exist, we would not exist, and there would be no reason to exist. We are not alone, God is with us! - *Chris Reeves*

Sentence Sermons

- A lack of courage will cause one to allow sin and error to go unchallenged.
- If you cannot be a faithful Christian in what you are doing, then stop doing it!
- If you are too busy to obey God, you are simply too busy!
- It is better to be criticized for doing right, than be to praised for doing wrong.
- Life's gold mine is a pure heart and a clear conscience.

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Assembly Times
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm
Wednesday: 7 pm

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

Whatever He Says To You, Do It

We live in a world where many people want to exert their “individual rights”. They want to “do their own thing”. They do not want to be told what to do by the boss (during the week), the preacher (on the weekend), the parent or spouse (at home), the teacher (at school), the policeman (in town), the neighbor (next door), etc.

This approach to life leads to an attitude of liberty without any restraints. People with this attitude get used to doing what they think or feel. Like the false teachers of Peter’s day, many today want to “promise liberty” so they can live as they want (2 Peter 2:19). However, we need to get back to the right approach to life which is found in the words of Mary, Jesus’ mother: “Whatever he says to you, do it.”

The setting of Mary’s words is found in the occasion in which Jesus was invited to attend a wedding feast in Cana of Galilee (John 2:1-11). When the wine that was being served at the feast ran out, Mary said to the servants who were present, “Whatever he says to you, do it.” Mary told the servants that they needed to listen to Jesus.

Jesus’ glorious power and authority was displayed on this occasion in what he did and in what he said. He told the

servants to fill the pots with water and he turned the water into wine! So, Mary’s words are important: “Whatever he says to you, do it.” Let’s look at these words closer. What right did Mary have to make this claim about her son?

WHATEVER HE SAYS...

First, note the emphasis on the word “he”. Mary knew that Jesus was the divine Son of God. She knew that the baby in her was from God (Luke 1:31ff). Jesus was not just a man. He was God in the flesh (John 1:1, 14; Mt. 16:13-17) and he demonstrated his deity through his miracles. For example, the resurrection declared him to be the Son of God (Romans 1:4). Jesus must be heard because he is the divine Son of God (Matthew 7:21ff; 17:5; Acts 9:5) and it is through Jesus that God speaks to us today (Hebrews 1:1-3).

Today, many have forgotten, or have never learned, the need for divine authority in religion. We must all have authority from Jesus in religion before we can act in the name of religion. We must obey the words of Jesus (Luke 6:46; John 3:36; 13:14; 15:14; Colossians 3:17; Hebrew 5:9). We must have authority in a matter first, before we act (1 Chronicles 15:13).

WHATEVER HE SAYS...

Second, note the emphasis on the word “says”. Mary wanted the servants to do what Jesus said. Jesus expresses his authority in what he says, not in his silence. Many today want to go by what the Bible does not say, rather than by what it does say. Remember, that which God does not speak about is not authorized (Leviticus 10:1-2; Jeremiah 7:31; 19:5; 32:35).

WHATEVER HE SAYS...

Third, note the emphasis on the word “whatever”. Mary wanted the servants to do whatever Jesus said. We must observe all that Jesus commands (Matthew 28:20). We must do whatever Jesus says whether we understand it or not and we must do whatever Jesus says whether we like it or not.

WHATEVER HE SAYS, DO IT

Finally, note the emphasis on the words “do it”. Mary wanted the servants to actually do what Jesus said. We can either submit to what Jesus says and do it (like Samuel, 1 Samuel 3:10; or, Mary, Luke 1:38), or we can be stubborn and refuse (like Saul, 1 Samuel 15:22-23). The choice is ours: submission or stubbornness (John 12:48). Let’s all live by Mary’s words: “Whatever he says to you, do it.” - Chris Reeves