Hidden Lost Treasure can be

Discovered in Reading God’s Word

When we read the Bible does it result in “just” learning …

* facts, solving mysteries
* find a reference,
* learn history, stories,
* events,
* list of right and wrongs,

When we read are we looking for “mere entertainment reasons or merit”, etc.?

 Looking for “me, me” value to fill our present desires or perceived need.

When we read it, Is it possible,

to realize, see, experience:

* a revival of “our first love?” Rev. 2:4
* to have an overwhelming transformation and corrections needed from our heart and to make right things that have gone wrong?
* To realize and discover how glorious and patient God has been and continues to be?
* to fill us with hope and
* help us to grow in His service?
* to connect our heart closer with God?
* See His hand helping us each and every day from what we see?
* See His longsuffering and endurance with “me?”
* the power and strength to not to give up on me because of my weaknesses?

So how can the reading of the ordinary word of God become this life changing?

Look for the P.A.T.H. when you read and

you can see these things are possible and much more.

P – **Praise, patience, providence,** **perseverance** – look why we should give PRAISE to God.

When we look as see events that, would **move us give praise to God** for His interactions with His people.

When we see His **patience providence perseverance** and **longsuffering** as recorded throughout the Bible, it should motivate our heart to rejoice.

As you read, make note of each way that God has shown attributes of **His wonderful character**.

When we make note it will register more in our hearts to create **a greater appreciation for His love** and care for us. 1Peter 5:7

Ps 62:1 Truly my soul silently waits for God; From Him comes my salvation.

 2 He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be greatly moved.

 3 How long will you attack a man? You shall be slain, all of you, Like a leaning wall and a tottering fence.

 4 They only consult to cast him down from his high position; They delight in lies; They bless with their mouth, But they curse inwardly. Selah

 5 My soul, wait silently for God alone, For my expectation is from Him.

 6 He only is my rock and my salvation; He is my defense; I shall not be moved.

 7 In God is my salvation and my glory; The rock of my strength, And my refuge, is in God.

 8 Trust in Him at all times, you people; Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. Selah

 9 Surely men of low degree are a vapor,

Men of high degree are a lie; If they are weighed on the scales,

They are altogether lighter than vapor. (NKJV)

**So when we read this do we relate to it? … do I say these things?**

A – **Admonishments** to people in order to “bring about a transformation,”

* How do I need to change?
* What must I do to allow my Creator designed me to become what I was designed for?
* How we will function best to His glory?
1. To realize the character of God is motivated by love as He treats his people with love and with **consistent consequences** to their rebellions.
2. His goal is to bring us to return to His loving heart again.

He does not treat anyone with prejudice but with loving hope that all would be saved.

Ac 10:34 Then Peter opened his mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. 35 "But **in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness** is accepted by Him. Joh 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that

**whoever** believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (NKJV)

So as we read God’s word we should search for the treasure of why to:

T –**TRUST** what was read to move us to **TRUST** God more?

* 1. **God has made many Promises and fulfillments**
		1. Some spanning 100’s of years, some immediate.
		2. God fulfills all and at the proper time!

Ga 4:4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,

Eph 1:10 that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth--in Him.

MANY promises were made by God. He chose the perfect time for fulfillment.

* + 1. Time, nor detours, nor the best efforts of evil, did not keep God from fulfilling every promise.

QUESTION? Do we know the promises relevant to us today?

* James 5, Elijah prayed for fulfillment of a promise of God, God chose the timing needed to accomplish it.

**Do we have the TRUST to ask God to fulfill the promises He has given to us?**

* 1. **Ways in which God selflessly provided for His faithful**
		1. How much pain on His part did it take to keep His word?
			1. Jer. 4:19;
			2. Ezek. 16:6-22
	2. **Ways He also blest the unjust people**
		1. Matt 5:45 Rain to just and unjust
	3. **GOD IS FAITHFUL, TRUTHFUL, and ALWAYS WORTHY OF OUR TRUST!**

H – **HELP, HOPE** – Watch for: “How did God convey help and hope to His people.”

* To inspire those who needed assurance to keep the faith and continue to act even in the midst of disaster and persecution.
* To **never let them down** and ALWAYS fulfill every promise
* How did God express to His people to be of good courage and not be afraid?

[It is a shame more young people are influenced by a cartoon song “You can count on me” than the many times God told His people…

* “Be strong
* courageous and
* do not be afraid”

As we read in His word…

* What assurances did He give to them to inspire that kind of confident hope?

Heb 10:23 **Let us hold fast** **the confession of our hope without wavering**, for He who promised is faithful. (NKJV)

1Pe 1:13 Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and **rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ**;

1Pe 5:10 But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, **after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.** (NKJV)

Eph 1:18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; **that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints**,

Jer 29:11 **For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope**. (NKJV)

Isa 40:31 But **those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.**  (NKJV)

Let’s take a moment and glance through God eyes…

**God sees us as His beautiful bride, to be adorned and elevated to glory…**

Eze 16:6 "And when I passed by you and saw you struggling in your own blood,

I said to you in your blood, 'Live!' Yes, I said to you in your blood, 'Live!'

 7 "I made you thrive like a plant in the field; and you grew, matured, and became very beautiful. Your breasts were formed, your hair grew, but you were naked and bare.

 8 "When I passed by you again and looked upon you, indeed your time was the time of love; so I spread My wing over you and covered your nakedness.

Yes, I swore an oath to you and entered into a covenant with you, and you became Mine," says the Lord GOD.

 9 "Then I washed you in water; yes, I thoroughly washed off your blood, and I anointed you with oil.

 10 "I clothed you in embroidered cloth and gave you sandals of badger skin; I clothed you with fine linen and covered you with silk.

 11 "I adorned you with ornaments, put bracelets on your wrists, and a chain on your neck.

 12 "And I put a jewel in your nose, earrings in your ears, and a beautiful crown on your head.

 13 "Thus you were adorned with gold and silver, and your clothing was of fine linen, silk, and embroidered cloth.

You ate pastry of fine flour, honey, and oil.

You were exceedingly beautiful, and succeeded to royalty.

 14 "Your fame went out among the nations because of your beauty,

for it was perfect through My splendor which I had bestowed on you," says the Lord GOD.

 15 "**But you trusted in your own beauty**,

played the harlot because of your fame, and

poured out your harlotry on everyone passing by who would have it.

 16 "You took some of your garments and adorned multicolored high places for yourself, and played the harlot on them. **Such things should not happen, nor be**.

 17 "You have also taken your beautiful jewelry from My gold and My silver, which I had given you, and made for yourself male images and played the harlot with them.

 18 "You took your embroidered garments and covered them, and you set My oil and My incense before them.

 19 "Also My food which I gave you-the pastry of fine flour, oil, and honey which I fed you-you set it before them as sweet incense; and so it was," says the Lord GOD.

 20 "Moreover you took your sons and your daughters, whom you bore to Me, and

these you sacrificed to them to be devoured. Were your acts of harlotry a small matter,

 21 "that you have slain My children and offered them up to them by causing them to pass through the fire?

 22 "And in all your abominations and acts of harlotry

you did not remember the days of your youth, when you were naked and bare, struggling in your blood. (NKJV)

Application

* As God made us and we entered into a marriage with Him,
* He cleaned us up and adorned us with more than we deserved as His special people
* Made us part of His royal priesthood and lavished blessings on us above imagination.
* Fed us with feast fit for a king
* Clothed us with lavish garments of fine linen and silks
* Enabled a lifestyle of splendor envied by most nations of the world.

Examination: ???

* Have we wasted these blessings in self-centered interest?
* Have we found ourselves wanting more, with discontentment growing?
* Do we have a never-ending hunger for more, better and the latest and greatest?
* Are we “playing the harlot” like the world in a hungering quest for more of this world?
* Have we become blind to what God has done for us?
* **Have we forgotten the cost** involved with His courtship with us to win our hearts?

One more glance through His eyes…

God says through Jeremiah…

Jer. 4:19 O my soul, my soul!

I am pained in my very heart!

My heart makes a noise in me;

I cannot hold my peace, Because you have heard,

…

O my soul, The sound of the trumpet, The alarm of war. (NKJV)

**Judgement is coming, the alarm is sounding!**