

# The Abiding Word

Back To The Bible & Let The Bible Speak

March 4, 2020

Reflections No. 16

God has a  
lot to say.  
If you haven't  
heard anything,  
open up  
your Bible.



## PROVERB FOR THE DAY

One of the key methods I have learned over the years for dealing with the everyday challenges that living throws my way is to meditate on the Word of God each day as I walk with God.

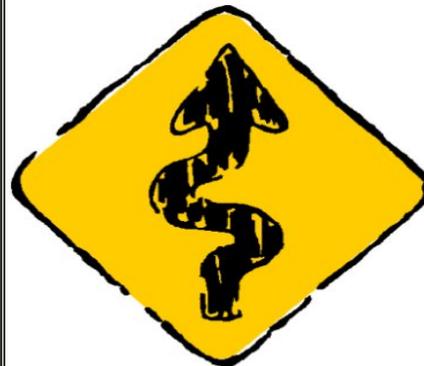
I have found that reading the Proverb for the day in the morning and reflecting on that Proverb and seeing how I can put it to action in my life as I go through the day has become a great faith builder and strength when trials and conflicts come my way.

Each day has its own Proverb and in one month I have applied all 31 Proverbs ready to do it again the next month. It really works, try it.

In the name of  
**JESUS**

Salvation is found in no one else,  
for there is no other name  
under heaven given to mankind  
by which we must be saved.

Acts 4:12



Do not swerve to the right or the left;  
keep your foot from evil.  
Proverbs 4:27

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## ABOUT REFLECTIONS

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J.C. Ryle

**"You will spend eternity in the condition in which you die. If you die in Christ, you'll spend eternity in Him. If you die outside of Christ, then you'll spend eternity outside of Him. There will be no second chance, or rehabilitation, or escape route from hell" (Luke 16:19-31)**

# The Lord's Vineyard!

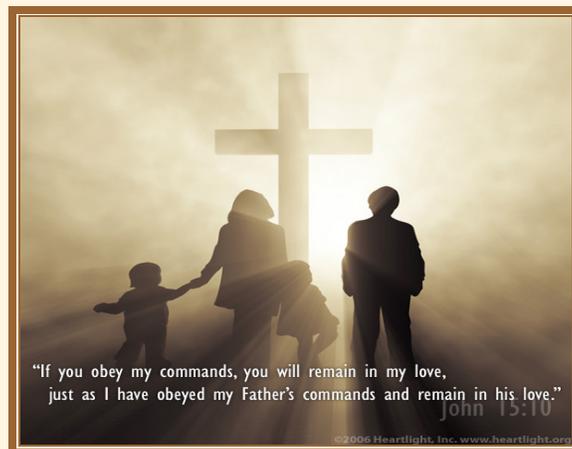
In John 15:1-10, Jesus teaches his apostles about the importance of being a part of the true vine, bearing fruit from it. As we read this passage and reflect upon it, there are three things to keep in mind: Who is the vine? Who is the vine-dresser? Who are the branches?

Jesus says that He is the Vine. That means He is the source and supplier of life, for apart from Christ there is no life at all. Christians need to realize that if we are to have true life, we must totally rely upon our source, Jesus Christ. We cannot have or sustain life in and of ourselves. This means I cannot live segregated from Christ's Body, for I must be supplied daily spiritual food only from Jesus Christ.

God is the vine dresser. This means that God, in Christ, has provided a means to true life. But this life requires a commitment to the purpose of God. As a vine branch receives its nourishment from the vine and thus produces fruit, so also the Christian must give what he has received. This is why Paul in 2 Corinthians 5:20-21 states: "We are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were entreating through us, we beg you on behalf of Christ be reconciled to God."

YOU are the branches. This means that the vine is glorified through the branches. The branch produces fruit which brings glory to the vine. As Christian branches, we must produce fruit. We must take advantage of every opportunity to bear fruit that will glorify our Lord. There are many ways to bear fruit and many Christians have a part in the Gospel message being proclaimed.

The question comes to you and me today, "Are we taking advantage of our individual opportunities to bear fruit?" Each one of us has different opportunities just as each branch of the vine is different. But as long as we each do our part to bear and bring glory to the vine, the vine dresser will not cut us off. You see, only dead wood is cut off. Are YOU alive and bearing for your Lord?



## An Invitation!

Each Wednesday evening at 6:30 PM  
we host a Bible Study in our home.

If you are near and able,  
Joy and I invite you to join our study group.

