The Biblical Response to Our Father's Plan: Pleasing God!

A full surrender of our life Rom 12:1-2 A daily prayer of pleasing Him Col 1:9-10

The rational for this response:

- 1. It was Paul's goal 2 Cor 5:9
- 2. It will protect us from the evil one Eph 5:10
- 3. It was Paul's teaching I Thess 4:1
- 4. It was Paul's testimony I Thess 2:4
- 5. It is working with God Heb 13:20,21
- 6. It is the basis of prayer 1 John 3:22

You are Complete in Christ Col 2:9-15

You are "in Him"

He was/is your representative
You are spiritually clean
You have the gift of eternal life
You are completely forgiven
You are completely righteous
You share the Savior's victory
over Satan—He cannot own you

The Lord Jesus is Our Deliverer

Our deliverer from the demands
of the law Rom 8:3,4
Our deliverer from guilt,
condemnation and death Rom 8:1
Our deliverer from hell Rom 5:8,9
Our deliverer from depravity Rom 6:4-6
Our deliverer from Satan Col 1:13; 2:15
Our deliverer from the world Gal 1:4

Introduction

- A. Our Heavenly Father has not only revealed His plan to us, in the Scripture, He has also made an abundance provision of grace, in the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus, so we can be participants in that plan to exalt the Lord Jesus (Lesson # 4).
- B. In the light of the them of this lesson, it is instructive to realize that one of the names of the Lord Jesus is that of Deliverer.

And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob. And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins." Rom 11:26,27

- C. As we study the Provision of Our Father, it will help us to keep three Biblical principles in mind.
 - 1. All the facets of our deliverance are inseparably related to the Lord Jesus Christ, Who is our Deliverer. He has not only made a provision for our freedom from sin and all its effects, we receive that provision when we receive <u>Him</u> into our life. And, we increasingly experience deliverance in the practical areas of life as we grow in a life of fellowship <u>with</u> Him.
 - 2. When we received the Lord Jesus into our life, by His grace, we were given all the legal rights to complete deliverance from sin and all its effects. All of this provision came with the Savior. The Christian is a delivered person.
 - 3. In order for the freedom, joy, power, and fruitfulness of our deliverance to be manifested in our daily life we must learn of God's provision and how to cooperate with Him in the day-by-day application of His grace. Honest and full surrender, worship, growth in Bible knowledge and prayer, and commitment to and with others in fulfilling the Great Commission are high on the list of such cooperation.
- I. Our Father's Provision in His Redemptive Work in Jesus

The Provision of Our Father

A loving provision
Rom 5:8,9
A gracious provision
2 Cor 8:9; 9:8
A vicarious provision
Rom 8:32
A complete provision
Heb 7:27
A potential provision
Phil 2:12,13; Heb 3:1
A personal provision
1 Cor 1:24; Eph 1:3

Our Father's Provision in Grace (Radical & Transforming)

The Provision of His Presence Heb 13:5,6

The Provision of His Person Heb 13:6

The barriers to His provision (The practice of error/sin)

The gaining of His provision (The heart obedience of love)

Jesus Christ has Given Us

-Himself-

but to those whom God has called, ... Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

1 Cor 1:24

It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.

1 Cor 1:30

Christ. (Brief sample only)

- A. We need deliverance from the righteous demands of the Law of God.
 - 1. The explanation

In the Garden of Eden we were created by God into a relationship of fellowship. We were by our nature and desire fully obedient to God. In that time of creation God instructed Adam and Eve to obey Him and explained to them that disobedience would break their fellowship with Him and the result would be spiritual and physical death,

(Gen 2).

- 1 Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.
- 2 By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. 3 And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.
- 4 This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

 When the LORD God made the earth and the heavens— 5 and no shrub of the field had yet appeared on the earth and no plant of the field had yet sprung up, for the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth and there was no man to work the ground, 6 but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground—7 the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.
- 8 Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. 9 And the LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
- 10 A river watering the garden flowed from Eden; from there it was separated into four headwaters. 11 The name of the first is the Pishon; it winds through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. 12 (The gold of that land is good; aromatic resin and onyx are also there.) 13 The name of the second river is the Gihon; it winds through the entire land of Cush. 14 The name of the third river is the Tigris; it runs along the east side of Asshur. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

Conditions to Receive

Honesty
Thirst for God
Unconditional Surrender
Sincerity
Commitment to God
Decisions to Persevere

Biblical Warnings Regarding Our Response to God

Pride – Leads to failure to respond
Fear – Leads to failure to act
Laziness – Leads to failure to search
Wrong values – Leads to failure to obey
Unconfessed sin – Leads to failure to grow

The Believer's most Serious Sin

Failure to respond to God in faith, love and hope

God says: "Come unto Me."

We say: "I don't need to and I don't want to."

God says: "Trust Me...I promise you."

We say: "I'm not sure that's a wise thing to do. I'm not sure you are wise enough, loving enough, faithful enough, powerful enough to do what You have promised."

- 15 The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. 16 And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; 17 but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."
- 18 The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."
- 19 Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them: and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name, 20 So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field. But for Adam no suitable helper was found. 21 So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. 22 Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.
- 23 The man said,
 "This is now bone of my bones
 and flesh of my flesh;
 she shall be called 'woman,'
 for she was taken out of man."
- 24 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.
- 25 The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.
 NIV

As a result of their sin, every person is born into the world unrighteous

(Rom 3:10)

10 As it is written:
"There is no one righteous, not even one;
NIV

and in need of forgiveness

(Rom 3:23).

23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
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2. The provision

The Lord Jesus came into the world as our Representative to obey God's law for us (that we could not obey), and to die under the condemnation of the law (a penalty we could not pay). When the benefits of His work are transferred to the believer in the new birth, the result is called "justification." This term may be defined as "the imputation of Christ's righteousness to the believer whereby he or she is looked upon by God as completely righteous and completely forgiven."

For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending <u>his own Son</u> in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the <u>righteous requirements of the law might be</u> fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit. Rom 8:3,4

(See Rom 5:1,19; 10:3,4;

- 1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 19 For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.
- 3 Since they did not know the righteousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. 4 Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

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Eph 1:3)

- 3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

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- B. We need deliverance from the guilt of sin, its condemnation and death.

1. The explanation

In failing to obey God we transgressed the Law of God and thereby the very nature of God Himself. This brought upon every member of the race the sentence of condemnation with its guilt and death. The human race stand before God under a condemnation for which we cannot atone. We are guilty and the condemnation of death, both spiritual and physical, rests upon us. The Lord Jesus came to reverse our condition.

2. The provision

In His death upon the cross, the Lord Jesus dealt with our condemnation and all of its effects.

Again, the gift of God is not like the result of the one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Rom 5:16; 8:1

C. We need deliverance from Hell.

1. The explanation

The eternal state of all unbelieving sinners is that of Hell. Hell is an everlasting existence under the judgment of God. Included in this judgment is separation from all love, mercy and goodness. Perhaps the most serious characteristic of Hell is that repentance and faith are an impossibility there.

2. The provision

The Lord Jesus suffered our Hell on the cross. All that we deserve by way of divine judgment fell upon Him. By His sacrifice, the believing sinner, is released from what would send him or her to an eternal Hell.

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more <u>shall we be saved</u> from God's wrath through him. Rom 5:8,9

D. We need deliverance from indwelling sin—our depravity.

1. The explanation

One effect of the Fall is often described as "total depravity." This term means that all the areas of our person and life have been nearly destroyed by sin. Instead of being people of faith, love, obedience and life—we are creatures of unbelief, selfishness, disobedience and death. All of us have, what is popularly called "an old nature." This presence of sin within us causes us to resist the will of God, to be critical, self-centered, vulnerable to temptation, deception, Satan, the world, and every evil thing. Even though a person may be born again—the old nature (often called "flesh" in the Bible) is present with us.

2. The provision

The Lord Jesus came as our Representative to set us free from indwelling sin. When He died on the Cross our fleshly nature was judged in Him. And in His Resurrection He made provision for the power of that victory to be released within us. As we honestly before Him, surrender ourselves to Him and His Crucifixion— the power of His cross will paralyze the activity of our fleshly nature. And as we choose to live in His will we receive the power of His Resurrection so we may live in "newness of life."

We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. Rom 6:4 (See Vs 1-14)

E. We need deliverance from Satan

1. The explanation

In the Fall Adam and Eve obeyed Satan instead of God. Their acceptance of error and subsequent practice of that error in disobeying God—opened the door to some demonic control in their life. Now Satan can exert some control through error and sin in the life of every member of the race. Even as believers we are vulnerable to his attacks. Satan exerts an insidious, hidden, deceptive, tempting, powerful influence upon all of us.

2. The provision

The Scripture clearly states that the Lord Jesus came into the world to "destroy the devil's work (1 John 3:8) and to "proclaim freedom for the prisoners" (Luke 4:18). Our Savior did this by defeating Satan on the cross and by dealing with what opens the door to Him in our personal life. Although the enemy can still exert a great deal of control in the believer's life through our accepting of error and the practice of that error in sin—nevertheless, our enemy has been defeated. And, although we were once in the Kingdom of Darkness and owned by Satan

(Col 1:13;

13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,
NIV

John 8:44),

44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

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we are now, through the new birth, in the Kingdom of the Lord Jesus

(Col 1:13).

13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,
NIV

And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. Col 2:15

F. We need deliverance from the sinful world system

1. The explanation

By the term "world" the Bible refers to the sinful culture about us, which is largely under the control of Satan acting through sinful people (Eph 2:2,3).

in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.

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It is a way of thinking, choosing, and living that is self-centered. This sinful culture exerts a tremendous influence upon us as believers. We are all highly pressured by the priorities, pleasures, and power of the world

(James 4:1-10;

- 1 What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? 2 You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. 3 When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.
- 4 You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. 5 Or do you think Scripture says without reason that the spirit he caused to live in us envies intensely? 6 But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says:

"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. 10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up. NIV

1 John 2:15-17).

15 Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world. 17 The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.

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Every believer is much more "worldly" that we are willing to admit. We only need to ask as to the influence of money, control, and power in our daily life.

2. The provision

In His death on the cross the Lord Jesus provided a deliverance from the world system—for those who believe on Him. And, in the new birth we were taken "out of the world" and separated from it. Because of His work for us we now have a great deal of ability to resist the world and live in freedom from it. We are commanded not to allow ourselves to "conform" to the world.

(Rom 12:1,2).

1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. 2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

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Who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father... If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. Gal 1:4; John 15:19

- II. Our Father's Provision in His Presence. (Brief sample only)
 - A. The promise of His presence.
 - 1. God has promised to be presence with all believers in ways that go far beyond what is meant by His omnipresence. While we must be cautious of the words we use to describe our relationship to His presence—it appears to be correct to say—that He wants us to know that He is "available" to us, with His mercy, grace, power, wisdom, guidance and His angels for whatever we need so we may live for Him and do His will.
 - 2. Scripture

Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. Psalm 139:7,8

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you: never will I forsake you." So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" Heb 13:5,6

- B. Encouraging examples of God's provision through His presence.
 - 1. God promised to be with Moses.

But Moses said to God, "Who am 1, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain." Ex 3:12

Comment: Moses knew that the task of leading the Jews out of Egypt was humanly impossible. He had been raised in Egypt and knew that the culture and economy was based on slave labor—with the Jews the slaves. No one, particularly the Pharoah, was going to let their slaves go. The solution was simple to God. He said, "I will be with you." His word meant that if Moses would go to Egypt, say the words God wanted him to say, then He would back him up with great power. And that is what happened. God's provision for Moses was simply God Himself. Our Father caused this illustration to be written into the

Bible so that every believer would know he or she had the same provision. We must believe God as Moses did and obey Him—in trust and dependence.

2. God promised to be with Joshua.

No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you...And the LORD said to Joshua, "Today I will begin to exalt you in the eyes of all Israel, so they may know that I am with you as I was with Moses. Joshua 1:5; 3:7

Comment: Joshua was also faced with an impossible task—leading the children of Israel into a land already inhabited by war-like tribes. Some forty years before, Joshua had witnessed how the Israelites had refused to believe God and enter the land (Numbers 13,14). He must have felt very alone—because of the death of Moses that he had served so many years. God's promise to him was simply the same promise He had made to Moses. Joshua took God at His Word—trusted Him—and led the Israelites into the land of Canaan. God's provision for Joshua was simply God Himself. Our Father had this illustration written into the Bible so that every believer would know he or she had the same provision as Joshua. We must believe God as Joshua did and obey Him—in trust and dependence.

3. God promises to be with Paul.

One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: "Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent. For <u>I am with you</u>, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city." Acts 18:9,10

Comment: The promise of His presence, that our Father has given to all believers, was emphasized in this encouraging word to Paul. He was in Corinth, a very large and wicked city. Paul knew that the religious and perhaps civil rulers were probably going to turn against him. The Lord reminded him that he had nothing to be afraid of because He was there with His servant and was going to take care of him. Our Father had this illustration written into the Bible so that every believer would know he or she had the same provision as the Apostle Paul. We must believe God as Paul did and obey Him—in trust and dependence.

C. Encouraging examples of some who <u>practiced</u> the truth of God's presence.

1. The illustration of Joshua.

This is how you will know that the living God is among you and that he will certainly drive out before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites and Jebusites... And as soon as the priests who carry the ark of the LORD— the Lord of all the earth—set foot in the Jordan, its waters flowing downstream will be cut off and stand up in a heap." Joshua 3:10,13

Comment: We can only imagine what Joshua could have been thinking at this stage in his

life. His leader Moses was dead. He had been appointed to care for the many thousands of Israelites and been given the task of leading them into the land of Canaan and dispossessing the war-like tribes that lived there. Since God had promised to be with him

(Joshua 1:5;3:7)

- 5 No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.
- 7 And the LORD said to Joshua, "Today I will begin to exalt you in the eyes of all Israel, so they may know that I am with you as I was with Moses.

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—he boldly went forward, and even predicted what God would do before it was done. The term "living God" was used by many in the Bible to indicate their belief in what God had promised them (that He would be with them in very practical ways) and to assert their belief that God would become involved in their life and ministry in powerful ways—as they needed His help. We must learn to believe and obey God as Joshua did.

2. The illustration of David.

David asked the men standing near him, "What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?"... Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God... David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 1 Sam 17:26,36,45

Comment: The odds of David winning this battle, to the secular/natural eye, would be an impossibility. However, David knew the issue was not between him and the Philistine, but between the Philistine and God. And, because David knew God was with him, and was waiting for someone to trust Him, David made that choice (hence his use of the term "living God"). We must learn to believe and obey God as David did.

3. The illustration of King Hezekiah.

It may be that the LORD your God will hear all the words of the fi eld commander, whom his master, the king of Assyria, has sent to ridicule the living God, and that he will rebuke him for the words the LORD your God has heard. Therefore pray for the remnant that still survives. "... Give ear, O LORD, and hear; open your eyes, O LORD, and see; listen to the words Sennacherib has sent to insult the living God. 2 Kings 19:4,16

Comment: Consider the situation Hezekiah was in. The armies of Assyria were gathered around Jerusalem and was demanding his surrender. Hezekiah had little strength by way of defense. He, like David and Joshua before him, believed that God, Who had promised to be with him as his provision, would intervene. He affirmed that he believed in "the living God" Who was active in the life of His people and would respond to his prayer. We read of

the result in V 35—an angel of the Lord caused the death of 185 Assyrian soldiers. When the Assyrian leader Sennacherib saw what happened he simply withdrew his army. We must learn to believe God and obey Him as Hezekiah did.

III. Our Father's Provision is Simply that He give us Himself—in Jesus Christ.

A. The Biblical basis for this wonderful truth.

He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Rom 8:32

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with <u>every spiritual blessing in Christ</u>. Eph 1:3

It is because of him that you are <u>in Christ Jesus</u>, who has become for us wisdom from Cod—that is, <u>our righteousness</u>, <u>holiness and redemption</u>. 1 Cor 1:30

B. Examples of this instructive and encouraging truth. (Brief sample only)

1. The Lord Jesus is our Savior

But it has now been revealed through the appearing of <u>our Savior</u>. Christ Jesus who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. 2 Tim 1:10

2. The Lord Jesus is our Wisdom

It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. 1 Cor 1:30

3. The Lord Jesus is our Power

But to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, <u>Christ the power of God</u> and the wisdom of God. 1 Cor 1:24

4. The Lord Jesus is our Peace

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. John 14:27

5. The Lord Jesus is our Love

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in <u>my love</u>. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. John 18:9,10

6. The Lord Jesus is our Joy

I have told you this so that <u>my joy may be in you</u> and that your joy may be complete. John 15:11

7. The Lord Jesus is our Grace

But he said to me, "My Grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. 2 Cor 12:9

8. The Lord Jesus is our Righteousness

It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. 1 Cor 1:30

9. The Lord Jesus is our Holiness

It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. 1 Cor 1:30

10. The Lord Jesus is our Redemption

It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and <u>redemption</u>. 1 Cor 1:30

11. The Lord Jesus is our Healing

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. 1 Peter 2:24

12. The Lord Jesus is our Rest

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, <u>and I will give you rest</u>. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find <u>rest for your souls</u>. Matt 11:28,29

13. The Lord Jesus is our "key" to the person and work of the Holy Spirit—

On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, <u>let him come to me and drink</u>. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." <u>By this he meant the Spirit</u>... John 7:37-39

Conclusion and application

What conclusion can we draw from these many passages and illustrations? The truth is clear: God has made every provision for us in the person and work of the Lord Jesus. Whatever we need to enter into the will of God—is found in Him. We must honestly turn to Him in repentance and confession for neglecting Him. We must surrender to Him, ask Him to rescue us, to enable us to seek Him honestly and diligently, and teach us. Anything less would be a sin.