



With hope that this page will bring glory to God and attention to His Word, you are invited to check this page every day for a piece of scripture, thoughts on the verse(s) and a prayer. May the ideas presented here bring you fulfillment as you continue your journey with Christ.

Friday May 3, 2024

Today's Scripture:

You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

John 15:16

Thoughts on Today's Verse(s):

As The Lord prepared to meet His fate, He took the time to instruct His disciples with the truth. As He neared His passion and ultimate suffering and death on the cross, He loved His friends so much that He made them aware of how *He had chosen them* and prepared them to bear fruit for His kingdom. It was their job to initiate His church and begin the world-wide movement that would be His stronghold in the world until His return. This was important work indeed.

Friends, we too are chosen. It is by no coincidence that you and I have come to faith in Christ. Even before we were born, Jesus had us in mind (Jeremiah 1:5), just like He had His disciples in mind. It is no accident and certainly not by our own volition that we walk in faith with Jesus. He has selected us; He has appointed us. He has called us.

Isn't it comforting to know that Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, King of all kings, has *chosen* us? This does not put us *above* others. We are not better than others because Jesus selected us. In fact, in a worldly sense, it might be said that we are *worse* than others. We have not been chosen by Jesus to be His reps in the world and to be set above; we have been set *apart*. Set to the side as *different*, not better.

It should be humbling and encouraging, strengthening and empowering, to know that Jesus chose us to be His disciples. In that realization, we must take on the task He has set before us of being His voice, His hands and feet, His presence and His love in the world. In that way, we can move forward in faith seeking to bear fruit, long lasting fruit, by helping Him choose, select and call others to Him. What a precious, priceless and treasured responsibility we have been given.

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, Lord of lords and King of kings, how reduced and humbled we are to realize that You have chosen us. The simple fact that You called us to be Your disciples, just as You chose the 12, sends us to our knees in sheepish praise and thanksgiving. You have set us apart and we are chastened to seek Your will. You have bestowed upon us the Holy task of being Your voice and presence in the world and we are invigorated by this knowledge. Lord, guide us and assist us, direct us and protect us, as we move forward in faith seeking to be the ones who bear fruit for Your kingdom. We hope to bear eternal fruit in the world that has Your blessing. Thank You Jesus. We pray in Your Holy Name, Amen.

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

John 15:16

