

## **Live For Jesus - 13 Feb 2005**

-Joshua Daniel

The 19<sup>th</sup> chapter of Psalms: The fear of the lord is clean, 9<sup>th</sup> verse: enduring forever. And the 8<sup>th</sup> verse: the commandment of the lord is pure enlightening the eyes. You know if one of us lost our vision or had lost it several years ago and suddenly you found yourself in this pleasant place with the green grass round you and the flowers and the garden and suddenly you find your eyes are opened, what would you say? How thrilled you would be? The commandment of the Lord! You see, the fight is on; we don't want these Ten Commandments. You know as a student of English literature I had to read the old Anglo Saxon and to think that king Alfred back then, the 8<sup>th</sup> century, that he based the laws upon the word of God. What a marvelous thing? Today I wonder how many of our parliament members, even study god's word every day. And if there is a president who begins his day studying god's word, he is despised, he is laughed at, he is a fool. I suppose King Alfred wouldn't be welcomed at all if he should reappear. Oh you are too out worded in your thinking and we have better commandments these days which are unclean and we are not a wit ashamed of them. There is a sensitivity which god has given us a feeling of shame, at failure, at moral bankruptcy, at cheating and lying, a sense of shame. But when you come to a point where the sense of shame is thrown to the whims and when wrong is right and right is wrong, my dear friends, you have arrived at the termination of a terminal decease. So the bible tells us, the commandment of the lord is clean and enduring, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the lord is clean, enduring forever. It's going to endure forever, long after this degenerate age has disappeared. If you turn to Romans the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter, 19 and 20; now we know that what things so ever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law that every mouth may be stopped and all the world may become guilty before God. The word of God has to be declared before the world sees. This is no way to live; this is no way by which a nation can be great. There is not even the courage to state what god's word says. We have become terribly secularized, in the sense that we have become anti god, anti-commandments. We don't want morality. We want freedom to do what we like. Back to the old garden. I will go my way, I will do my thing. You know, most religious people when it comes to the crunch, they will just do their own will. That's it, right or wrong, they will do their own will. What is conversion? Conversion is turning away from your will to do god's will which is greater anyway. Your will? certainly not. What can I see? How little I could see at my conversion when I was a boy of 15yrs and was converted and subsequently as a

college student, how little I knew and I hardly knew that god could do much greater things than I was seeing at that time. My faith was so small and has been small and has grown very little, just by slow degrees. Friends, when we look at the face of Jesus, do we see a question mark? No. what do you see in the face of the Lord? A desire and a willingness to do for you more than you could ask or think, that's what I see in the face of my lord. I can't doubt ask or outthink my lord. So I have abandoned that old selfish root which I so loved, I must have it my way! What is it but arrogance, pure arrogance? I must do my thing. My dear friends, how slowly wisdom has come to me and I say Lord you have got something far more than I can even guess or imagine. No stretch of my imagination will be able to figure out what you have got. So dear friends, when you are at this retreat, when you are under the word of god, when you are on your knees reading the bible, when you are beginning to get hold of the lord god of the old saints, the lord whom we have lost in the midst of our maze of willful ways; let me tell you my dear friends, you will find that he has god something for you which eye has not seen or ear heard nor has it ever entered into the hearts of men. We just don't believe it. We think, we could carve out for ourselves better plans, we could do it better than god can ever do it; grave and fatal arrogance. No my dear friends, going to the lord as a little child with a broken spirit and saying, Lord I want you to put your finger on everything in which I have been grieving your heart. Everything in other words in which I have been short circuiting your great plans; why should we do that? Why should we allow god to do things in his measure according to his greatness and love? He will do it. But we have to make this where we begin to take on our personal responsibilities. The lord says, you know, you would say, hey, abandon this kid, abandon this baby. The condition is far to grave and beyond human help. But god comes by and says live, live. God had such great things and when we bring the cross into the picture and see what was the design of god in the cross: A restoration of our lost legacy, a restoration. Was it a full restoration? Such a heavy price was paid and how can god be satisfied when having paid that price he finds that the ones whom he has purchased are feeble, weaklings, barely able to hold their own, hardly able to keep their heads about the waters. What kind of redemption is that? What kind of salvation is that? It's a grave reflection; very sadly and unfortunately upon our savior's cross. Was it incomplete when he said It is finished? Was it really finished? Yes, it was. Your restoration and my redemption were made perfect and complete at the cross and the lord will help us.