

Remembering with Jesus

“God gave us memory so that we might have roses in December.” ~ James M. Barrie

There was once an absent-minded professor who became so absorbed in his work that he forgot the simplest details. One morning his wife said, "Now Henry, remember, we are moving today. Here, I'm putting this note in your pocket. Don't forget." The day passed by and the man came home to his house. He entered the front door, and found the place empty. Distraught, he walked out to the curb and sat down. A young boy walked up to him, and he asked him, "Little boy, do you know the people who used to live here?" The boy replied, "Sure, Dad, mother told me you'd forget."

So how's your memory? Do you get so absorbed in life that you forget the most important things? We must find God's presence to make us able to relish every moment, remember the blessings and forget the troubles. We must remember our families, our adventures together to find fulfillment, and to see our place in passing those memories on to others. Today may be the day which changes all this.

Memory is a gift of God, so soon to be reduced as we get older. God remembers us all the time, and sent Jesus to give us eternal life because he always loves and never forgets.

God says that he will put his laws in our minds and write them on our hearts. As we read his word and experience the blessings which God gives on a daily basis, we must remember who God is, and remember the good things he has done. This is the heart of worship, and helps preserve the faith for us and our children.

The Psalms show us that Israel remembered the great moments of their history. When God dried up the Red Sea and they crossed over on dry land, when he fed them in the desert with bread which actually fell from heaven, when the walls of Jericho came down and they walked in to the city, these are moments they remembered, and so should we.

God is ready to make new memories in all the celebrations and difficulties we may come across in this journey of life. Look for them, rejoice in them and, above all remember them. Tell them to your children, to your friends, and to all who need to hear of this wonderful God who will never forget us.

One of the greatest things God has done for us, the God who remembers all and forgets nothing, is that when we believe, he will be our God and remember our sins no more. They are gone, forgotten by the God who can remember everything. That is a wonderful thing he has done, and an even greater thing to remember. That memory of God forgetting our sins gives us joy, and also inspires us to forget those bad things that people might do to us.

The world gives us great examples of unthinking moments. Football is a game of memory, of split second decisions. Consider the story of Wrong Way Marshall.

In the 1960s Jim "Wrong Way" Marshall was a member of the "Purple People Eaters," the fearsome defensive unit of the Minnesota Vikings football team. In a game played on October 25, 1964, Marshall scooped up a fumble and ran toward the end zone for a touchdown. Unfortunately, it was toward the *other* team's goal line. He ran for 66 yards and then tossed the football into the stands. Marshall had no idea he had just scored a safety, meaning two points for the other team. In fact, his run was the longest safety in the history of pro football!

You may be running the wrong direction as fast as you can. You may even be playing for the wrong team. God can help you to discover the right way to go, and show you how being one of his children can change your life forever. We may need a major mind and memory adjustment.

Do you wonder how the amazing servers at a restaurant can remember how we like our food? Do wonder what they think of us? The good ones have a secret, and one young woman shared her method in a tense moment. A man was getting impatient at their table and called out: "Waitress, have you forgotten me?" And, to the amusement of everyone around, she answered pertly, "Oh, no, sir! Indeed not. You're the stuffed tomato!"

Are you a stuffed tomato? A tossed salad? A white beans with onions kind of guy? Are you all the way with mustard, chili, and onions? Or are you the plain hot dog?

Today may be the day to see how others remember us. And to try with God's memorable help to share the heavenly meals Jesus waits to eat with us.