

## **A SERIES OF DEVOTIONS BASED UPON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE**

### **IT PLEASES GOD TO GIVE YOU HIS KINGDOM**

Luke 12:32 "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom"

Jesus continues here in verse 32 to address the basic fears of human beings such as worry over food, clothing, shelter, protection, etc. (See previous verses) Those who are His followers, His disciples, have nothing to fear. They are His flock and He is their Shepherd such as He said in John 10:14 "I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep."

The basis, the foundation, the cornerstone of verse 32 are the words "Father's good pleasure" and "to give." The basis for Jesus' flock having no reason to be filled with fear and worry is God's grace, His undeserved love, His rich gifts He gives them through His Son Jesus Christ. His gifts certainly begin with all they need to support their daily living. (Previous verses) They go far beyond giving them gifts to sustain their earthly lives. His greatest gift is His Son Jesus and through Him forgiveness of their sins and eternal life.

Your heavenly Father's "good pleasure," good gifts and His unconditional love wipes out all fear for all time. As a believer in Jesus you have no reason to be afraid of anything because He is your Good Shepherd (John 10), who is with you always (Matthew 28:20), who has a permanent residence prepared for you (John 14.) That is why Jesus says to you in verse 32, "have no fear."

You have nothing to fear because God in His love for you has brought you into His kingdom. In His kingdom, which is now your kingdom through your faith in Jesus, there will be no tears, death, mourning, crying, and pain. (Revelation 21:4) There you will stand before your heavenly Father's throne and "serve Him day and night" as He "shelters you in His presence." "You shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore." "The Lamb (Jesus) will be your shepherd, guiding you to springs of living water." There God will "wipe away every tear from your eyes." (Revelation 7:15-17)

Prayer: O Lord, take my eyes off of this world and the things in this world.  
Instead, open my eyes to Your kingdom which You have given me through Jesus.  
In His name. Amen.

I Love Your kingdom, Lord, The place of Your abode,  
The Church our blest Redeemer saved With His own precious blood.

Beyond my highest joy I prize its heav'nly ways,  
Its sweet communion, solemn vows, Its hymns of love and praise.

I love Your Church, O God, Your saints in ev'ry land,  
Dear as the apple of Your eye And graven on Your hand.

For them my tears shall fall; For them my prayers ascend,  
For them my cares and toils be giv'n Till toils and cares shall end.

Sure as Your truth shall last, To Zion shall be giv'n  
The brightest glories earth can yield And brighter bliss of heav'n.  
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