

“Dealing with Pressure”

Jon Hazell, Pastor

Community Christian Church, Durant OK

John 8:12-30

Jesus Is the Light of the World

¹² Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, “I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life.” ¹³ So the Pharisees said to Him, “You are testifying about Yourself; Your testimony is not ^[a]true.” ¹⁴ Jesus answered and said to them, “Even if I testify about Myself, My testimony is ^[b]true, for I know where I came from and where I am going; but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. ¹⁵ You judge ^[c]according to the flesh; I am not judging anyone. ¹⁶ But even if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone *in it*, but I and the Father who sent Me. ¹⁷ Even in your law it has been written that the testimony of two men is ^[d]true. ¹⁸ I am He who testifies about Myself, and the Father who sent Me testifies about Me.” ¹⁹ So they were saying to Him, “Where is Your Father?” Jesus answered, “You know neither Me nor My Father; if you knew Me, you would know My Father also.”

²⁰ These words He spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one seized Him, because His hour had not yet come.

²¹ Then He said again to them, “I go away, and you will seek Me, and will die in your sin; where I am going, you cannot come.” ²² So the Jews were saying, “Surely He will not kill Himself, will He, since He says, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come?’” ²³ And He was saying to them, “You are from below, I am from above; you are of this world, I am not of this world. ²⁴ Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that ^[e]I am *He*, you will die in your sins.” ²⁵ So they were saying to Him, “Who are You?” Jesus said to them, “^[f]What have I been saying to you *from* the beginning? ²⁶ I have many things to speak and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me is true; and the things which I heard from Him, these I speak to the world.”

²⁷ They did not realize that He had been speaking to them about the Father. ²⁸ So Jesus said, “When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that ^[g]I am *He*, and I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me. ²⁹ And He who sent Me is with Me; He ^[h]has not left Me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to Him.” ³⁰ As He spoke these things, many came to believe in Him.

Footnotes:

- a. John 8:13 Or *valid*
- b. John 8:14 Or *valid*
- c. John 8:15 I.e. by a carnal standard
- d. John 8:17 I.e. valid or admissible
- e. John 8:24 Most authorities associate this with Ex 3:14, *I AM WHO I AM*
- f. John 8:25 Or *That which I have been saying to you from the beginning*
- g. John 8:28 Lit *I AM* (v 24 note)
- h. John 8:29 Or *did not leave*

“Future Shock”

is a 1970 book by the futurist Alvin Toffler, in which the author defines the term "*future shock*" as a certain psychological state of individuals and entire societies. His shortest definition for the term is a personal perception of "too much change in too short a period of time". The book, which became an international bestseller, grew out of an article "The Future as a Way of Life" in

Horizon magazine, Summer 1965 issue. The book has sold over 6 million copies and has been widely translated.

A documentary film based on the book was released in 1972 with Orson Welles as an on-screen narrator. The 43 minute video is available on YouTube at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fkUwXenBokU>

Additional information about “Future Shock” can be found on Wikipedia at:

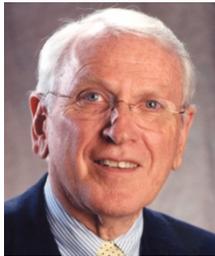
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Future_Shock

Hebrews 4:12-16

¹² For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³ And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

¹⁴ Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are*, yet without sin.

¹⁶ Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.



Dr. Leighton Ford, Born: October 22, 1931, Toronto, Canada

“The crisis of this generation is the crisis of self identity.”

Dr. Leighton Ford is a Presbyterian minister, evangelist, and author who has spoken in forty countries and is known as a leader in world evangelization. His focus in recent years has been on the next generation of Christian leadership, and serves as a mentor for emerging global leaders.

Dr. Leighton and his wife Jeanie live in Charlotte, North Carolina.

<https://www.leightonfordministries.org/>



Hermann Hesse, Nobel Prize in Literature 1946

“Each man has only one genuine vocation - to find the way to himself....His task is to discover his own destiny - not an arbitrary one - and to live it out wholly and resolutely within himself. Everything else is only a would-be existence, an attempt at evasion, a flight back to the ideals of the masses, conformity and fear of one's own inwardness.”

Hermann Hesse's biography is available on the Nobel Prize website at:

https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/literature/laureates/1946/hesse-bio.html



Sammy Davis Jr.

December 8, 1925 – May 16, 1990

Sammy Davis Jr. was an American singer, dancer, actor and comedian. He was often billed as the "greatest living entertainer in the world".

Lyrics for the song “I Gotta Be Me”

Whether I'm right or whether I'm wrong
Whether I find a place in this world or never belong
I gotta be me, I've gotta be me
What else can I be but what I am
I want to live, not merely survive
And I won't give up this dream
Of life that keeps me alive
I gotta be me, I gotta be me
The dream that I see makes me what I am
That far away prize, a world of success
Is waiting for me if I heed the call
I won't settle down, won't settle for less
As long as there's a chance that I can have it all
I'll go it alone, that's how it must be
I can't be right for somebody else
If I'm not right for me
I gotta be free, I've gotta be free
Daring to try, to do it or die
I've gotta be me

I'll go it alone, that's how it must be
I can't be right for somebody else
If I'm not right for me
I gotta be free, I just gotta be free
Daring to try, to do it or die
I gotta be me

You can listen to the song "I Gotta Be Me" on YouTube at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rbLICxK0pHY>

Sammy Davis, Jr. Biography is available at:

http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0002035/bio?ref =nm_ov_bio_sm

Galatians 1:6-10

Perversion of the Gospel

⁶ I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you ^[a]by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; ⁷ which is *really* not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. ⁸ But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel ^[b]contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be ^[c]accursed! ⁹ As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel ^[d]contrary to what you received, he is to be ^[e]accursed!

¹⁰ For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a bond-servant of Christ.

Footnotes:

1. Galatians 1:6 Lit *in*
2. Galatians 1:8 Or *other than, more than*
3. Galatians 1:8 Gr *anathema*
4. Galatians 1:9 Or *other than, more than*
5. Galatians 1:9 Gr *anathema*

John 13:1-20

The Lord's Supper

13 Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus knowing that His hour had come that He would depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them ^[a]to the end. ² During supper, the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, *the son of Simon*, to betray Him, ³ *Jesus*, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come forth from God and was going back to God, ⁴ *got up from supper, and *laid aside His garments; and taking a towel, He girded Himself.

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

⁵ Then He *poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. ⁶ So He *came to Simon Peter. He *said to Him, "Lord, do You wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered and said to him, "What I do you do not realize now, but you will understand hereafter." ⁸ Peter *said to Him, "Never shall You wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me." ⁹ Simon Peter *said to Him, "Lord, *then wash* not only my feet, but also my hands and my head." ¹⁰ Jesus *said to him, "He who has bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you." ¹¹ For He knew the one who was betraying Him; for this reason He said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹² So when He had washed their feet, and taken His garments and reclined *at the table* again, He said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you?” ¹³ You call Me Teacher and Lord; and ^[b]you are right, for *so* I am. ¹⁴ If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵ For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you. ¹⁶ Truly, truly, I say to you, a slave is not greater than his master, nor *is* one who is sent greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷ If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. ¹⁸ I do not speak of all of you. I know the ones I have chosen; but *it is* that the Scripture may be fulfilled, ‘HE WHO EATS MY BREAD HAS LIFTED UP HIS HEEL AGAINST ME.’ ¹⁹ From now on I am telling you before *it* comes to pass, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am *He*. ²⁰ Truly, truly, I say to you, he who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.”

Footnotes:

- a. John 13:1 Or *to the uttermost*; or *eternally*
- b. John 13:13 Lit *you say well*

Ecclesiastes 9:10-18

Whatever Your Hand Finds to Do

¹⁰ Whatever your hand finds to do, do *it* with *all* your might; for there is no activity or planning or knowledge or wisdom in Sheol where you are going.

¹¹ I again saw under the sun that the race is not to the swift and the battle is not to the warriors, and neither is bread to the wise nor wealth to the discerning nor favor to men of ability; for time and chance overtake them all. ¹² Moreover, man does not know his time: like fish caught in a treacherous net and birds trapped in a snare, so the sons of men are ensnared at an evil time when it suddenly falls on them.

¹³ Also this I came to see as wisdom under the sun, and ^[a]it impressed me. ¹⁴ There was a small city with few men in it and a great king came to it, surrounded it and constructed large siegeworks against it. ¹⁵ But there was found in it a poor wise man and he ^[b]delivered the city by his wisdom. Yet no one remembered that poor man. ¹⁶ So I said, “Wisdom is better than strength.” But the wisdom of the poor man is despised and his words are not heeded. ¹⁷ The words of the wise heard in quietness are *better* than the shouting of a ruler among fools. ¹⁸ Wisdom is better than weapons of war, but one sinner destroys much good.

Footnotes:

- a. Ecclesiastes 9:13 Lit *great it was to me*
- b. Ecclesiastes 9:15 Or *might have delivered*

Colossians 3:18-25

Family Relations

¹⁸ Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives and do not be embittered against them. ²⁰ Children, be obedient to your parents in all things, for this is well-pleasing ^[a]to the Lord. ²¹ Fathers, do not exasperate your children, so that they will not lose heart.

²² Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters ^[b]on earth, not with ^[c]external service, as those who *merely* please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. ²³ Whatever you do, do your work ^[d]heartily, as for the Lord ^[e]rather than for men, ²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward ^[f]of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve. ²⁵ For he who does

wrong will receive the consequences of the wrong which he has done, and ^[g]that without partiality.

Footnotes:

- a. Colossians 3:20 Lit *in*
- b. Colossians 3:22 Lit *according to the flesh*
- c. Colossians 3:22 Lit *eyeservice*
- d. Colossians 3:23 Lit *from the soul*
- e. Colossians 3:23 Lit *and not*
- f. Colossians 3:24 I.e. consisting of
- g. Colossians 3:25 Lit *there is no partiality*

Genesis 12:1-3

Abram Journeys to Egypt

12 Now the LORD said to Abram,

“^[a]Go forth from your country,
And from your relatives
And from your father’s house,
To the land which I will show you;
²And I will make you a great nation,
And I will bless you,
And make your name great;
And so ^[b]you shall be a blessing;
³And I will bless those who bless you,
And the one who ^[c]curse you I will ^[d]curse.
And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”

Footnotes:

- a. Genesis 12:1 Lit *Go for yourself*
- b. Genesis 12:2 Lit *be a blessing*
- c. Genesis 12:3 Or *reviles*
- d. Genesis 12:3 Or *bind under a curse*



<https://www.passiton.com/inspirational-quotes/7092-the-true-meaning-of-life-is-to-plant-trees>

This saying is attributed to **Nelson Henderson** who was a second generation farmer in the Swan River Valley region of Manitoba, Canada.

The saying is similar to “Society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in.”

— Anonymous Greek Proverb

https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/6584103.Anonymous_Greek_Proverb



Works Progress Administration (WPA) was an employment infrastructure program created by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1935.

<http://www.history.com/topics/works-progress-administration>

How can you get rid of the pressure in your life?

1. Know who are you?
2. Know why are you here? Know who your “Authentic Audience” is.
3. Know where you are going? Know what your life is to be about.

Hint: It is all explained in the Bible.

New American Standard Bible (NASB) Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation