**R926\_Rumination for October 23, 2022**

The **T**heme: **One Thing** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com/)

The **T**ext:***One thing*** *have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after.* Psa. 27:4

The **T**hots:

Intro. In life, many people seek many things, most of which often turn out to be of not much use. The one thing that can be of much significance in the end may turn out to be the best and only thing one needs! Consider…

1. **The Psalmist’s One Aspiration – *One thing have I desired of the LORD* Psalm 27:4-6**

***…*** *that will I seek after;* *that I may dwell in the house of the LORD* *all the days of my life,*

*to behold the beauty of the LORD, and* *to enquire in HIs temple.*

1. His **D**eclaration of his One **D**esire: *One thing have I desired of the LORD* 27:4a
2. It is his **P**riority and **P**ursuit - *that will I seek after*
3. It is his **D**esire to ***D****well in the house of the LORD*
4. It is his **L**ife-**L**ong **D**etermination - *all the days of my life*
5. His **P**rime **P**urposes: 27:4b
6. *To* ***B****ehold the* ***B****eauty of the LORD*
7. To **C**ommune and **C**ommunicate with the Lord - *to enquire in His temple*
8. His **P**avilion and **P**lace of **P**rotection is *the house of the Lord* 27:5

*For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion:*

1. It is His **S**till and **S**ecret **S**helter - *in the* ***s****ecret of His tabernacle shall He hide me* 27:5a
2. *He shall* ***S****et* and **S**tablished *me* *up upon a rock,* **S**trong and **S**teadfast 27:5b
3. His **P**rivileged **P**osition of **P**raise in Sacrifice: 27:6
4. *And now* ***S****hall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me:*
5. *therefore will I offer in His tabernacle* ***S****acrifices of joy;*
6. *I will* ***S****ing, yea, I will* ***S****ing praises unto the LORD.*
7. **Paul’s One Ambition – *this one thing I do****,* **Phil.** **3:10-14**
8. His **A**dmission: *Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended:* 3:13
9. His **A**im: *That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship*

*of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death;*  3:10

1. Yes, he had not yet **A**ttained what His Lord had **A**pprehended him for: 3:12a, NKJV

*Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected;*

1. Thus, his **A**spiration: 3:12b, NKJV

*but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me*.

1. And, his one **A**mbition now: ***this one thing I do****,* 3:13
2. *forgetting those things which are* ***B****ehind,*
3. *and reaching forth unto those things which are* ***B****efore.*
4. *To* ***P****ress toward the mark for the* ***P****rize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.* 3:14, NKJV
5. **God’s Promises Assured - *not One thing hath failed thereof.* Josh. 23:14**

*Behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth: and ye know in all your hearts and in all your souls,*

1. God’s **P**romises Never **F**ail – 23:14a
2. *…****not one thing*** *hath failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spake concerning you*
3. *…all are come to pass unto you, and* ***not one thing*** *hath failed thereof*
4. God’s **P**ledges are **F**ully **F**ulfilled –
5. *For all the* ***P****romises of God in Him are yea, and in Him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.* II Cor. 1:20
6. *God, willing…to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his* ***C****ounsel,* ***C****onfirmed it by an oath: That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie…* Heb. 6:17, 18
7. God’s **P**erson is ever **F**aithful – *for He is faithful that promised* Heb. 10:23b
8. **The One thing the Rich Man Lacked was not being able to possess heaven – Mk. 10:21; Lk.18:22**
9. The **P**ertinent Question: *Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?* Mk. 10:17
10. The **P**otent Answer – He **L**acked **L**ove for Christ – ***One thing thou lackest…*** Mk. 10:21
11. The One thing that **H**indered him: He Loved his **P**ossessions.

*Go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven*

1. The One Thing thar **H**ampered him – *and* ***C****ome, take up the* ***C****ross, and follow Me.*
2. The **P**ersonal Sad Decision the Rich Man Made to Cling to his **P**ossessions: Mk. 10:22

*And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions.*

* **What one thing we need on this Lord’s Day:**

 Be Like Mary Who the Lord Himself Recommended: Lk. 10:42

***One thing is needful****: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her –*

She *sat at Jesus' feet, and heard His word.* Lk. 10:39

**L**ikewise on this **L**ord’s Day at the **L**ord’s Supper there is **One Thing** we need to Remember: I Cor. 11:24, 25

*When He had given thanks, He…said,…****this do in remembrance of Me****.*

*O that I could for ever dwell, Delighted, at the Saviour’s feet,*

 *Behold the form I love so well, And all His tender words repeat.* **Eliz­a­beth H. Reed*,***

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 926**

1. In life, there are always many choices facing us for which we need to make a decision. Some decisions are easy to make; but there are others very difficult to decide on, especially when there is only one opening to go through, one option to choose among the many, or even when there be a few at our disposal and we need to decide only on one. The dilemma increases when the choices are very close and all alternatives seem to have their individual advantages. Which one then shall we choose?

Sometimes it is not a choice among many, but a choice between the good and the better, or between the better and the best, as Paul prays for the Philippian saints that they might have the discernment to decide (approve) not only between that which is good and bad, but also that which is between the good and the better, but best of all, when they really can determine and opt for the best (excellent) from the better. Thus, Paul prays: (Phil. 1:9-11)
*And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ; Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.*

To come to that level of discernment, Paul prays that the Philippian Christian’s love which is already commendable must yet continue to increase (*abound*) more and more …likewise their wisdom in the employment of their knowledge must always be employed and exercised to discriminate and differentiate not only between that which is good and bad, but also between that which is good and better; but best of all, when they can choose the best from the better.

Will you like to make this ***the one thing*** of your choice in life – the ability to approve things that are excellent to choose the best from that which is better for the Lord and for your life? And what would that thing be? **REFLECT.**

1. Consider how Paul made his choice when faced with a challenging decision of deciding only on one thing to choose for his life’s goal: Philippians 3:4-14

*4 Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more: 5 Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; 6 Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.*

*7* ***But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ****.*

*8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, 9 And be found in Him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:*

*10* ***That I may know Him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death;***

*11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. 12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.*

*13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended:* ***but this one thing I do,*** *forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,*

*14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*

Paul put on the balance his profit and loss and came to the conclusion that he was prepared to suffer all loss for the excellency of gaining Christ and ever pressing on to make it his goal in life just to win Christ and to be what He wants him to be, no matter the cost! Are you ready to pay the cost? **REFLECT**.

**Points To Ponder:**

*Faith in Christ and His Promises to Provide and Protect in Life is no empty boast.*