

Consider

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Job 37:14

Consider the wondrous works of God. Job 37:14, *“Hearken unto this, O Job: stand still, and consider the wondrous works of God.”*

The universe. Psalms 19:1, *“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.”*

All blessings. James 1:17, *“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”*

Consider the ways of the ant

Prov. 6:6, *“Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise.”*

The Bible teaches industry. 2 Thess. 3:10, *“For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.”*

The ant is an example. Eph. 4:28, *“Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.”*

We are taught to work together. Psalms 133:1, *“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!”* The ants do this.

The ant makes preparation for winter.

- Prov. 30:25, *“The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer;”*
- And we are to prepare to meet the bridegroom. Matt. 25:1-13, *“Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.”*

And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.”

Consider the care God gives the fowls and the grass of the fields

Matt. 6:25-30, “Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?”

God, who has the power to feed the fowls and clothe the grass of the fields, has the power to feed and clothe man.

Consider Christ

Heb. 12:3, “For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.”

Consider what He endured (see above verse). Think of all that He endured. He did this for us. Luke 19:10, “*For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.*” Such reflections strengthen us against weariness and fainting (see Heb. 12:3 above).

Consider thyself

Gal. 6:1, “Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.”

Lest ye be tempted (see above verse).

Know your weakness and fortify yourself against them.

Consider your calling. Eph. 4:1, *“I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,”*

Consider the value of your soul. Matt. 16:26, *“For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”*

Consider one another

Heb. 10:24, *“And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works.”*

To provoke unto love. We should be loving. 1 Thess. 4:9, *“But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another.”*

We should be forgiving. Matt. 6:12-15, *“And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”*

We should be long-suffering. Eph. 4:2, *“With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love,”*

We should be unselfish.

- Phil. 2:4, *“Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.”*
- James 2:15-16, *“If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?”*
- Heb. 13:1-2, *“Let brotherly love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.”*

To provoke unto good works. Incite or stimulate one another to good works. There should be mutual interest and care on the part of the members of the body of Christ to each other. 1 Cor. 12:25, *“That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.”*

To treat others as you would wish to be treated. Matt. 7:12, *“Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.”*

To bear their burdens.

- Gal. 6:1, *“Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.”*
- Rom. 12:15, *“Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.”*

To be their keeper.

- Gen. 4:9, *“And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother’s keeper?”*
- Luke 10:29-37, *“But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour? And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves? And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.”*
- Matt. 28:19-20, *“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”*
- 1 Thess. 4:1, *“Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more.”*

