

Oaks-West Church of Christ

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May 3, 2020

Pursue, Overtake, Recover

by George Slover

So David inquired of the Lord, saying, “Shall I pursue this troop? Shall I overtake them?” And He answered him, “Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them and without fail recover all.” (1 Samuel 30:8)

The rise of David's popularity in Israel, caused insane jealousy in King Saul. With these words ringing in his ears, “Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands” (1 Samuel 18:10), Saul zealously pursued the capture of David. Unlike Saul, David inquired of God in moments of distress. This time God's answer was: “Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them and without fail recover all.”

Having been delivered from the Philistine army, David's army set out to return to Ziklag. Instead of being welcomed by their

families, they found the city burned, and their families taken captive. David surely deemed the situation hopeless. He even senses a mutiny among his own troops.

However, David's trust was not in man, but in God. With all hope lost, “David strengthened himself in the Lord his God.” Such faith is often exemplified in times of despair. Paul would later record: “Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.” (2 Corinthians 12:9,10)

Next, David sought counsel from Abiathar, the priest. David sought an answer from this trusted confidant

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and spokesman for God. God delivered his counsel: “Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them and without fail recover all.”

There are times in our own lives when we come to the spiritual valleys. Either the sin in our lives or circumstances beyond our control prompt a spiritual low. In such distress, we must find strength in God, and pursue, overtake, and recover.

God wants you to confront the nagging persistent sin in your life head-on. He longs for you to mend the fences of broken relationships – with a neighbor, a brother, or your mate. He beseeches you to rise above the trials that weigh you down. God is saying “with my help you can do this”! “Pursue, overtake, and recover.”

Welcome!

When you visit our assemblies, you will be received friendly, kindly and courteously. We believe this to be the natural attitude of those who truly love God and mankind. Though you may at first be among strangers, we hope that you will come to know us well and count us as your friends.

We offer Bible studies as well as correspondence courses for those interested in learning more about what God expects of us.



Upcoming Ladies' Bible Classes - cancelled until further notice.

Limited Services will begin on May 10. See your email for information or contact one of the elders or deacons.

If you know of upcoming events, please inform Darrell so they can be included here.



Please remember the following individuals in your daily prayers:

June Owens
Jack Wilson
Jerry Richardson
Karen Hallmark
Shirley Perkins' brother, Leon
Morgan O'Hair
Dinah Williams
Joy Ulrich

Anne Stanberry

And continue to pray for each other

If you know of someone that needs to be on this list, please tell Darrell (email preferred) and provide updates so names stay on the list as long as needed.

We have many that face challenges on a daily basis and need your prayers as well.

“praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,”
(Ephesians 6:18 ESV)

