

✤ JUNE 2019 ◆

O, MY GOD!

"O, my god (OMG)" is a popular exclamation of amazement heard frequently. There is a good chance that many who say it do so without thinking, but are influenced by its popularity. I don't know what god they have in mind, if indeed they have one in mind. Christians might want to reconsider using this saying and other popular exclamations that refer to sacred things.

Actually, this exclamation is found in the Bible twenty-five times (in Psalms it is found 13 times). At no time was it used in a casual way. Each time it shows great reverence for Jehovah: His greatness, His power, His mercy, and His forgiveness.

DANIEL

Praying on behalf of his people who had been taken captive: "O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and take action! For Your own sake, **O my God**, do not delay, because Your city and Your people are called by Your name." Daniel 9:19

DAVID

Professing trust in God.

O my God, in You I trust, Do not let me be ashamed; Do not let my enemies exult over me. Psalm 25:2 (Note: Psalm 25:1-6 in a hymn on page 3)

Reverence for the Word of God.

"I delight to do Your will, **O my God**; Your Law is within my heart."

Psalm 40:8

NEHEMIAH

Speaking of his reforms in Jerusalem.

Remember them, **O my God**, because they have defiled the priesthood, and the covenant of the priesthood, and of the Levites. Thus cleansed I them from all strangers, and appointed the wards of the priests and the Levites, every one in his business; And for the wood offering, at times appointed, and for the firstfruits. Remember me, **O my God**, for good. Nehemiah 13:29-31

A WORD TO THE WISE

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

Psalm 19:14

SAINTS

Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren who are with me greet you. All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Philippians 4:21-23

SAINT: *hagiasmos*: "sanctification," is used of (a) separation to God, (b) the course of life befitting those so separated.

Sanctification is that relationship with God into which men enter by faith in Christ. It is used in New Testament of the separation of the believer from evil things and ways. This sanctification is God's will for the believer, and His purpose in calling him by the gospel. It must be learned from God, as He teaches it by His Word.

It must be pursued by the believer, earnestly and undeviatingly.

SAINTS: In the plural, as used of believers, it designates all such and is not applied merely to persons of exceptional holiness, or to those who, having died, or were characterized by exceptional acts of saintliness. —Vines Expository Dictionary

SAINTS

Christians in the New Testament are called saints.

To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, **saints by calling,** with all who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 1:2-3

Christians (saints) sin.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the church of God which is at Corinth with all the **saints** who are throughout Achaia. 2 Corinthians 1:1

I am afraid that when I come again my God may humiliate me before you, and I may mourn over many of those who **have sinned** in the past and not repented of the impurity, immorality and sensuality which they have practiced.

2 Corinthians 12:21

PONDER THIS

The disciples of Jesus who sinned are not referred to or classified as sinners. In the Bible "sinner" is the term used to describe the fallen condition of man. And "saints" describes those who are separate from the world and joined to Christ.

Is it not incongruous to say "we (saints) are all sinners?" We all **were** sinners, but we have been sanctified (set apart). We may "miss the mark" at times, but that does not change our holy calling. "... those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, saints by calling" 1 Corinthians 1:2

The apostle Paul viewed himself as the foremost of all sinners who needed to be saved. It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all. 1 Timothy 1:15

There is a difference between a saint who stumbles on the narrow way and a sinner who walks on the broad way. Both need to repent (turn from sin), One needs to return to living godly while seeking forgiveness, the other needs to repent and be sanctified (separated to God by faith in Jesus).

A Lesson in Song



Unto Thee O Lord

Unto thee O Lord! Do I lift up my soul O my God, I trust in Thee Let me not be ashamed Let not mine enemies triumph over me.

Yea, let none that wait on Thee be ashamed O my God, I trust in Thee Let me not be ashamed Let not mine enemies triumph over me.

Show me thy ways O Lord Teach me thy paths O Lord O my God, I trust in Thee Let me not be ashamed Let not mine enemies triumph over me.

Remember not the sins of my youth O my God, I trust in Thee Let me not be ashamed Let not mine enemies triumph over me.

Psalm 25

Unto thee, O LORD, do I lift up my soul. O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me. Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause. Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day. Remember, O LORD, thy tender mercies and thy lovingkindnesses; for they have been ever of old. On Life's Road

DON'T WALK!

There are passages in the Bible that warn us about where not to walk. Why? Because of the dire consequences if one does.

ACCORDING TO THE FLESH

To walk after the flesh is to obey the carnal desires; to walk after the Spirit is to obey from the heart what the Spirit reveals in the Bible.

"... who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit." Romans 8:4

BY SIGHT

Walk by sight and one only sees the here and now. Walk by faith and one sees what is beyond this life: life eternal.

... for we walk by faith, not by sight. 2 Corinthians 5:7

AS UNWISE

Not indulging in foolishness, but as one who relies on wisdom from above.

Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise. Ephesians 5:15

IN DARKNESS

Walk in darkness (figuratively): ignorance, sin, and wretchedness; being under the influence of the prince of darkness.

Walk while you have the Light, so that darkness will not overtake you; he who walks in the darkness does not know where he goes. John 12:35

Psalm 25:1-6 (KJV)



Have a Better Day By NOT Doing These Seven Things

1 Being impatient. 2 Being jealous. 3 Being anxious to impress others. 4 Cherishing an inflated opinion of your importance. 5 Pursuing a selfish advantage. 6 Keeping records of hurts received. 7 Gloating over the wickedness of others.

These seven "nots" are not part of the golden cord of love.

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered, does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 **BEEN THERE** — **DONE THAT** Learning from the mistakes and successes of others.

(A TRUE STORY)

A co-worker of mine was told the tailpipe and muffler on his car were hanging dangerously near the ground. His reply was "I need to have that fixed." When reminded, he said, "Yes, I know I need to have that fixed." Each time his response was the same.

Then he and his family went on vacation. As they left town something happened. You guessed it. Their car hit a bump and both the tailpipe and muffler where torn loose and did damage to the underside of the vehicle. The money that was to be used for the vacation was used to repair the car. They had to settle for a "Stay-cation!"

PROCRASTINATION

"I'll do it someday." "I'll do it the first day I have a chance." "I'll get around to it one day." "I'll do it tomorrow." "I'll do it when I have the opportunity."

But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does. James 1:22-25

Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin. James 4:17

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