

Hi everyone,

I hope you are having a great week as we are turning the corner into a new season. Time sure does move quickly. Amidst our busy lives, it is so good to have that intentional time carved out for memorizing God's Word. I pray it is becoming a daily discipline for you. We would love to hear from you about your own intentional effort to memorize scripture. Many of you know I often tote my Bible in the car with me, turn off the radio and get to memorizing. As I commit God's Word to memory, my time sitting at stoplights often turns into holy moments full of cleansing, understanding and destiny. In fact, just this week as I moved on to verse 11, I had one of those moments. Let me share with you.

In the NASB Psalm 56:12 reads,

"Thy vows are binding upon me, O God; I will render thank offerings to Thee."

So, I was sitting at the stoplight, ready to move on to verse 12. I had read it through before and thought, "What in the world, how does this fit with Psalm 56?" I mean we have seen David wander all over the place, from trust to anxiousness and then back to trust again. However, I just didn't see the connection in verse 10. But with my Bible open on the passenger seat, passing the time in the traffic, the light literally came on for me.

I realized that David's journey between trust and fear has finally arrived at a destination. He has arrived at understanding the promises of God keep him in a safe place. He says, **"Thy vows are binding upon me, O God;"** He now gets it, the vows that God has made on his behalf literally bind him up and protect him, wrapping him in security and safety.

Do you realize that God has made vows to you? Sometimes we forget that don't we? The Bible is full of promises toward us from God. What are some that are especially meaningful to you? I love that:

- Isaiah 26:3 tells me that God will keep me in perfect peace as my mind is stayed on Him.
- Isaiah 40:31 tells me if I wait upon the Lord I can run and not grow weary.
- Psalm 37:23 tells me that the steps of a righteous man are ordered by the Lord.
- Romans 8:28 tells me that God will work out all things for my good as I love God and am called to His purposes.
- Ephesians 2:8 tells me that I have been saved by grace.
- Romans 8:38-39 tells me that I can never be separated from His love.
- Psalm 139 tells me that I am I cannot ever get away from His presence.

This is but a small sampling of God's vows for me. And they are for you too. Words that keep us in protection and peace. There are so many more. When we focus upon them, we can't help but be thankful. We can't help but feel loved. We can't help but feel secure. In verses 10 and 11 David had returned to his trust in God, so here in verse 12, he arrives at this knowing that causes him to **"...render thank offerings to Thee."**

That day at the stop light, I realized something. I arrived at a knowing too. I arrived at the place of knowing God's care for me deserved a response. How fitting, to be thankful to Thee! How fitting to render an offering to God for His gracious care in my life.

There is a good word for us in Psalm 56:12. God has made vows toward us. As we focus upon them, we are bound up in His care. How can we not be thankful! So... how will you render your thanksgiving to Him today?