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Provision Pt 2 Make not provision for the flesh

This is our second study on the word “provision” in the scriptures. In our previous teaching we established the meaning of the word “provision” and four points– (1) provision requires preparation or forethought, (2) there is a daily provision of food that is needed for nourishment, (3) the Lord promised to bless the provision of Israel for their obedience, and (4) the Lord Jesus died, and rose again from the dead to make provision for a better place for us to go to when we die.

In this study we establish three points – (1) make not provision for the flesh to fulfil the lusts thereof, (2) provide not for, nor make provision to set a wicked thing before our eyes, and (3) give no forethought, make no provision to give place to the devil.

Our three points established from the scriptures –

1. Make not provision for the flesh to fulfil the lusts thereof

“But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof” (Rom.13: 14).

2. Make no provision or give forethought to setting a wicked thing before our eyes (**lust of the eyes**).

“I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me” (Ps.101: 3).

3. Give no forethought, make no provision or give **place** to the devil

“Neither give place to the devil” (Eph.4: 27).

Illustration

When a captain in the army goes to Afghanistan to fight in the battle, he does not simply pop a few things in a bag on the morning of his departure, but rather makes provision, he prepares by writing a list of what he will need, ironing his shirts, packing his toiletries, uniform, boots and casual clothes incase he takes leave. In other words, he invests time in preparing, making provision to fulfil his obligation.

Question to think about.

The opposite to preparing for and making provision for the flesh – is giving forethought to the Spirit – how does a “soldier of Jesus Christ” make provision for the Spirit?

Answer from the scriptures

i) In our first point we outline – “make not provision for the flesh” (Rom.13: 14) – it begins with “But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ” – which is opposite to the ending of the proceeding verse – Rom.13: 13 “Let us walk honestly, as in the day, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.” Hence a soldier makes provision for the Spirit when they walk not in strife and put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

ii) “And that ye put on the new man...” (Eph 4:24).

iii) “Put on the whole armour of God...” (Eph.6: 11).

iv) “let us put on the armour of light” (Rom.13: 12).

v) “Put on therefore, as the elect of God...bowels of mercies...” (Col.3: 12).

vi) “And above all these things put on charity...” (Col.3: 14).

vii) “Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh” (Gal 5:16).

Let us make NOT provision for the flesh, nor our eyes to behold evil, nor give place to the devil, BUT prepare for, give forethought to, and make provision for spiritual things!