

# Daily Devotional by Dr. Gloria P. Holmes

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## "Gateway to God's Glory in the Midst of the Coronavirus Pandemic"

### "ONE DAY AT A TIME"

*"Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."* St. Matthew 6:34

Everyday should be a day we give thanks to God. Why? ***"This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it."*** (Psalm 118:24) Sometimes, when trouble comes, such as this coronavirus pandemic and the ongoing acts of injustice, we can experience many emotions such as fear, frustration, anger, and worry. These emotions are all-natural human reactions to turmoil, problems, and evil actions. However, the Lord encourages us not to worry but instead to trust Him. We take each day at a time because every day has enough trouble of its own for us to handle. In teaching the disciples to pray, Jesus included this line: ***"Give us this day our daily bread."*** We can be assured that the Lord will provide, direct, guide and order our steps one day at a time. Jesus forewarned us with this assurance: ***"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."*** (St. John 16:33) Encouraging words indeed! Admittedly, during challenging circumstances, these words are easier said than put into practice. But we are not alone. The Bible, thankfully, provides examples and advice which we can use to navigate through life. Think about Noah preaching all those years and no one listening. Think about Naomi whose husband and sons died, leaving her little hope. Returning to Bethlehem when the people asked: "Is this Naomi?" Naomi replies: ***"... call me not Naomi, call me Mara: for the Almighty hath dealt very bitterly with me."*** (Ruth 1:20) The name Mara meant "bitter" whereas, Naomi meant "pleasant." I daresay that there have been times of great difficulty in our own lives where we could relate to how Naomi felt. But, thank God, trouble does not last always; we are aware of the happy ending to Naomi's dilemma. Yes, time and how we use it is of great importance to God. The Bible is clear. Chapter three of Ecclesiastes profoundly reminds us that: "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:" (Ecclesiastes 3:1). Therefore, the LORD says: "Today if you hear my voice, do not harden your heart." (Hebrews 3:15). "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the LORD as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day." (2 Peter 3:8). "So, teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." (Psalms 90:12). "O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days." (Psalms 90:14). Therefore, we take the advice found in Ephesians 5: 15-16: "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap if we faint not. (Galatians 6:9). Sometimes "due season" can seem like an exceptionally long time but, if viewed in terms of eternity, it is not as long as we may think or feel. "Therefore, my beloved sisters and brothers, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as you know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. (I Corinthians 15:58). When we learn to apply these scriptures to our lives, we approach problems and situations differently because we strive to view all circumstances from God's perspective. We can count on the fact that our change will certainly come in due season because we know that God's timing is always perfect. As the words of the song testify: "He's an on-time God, yes He is! He may not come when you want Him, but He'll be there right on time; He's an on-time God, yes, He is!

***How will you respond to today's message?***

#### *Prayer*

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank you for the assurance we find in your Holy Word. We are grateful that we do not have to worry. Help us to view life based on the truth of Your Word. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

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