
PRESIDENT'S PAGE

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Whatever is NOBLE.

God's apostle writes to you, "Finally brothers, whatever is noble, think about such things, and the God of peace will be with you." Philippians 4.

Who knows your mind better than Jesus?

Who knows your thinking better than Jesus? Who can bring you deeper peace than Jesus? And His apostle points you away from the sinful fallenness of this world, directing your attention instead to whatever is noble. As you engage your mind in whatever is noble, Jesus brings peace to your mind and soul.

NOBLE. The Greek word is SEMNA. "Noble" is an ok translation. Semna includes whatever you can look up to in persons and circumstances and respect. Astonishment mingled with fear. Reverent awe at seeing the face of a dead king. Honest and honorable. Serious and dignified rather than flippant and cheap. Noble.

Some Bible scholars offer you lists from the word "semna" to think about: the Name of God; the Rite of the Divine Service; the solemnity of life; the immortality of your soul; the fact of death; God's judgment seat. Think on these things and bless God. His hand is in all of them.

"Noble" can apply to First Article created things: The astronomical accuracy that can calculate the moment of an eclipse a hundred years in the future; instantaneous communication all around God's earth; the "rise up and walk" of medical skill; God's majesty reflected in mountain and sky and sea.

We sing “noble” in our hymn “We praise You and acknowledge You.” Stanza two: “The martyrs of Your kingdom, a great and NOBLE throng.” Think about noble people. John the Baptizer, after pointing to Jesus and revealing Him to be the Lamb of God Who takes away our sins, John willingly sacrificing his head in order to speak of marital purity. Who else? James, killed with the sword while bringing God’s love in Jesus to whomever would listen. Think about noble people.

Think about noble Jesus, the Christ.

Wait...noble? He doesn’t look very noble. God’s prophet Isaiah reports, “He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to Him – nothing in His appearance that we should desire Him...Like One from Whom men hide their faces, He was despised, and we esteemed Him not.”

Jesus? Noble? Just look at Him. Covered with spit and blood. Bruises. Heckled. Crucified.

Noble Jesus!

Nowhere to lay His head while searching for you. Hated by the world in loving you.

Losing Himself to death in rescuing you. Standing up again.

Death defeater and satan trampler.

Sinful thinking remover.

Mind and soul peace Giver.

NOBLE JESUS – THINK ABOUT HIM!

Finally, brothers, whatever is noble, think about such things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Pastor Paul Egger