**R1037 Rumination for December 08, 2024**

The **T**heme: **Friend Or Foe** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: *﻿* *But it is you, a man, my equal, my companion, my* ***F****amiliar* ***F****riend –* turned **F**oe!Psa. 55:13, ESV

The **T**hots:

1. **The Friend.**
2. The **D**ictionary **D**efinition: **D**erived from Old English, *freond*, meaning “to love to favour”.
3. An **A**ssociate whom one knows, likes and trusts.
4. An **A**ffectionate person with whom one has a mutual bond.
5. An **A**lly, a Support, often in a specific context, such as a friend of a cause or organisation.
6. The **D**ocumentary **D**efinition from Scripture:
7. From Greek *hetariros* = **F**ellow. Mt. 11:16

*It is like unto children sitting in the markets, and calling unto their ﻿****F****ellows.*

1. From Greek *philos,* = **F**riend, one **A**ttached by **A**ffection. Jas. 2:23

*And ﻿the scripture was fulfilled which saith, ﻿Abraham believed God,*

*and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called ﻿the* ***F****riend of God.*

1. **The Friend of God -** Abraham was a Friend of God. Jas. 2:23
2. *Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness” and he was called a* ***F****riend of God*.
3. *Art not Thou ﻿our God, ﻿who ﻿… gavest it to the seed of Abraham Thy ﻿****F****riend for ever?* II Chr. 20:7
4. **The Friends of the Lord.**
5. His **D**isciples were His **F**riends: Jn. 15:15

*No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing;*

*but I have called you* ***friends****, for all that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you.*

1. **D**ead **L**azarus was his Friend. Jn. 11:11

*Jesus said to them,* “*Our* ***friend*** *Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.”*

1. Jesus “**R**eleased” His friend to “sleep” (die) so that He could wake him up *for the glory of God,*

*that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.* Jn. 11:4

1. Yes, it was heart-**R**enting, and He was sad - *Jesus wept*! Jn. 11:35
2. However, later, He **R**aised up Lazarus and declared Himself to be *the* ***R****esurrection,*

 *and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:* Jn. 11:25

1. Those who **D**o the Will of God are His “**F**amily” **F**riends: Mk. 3:33-35

*And He answered them, “Who are My mother and My brothers?”*

*And looking about at those who sat around Him, He said, “Here are My mother and My brothers!*

*For whoever does the will of God, he is My brother and sister and mother.”*

1. Even **D**runkards and Sinners are the **F**riends of Jesus! Lk. 7:34

*The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, Behold a gluttonous man,*

*and a winebibber, a* ***Friend*** *of publicans and sinners!*

1. **The Friends who turned Foes.**
2. Judas, *Jesus said to him…* Mt. 26:50

 *“****Friend****, do what you came to do.” Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized Him.*

1. He was a **F**riend (a disciple) of the Lord

**J**esus knew **J**udas was about to betray Hin, yet He still gave him a **C**hance and **C**alled him, “*Friend*”!

1. But Judas turned **F**oe: The **S**oldiers **S**eized Jesus but it was only because Jesus **S**urrendered to them!
2. Ahithophel, David’s **F**amiliar **F**riend, **C**ompanion and **C**ounsellor, turned **F**oe. II Sam. 15:12
3. He was David’s **C**ounsellor: Psa. 41:9a
4. *Absalom sent for ﻿Ahithophel…﻿David’s Counseller,* ﻿*Yea, ﻿mine own* ***F****amiliar* ***F****riend,*

*in whom I trusted**…*

1. *It is you, a man, my equal, my* ***C****ompanion, my* ***F****amiliar* ***F****riend*. Psa. 55:13, ESV
2. But he was Absalom’s **C**onspirator against David:
3. *And one told David, saying, Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom.* II Sam. 15:31
4. He *hath lifted up his heel against me.* Psa. 41:9b
5. **Finally, Beware of Being a Friend of the World.** Jas. 4:4

*Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the Friendship of the world is enmity with God?*

*whosoever therefore will be a* ***Friend*** *of the world is the enemy of God.*

1. **What is the World? – I Jn. 2:15-17**
2. *﻿Love not* ***the world****, neither the things that are in the world. ﻿If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.* ***For all that is in the world****,* ﻿(1) *the lust of the flesh, and* ﻿(2) *the lust of the eyes, and* (3) ﻿*the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of* ***the world****. And ﻿****the world*** *passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth ﻿the will of God abideth for ever.*
3. *I ﻿beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye ﻿present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, ﻿acceptable unto God, which is your ﻿reasonable ﻿service.* ***And ﻿be not conformed ﻿to this World****:*

*but ﻿be ye transformed by ﻿the renewing ﻿of your mind, that ye may ﻿prove what is that good, and ﻿acceptable, and perfect, ﻿****W****ill of God.* Rom. 12:1, 2

**Points To Ponder:** *Halt!* ***F****riend or* ***F****oe? If you are a* ***F****riend of the World, you are the* ***F****oe of God!*