

Standing on Others' Shoulders

Ephesians 2:11-22

Memorial Day is a time to stop and **remember**.

On whose shoulders do we stand?

- ❖ **Family** ancestors
- ❖ **Spiritual** ancestors
- ❖ **Jesus Christ** our Lord.

Remembering causes us to be:

1. **Humbled**.

"Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called 'uncircumcised' by those who call themselves 'the circumcision' (that done in the body by the hands of men)—¹²remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world." —Ephesians 2:11-12

Gratitude is the antidote against pride.

Gratitude keeps a godly heritage from becoming conceited.

"⁴Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more: ⁵Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; ⁶Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. ⁷But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. ⁸Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord..."

—Philippians 3:4-8 KJV

Remembering causes us to be humble and grateful people.

Also causes us to be:

2. **Inspired**

"¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ...¹⁹Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household"

—Ephesians 2:13, 19

We are no longer enemies of God, but:

- ❖ “near to God”
- ❖ “household of God”

Little in God’s hand is much.

We are humbled and inspired, but also:

3. Challenged

“²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²²And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.”

—Ephesians 2:20-22

²²And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.”

2 Corinthians 6:5, reading about Paul, his sufferings, beatings, abuse, but he endured for the privilege of proclaiming Christ.

Beatings	Imprisonments
Riots	Hard work,
Sleepless nights	Hunger;

“Big shots are only little shots who keep shooting.” -Dale Galloway,

“^dTherefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us: ²Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

--Hebrews 11:1-3

Memory Verse:

And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

—Ephesians 3:22