

Wasted Energy

*Abraham replied, "I said to myself,
'There is surely no fear of God in this place,
and they will kill me because of my wife.'
Genesis 20:11 (NIV)*

In Canadian winters we can easily waste energy when we spin the wheels of our car on a slippery hill. I never cease to be amazed at some drivers who put the gas pedal to the floor of their car as they seek to get up a hill in snow or icy conditions. The car slips and slides this way and that as the tires howl their objection at the abuse. But if the driver just lifted their foot 3/4 way off the gas, they might get up the hill faster, not wear out their tires so quickly, and create less slippery ice for the next car seeking to get to the top of the hill.

That is a time when less means more. Less gas burned and the car goes farther, faster. But at the beginning of every Canadian winter some of us must learn to drive all over in winter conditions.

The man in our verse today wasted a lot of energy on a problem that did not exist. His life was not threatened

as he assumed it was. He used up emotional energy fussing over a non-existent matter.

Instead of faith in the God Who had called him to journey through the strange land, he fussed and fumed about a problem he did not have. Certainly it was conceivable he might come into danger for being a foreigner without an army to protect him, but he was doing God's will and so should have trusted the Lord to provide for him as God saw fit.

You and I can waste time fussing about non-existent matters when we have real problems facing us today. Our energy needs to be spent on addressing the matters that are right ahead of us, not on the ones that might be ahead.

We might believe something dangerous may lurk farther along the road. However, all of our energy should be concentrated on

the need of the hour and how we are to keep on the way of obedience to the Lord today.

If the possible problem comes tomorrow we will have grace from the Lord to face it. God does not promise grace for tomorrow's issues today. This day is enough for us to be concerned about. God knows our need for tomorrow and all the rest of our lives.

Be assured that when tomorrow's trial comes so will the grace come to endure it successfully. Use today's supply of strength to deal with today's matters. With the Lord on our side we cannot fail. Without Him we cannot succeed. So go in the Lord's strength and you shall certainly be victorious!