JANUARY 8-14, 2017

THE WORD FOR THIS WEEK IS: "CREATE".

The thought for this week is: God is our creator and has the marvelous power to create.

"In the beginning, God <u>created</u> the heavens and the earth". (Gen. 1:1.) The second word of the Hebrew Bible is the word "create".

I am still trying to comprehend the tremendous power that God must have <u>to create</u> something out of nothing. God created hundreds of galaxies and millions of stars by merely speaking them into existence.

After creating the plants and the animals, God <u>created</u> man out of the dust of the ground and woman out of a rib from the side of man. (Gen. 1:27; 2:22.) "And God saw all that he had made, and behold it was very good." (Gen. 1:31.)

God is still using his creative power today to transform us into Christlike people. (II Cor. 3: 18.)

"For we are his workmanship, <u>created</u> in Christ Jesus for good works which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." (Eph. 2:10) And when we fail, God is there to forgive us when we humble ourselves and confess our sin. (James 5:10; I John 1:8-9.)

Pray through the following Scripture and strive to memorize: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence and do not take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and sustain me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will be converted to you." (Psalms 51: 10-13.)

Prayer: Father, I confess that I am not the person you want me to be. Use your creative power to make me a new creation today. Through your grace, cleanse me through the blood of Christ and make me pure in your sight. May I allow your Holy Spirit's power to work mightily in my life so others may see Jesus living in me. In Jesus Name. Amen

By Ron Bever