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Sermon by Prophet Kobus van Rensburg

CHOOSE TO LIVE RIGHT

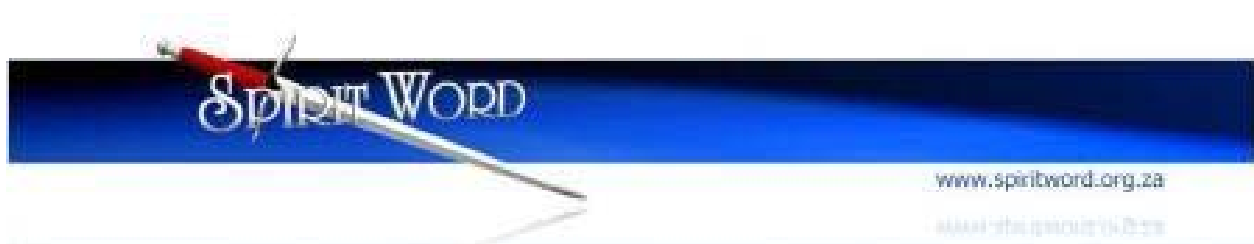
Hebrews 12:1-4 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us LAY ASIDE EVERY WEIGHT, AND THE SIN which so easily ensnares us, and let us RUN WITH ENDURANCE THE RACE THAT IS SET BEFORE US, LOOKING UNTO JESUS, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him ENDURED THE CROSS, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. You have NOT YET RESISTED TO BLOODSHED, striving AGAINST SIN.

We did not pay the price on the cross, but Jesus did and because He paid the price, we have to lay aside the weights. In Matthew 11:28 Jesus said that all who labour and are heavy-laden must come to Him for He will give them rest. The way to get rid of the weights is to come to Jesus. Philippians 4:4-7 says that you must always rejoice and not be anxious or fretful or worry about anything, but let your requests be made known unto God with prayers, supplications and thanksgiving. Then the peace of God that passes all understanding will rule, govern and guard your heart and your mind in Christ Jesus and the God of peace shall be with you.

You deliberately lay the weights aside by going to Jesus and saying that you don't want those weights and the sin that so easily beset you. There are sins that easily beset you that will not beset another person. You cannot judge people, because you do not know where they stand with the LORD. You can have victory over certain sins, but does another person have that same victory? The same way he cannot judge you when he has victory over certain sins that you do not have. All people do not have the same concept of sin.

Romans 14:23 says that you will be judged according to what you believe is sin. That does not mean that you will get away with sin. If you look at Jesus and walk with Him, He will reveal to you what He does not like and what pleases Him. Those things will fall off of you on your way to perfection.

The thing that you must watch out for is the sin that so easily besets you. It can be a 'pet-sin' or something that kept you from God or something that keeps you from getting the promises of God in your life.



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Isaiah 6:1-8 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne...

..."Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!"...

..."Woe is me, for I AM UNDONE! Because I am a man of unclean lips and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts." Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal, which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth with it, and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; YOUR INIQUITY IS TAKEN AWAY, And your sin purged." Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send and who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! SEND ME."

When the king died, Isaiah saw the LORD in His Holy temple. That is the Most Holy Place, the place that God dwells in. Uzziah died that year and he was a king who walked uprightly before the LORD. (2 Chronicles 26-27, Amos 1, Hosea 1) Uzziah was a victorious king who walked so closely before God that he decided to go into the temple. He went in and burnt incense, but he was not allowed there. The priests came in and told him that he was not allowed there and that he was defiling the temple with what he thought was right. He was not a son of Aaron, of the priestly order. Uzziah got upset and literally 'blew a gasket' when the men of God came to him and told him that he is not doing the right thing by being there in the temple, even though they liked the smell of the incense. God then smote him with leprosy. When the priests saw that he got leprosy, they took him outside the city where he eventually died.

Moses had an elder brother and a sister, Miriam. She was the one who put him in the basket in the Nile River when the Pharaoh wanted to kill all the babies.

She stood up against Moses, the man of God of their time. She also then got leprosy and was taken outside the camp. (Numbers 12)

God is not so much worried about the physical place of worship than the condition of your heart. While Uzziah died by walking into a physical temple, Isaiah saw God in His Holy temple. He himself was not in a temple. Uzziah one tried to live so holy. When God asked Isaiah if he saw the holiness, he said that he lived amongst people that are so unholy and that he also is unholy. An angel came and took a coal from the altar, touched his lips and said that his sins are forgiven. Your heart must be right, like Isaiah who said that he didn't want the sin, but laid it aside. Uzziah on the other hand did not want to repent, but he became angry and got leprosy. Isaiah is the one who saw all the visions of the coming Messiah.



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What are you doing with the things that so easily beset you? Are you going to keep it, pamper and cherish it or are you going to lay it aside? Are you saying that it is the way you grew up or did you accept the price Jesus paid and become a new creature?

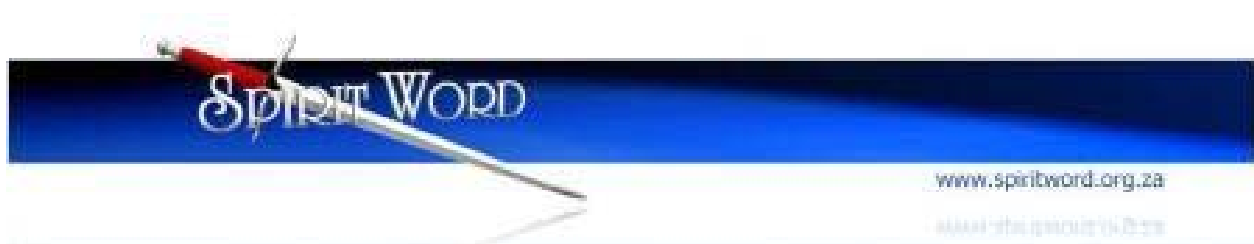
PERSONALITY IS A MASK

People say that they way they are their personalities. "Personality" derives the Latin word "persona", which means that you wear a mask and it is false. There is no such thing as a personality. Personality is the thing you've learned to do to cover up for the thing that you did not like to do or that which you did not like other people to do. You have built up your personality. When you were yet very small, you've said things in your heart when you did not like certain things and then you reacted in certain ways. Some things you took because you liked it and others you've resisted.

You have built up your personality, so you can cast it down.

You can take on the character of the LORD Jesus Christ, so that His life can be revealed in you. Why did Jesus die? In order for you to be like Him. You can say that you are not like someone else, but remember that He did not pay a better price for me than for you. You say that He paid a better price for someone, who lives a humble life, but you are not like that and you cannot change and you won't allow people to trample on you and you won't do that... Who are you to put your framework of personality above Jesus, Who says that we can be like Him? We sang a song in the seventies: "To be like Jesus. So pure and holy, so meek and lowly." Matthew 11:28-20 says that we must come to Him and learn of Him for He is humble and meek or gentle in heart. When you did not learn to be meek and humble, you haven't come to Him. That is why you carry weights, because you are not prepared to learn meekness and humbleness. When you do not come and learn, the eyes of your understanding are darkened so that you cannot see the revelation knowledge of God. (Ephesians 4:18-32)

When Isaiah said that he did not want the sin, God touched his lips and He said: "You are forgiven." Uzziah said that he will burn the incense and he died a leper. How far do you want to go into the presence of the living God? Are you looking at Jesus and are you prepared to get your heart right? Isaiah saw God without being in a physical temple. Uzziah was in the physical temple and he was rejected of God.



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TRAINED TO BE MEEK

God raised up Moses as the deliverer of the people of Israel. He had to deliver them out of the bondage of slavery of fourhunderd years in Egypt. He did not know it. He was raised in the house of Pharaoh and trained to become the next pharaoh. Pharaoh was not pleased with his firstborn son, Ramses and favored Moses. When Moses found out that he was actually the deliverer, something crept up on the inside of him called anger. When he saw that one of the Egyptians hit a Hebrew slave, he killed him. His anger caused him to spend forty years watching Jethro's sheep in the wilderness. Forty years later God came to him in a burning bush and told him, "Take off your shoes, Moses, for you are standing on Holy Ground." God told him that He heard the cry of His people. He told him to go to Pharaoh and say to him, "Let My people go." Moses told the LORD, "I am nothing." God then said that, that is the reason He can use him. When He wanted to use him, his anger or the personality that he built up when he was living in the Pharaoh's house because of the conflict between him and Ramses, trained him to flip in anger. Later God said to Moses that he is so meek that God can use him. In Numbers 12:3 it says that there was not a man on the face of the earth as meek as Moses.

In Matthew 6:9 we pray a prayer, "Hallowed be Thy Name." This means that His Name must be sanctified, be made holy and be glorified. The Greek says, "Holy be Your Name because of us." Or "Sanctified be Your Name because of us." "Glorified be Your Name because of us." Everywhere we walk or talk, His Name will be glorified, be Holy and be sanctified amongst the people. God said to Moses that He wants to kill the Hebrews for their stubborn refusal to serve and obey Him. They were always looking and longing back for the place from whence they came. Moses stood in the gap for them every time and told God that He cannot kill them. He asked God what the rest of the world would say but that He led them out of captivity, was unable bring them into the Promised Land and destroyed them in the wilderness. He reminded God of His Holy, Sanctified and Hallowed Name. Then God said to him that because of His Name and the fact that Moses knew that His Name must be hallowed, He would not destroy them.

In the books of Psalms and Kings it is said that with the strong arm and outstretched hand of God, He led them with mighty signs and wonders, by the hand of Moses. Moses was meek and knew the way to the heart of God and the power of the Name of God, so signs and wonders followed him.

HIS NAME HALLOWED IN YOUR LIFE



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In Exodus 17:6 the people cried for water in the desert and God told Moses to smite the rock at Mount Horeb. Water came out and they drank. Forty years later the people came to Moses again and complained about water. (Numbers 20:2-13) God told him to go and speak to the rock and water should come out. Moses, who always interceded for the people when God was angry, then stood before the people and repeated God's words about them, that they are rebellious, hard-hearted and stiff-necked. He then took his rod and smote the rock twice. His anger jumped out after eighty years. After that God told Moses that he did not hallow His Name amongst the people and that he will not bring them into the Promised Land. God did hallow His Name amongst them for giving them water out of the rock, but Moses did not hallow His Name in that he disobeyed His command and acted out of his own self. (Numbers 20:13)

God is true to His Word . People spend a lot of time in prayer and have breakthroughs in areas. God honors His Word and His Name is hallowed, because of the miracles, but that does not say that His Name is hallowed in their lives. The most of the things are only between them and God. God has prepared so many things for so many people, but so few people walk into all that God has for them. Only you and God know about it. He will hallow His Name because of the miracles in your life, but are you obedient to all that He has for you? Are you still sensitive and obedient? It is not how you've started the race; it is how you finish the race.

RUN TO WIN

In the school they said that it is not how you win, but how you play the game. That is a lie. Paul says that there is only one that wins and you must run like you are the winner. 1 Corinthians 9:24-2 you run to get the prize. It is not how many started the race; it is how many finish it. He that begun the good work in us is able to perform it until the day of Christ Jesus Philippians 1:6. God is able to make you finish the race, but you've got to lay aside all the weights and the sin that so easily beset you and run with patience the race that is set before you, looking unto Jesus, the Author and the Finisher of your faith Hebrews 12:1-2.

The weights and the sin cause you to look away from Jesus and then you take out the rod and hit the rock. When Moses hit that rock, no one knew that he hit the rock instead of speaking to it. They saw the result and were so caught up in the miracle, that they did not realize that Moses missed his promise. You have a personal relationship with God.

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The old people said that they accepted Jesus as their personal Savior. You've got to know that you are the one that Jesus paid the price for. He is your personal Savior and that is why He is your personal coach.

Numbers 20:13 This was the water of Meribah, because the children of Israel contended with the LORD, and HE WAS HALLOWED AMONG THEM.

Although Moses did not hallow His Name, His Name was hallowed amongst the people. God said that He still sanctified His Name, but He said to Moses that he missed it after eighty years through the sin that so easily beset him. Why do you think Moses kept on going back to the mountain and begging God for forgiveness? Because that was the sin that so easily beset him. It was the thing that he had to fight against. Don't you think that he wanted to kill the people himself sometimes? God's Name must not only be hallowed by the miracles that happens here, but also by our lives in obedience to Him. God must say, "Well done! Good and faithful servant." Not one day in heaven, but in a rest. He said that those who come to Him, He will give them rest. We want to hear the words, "That was good, my son!" The fact that you were obedient already gets you eleven out of ten. You must only listen and obey!

PUT ON AND PUT OFF

Ephesians 4:23,24 And be CONSTANTLY RENEWED IN THE SPIRIT OF YOUR MIND [having a fresh mental and spiritual attitude], And PUT ON THE NEW NATURE (the regenerate self) created in GOD'S IMAGE, [Godlike] in true RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HOLINESS.

Renewing your mind and putting on the new nature of Godlikeness means that God is ignoring your personality totally! When you want to renew your mind, you've got to put on the new man that is created after Christ in righteousness and holiness. Put on the new man!

Ephesians 4:25 Therefore, PUTTING AWAY lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another.

You must also lay aside or put away some things to come into the full image of Christ.



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Hebrews 1:9 You have LOVED RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HATED LAWLESSNESS; Therefore God, our God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions."

The same passion you have for God, you must have in hating the devil. Many people love Jesus, but they cherish the devil and some sin. They leave a little door for maybe to go and do that thing again.

If you look at a battery, it has a negative and a positive. You can put your tongue on either side and it will do nothing, but if your tongue touch both poles at the same time it shocks you. Power was released because of connecting the two poles. You must hate sin with the same passion as loving Jesus. You must put on the new man and with the same passion put off the old man. Now you would say that the Son has set you free and you are free indeed, but why are you still lying? It is because of an unrenewed mind and not an unrenewed spirit. You must get your thought life right. When you are so used to lying, that spirit does not just want to go. God left it for you to overcome. God said in Ephesians 4:25 that you must put off lying and than you must speak truth. You put off the one and do the other one. People want to speak the truth, but at the same time leave the door open for when they want to lie.

Ephesians 4:26 "Be angry, and DO NOT SIN": do NOT LET THE SUN GO DOWN on your wrath,"

How many times did the sun go down on your wrath? The germination of plants has a lot to do with the coming up and the going down of the sun. When the sun goes down the roots shoot out and cause bitterness. Before you know it you do not live in the blessings of God like you are supposed to because somewhere you allowed the sun to go down and you did not let your anger come under the blood of Jesus.

Ephesians 4:27 Give NO PLACE or opportunity TO THE DEVIL. (No foothold or room.)

You can see in the life of Uzziah and Moses that you must not give the devil a place.



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Ephesians 4:28 Let the thief steal no more, but rather LET HIM WORK or be industrious, making an honest living with his own hands, so that he may be able to give to those in need.

This scripture says that you must not only stop stealing, but also start working.

Ephesians 4:29 Let NO FOUL OR POLLUTING LANGUAGE, NOR EVIL WORD nor unwholesome or worthless talk [ever] come out of your mouth, but only such [speech] as is GOOD AND BENEFICIAL to the SPIRITUAL PROGRESS OF OTHERS, as is fitting to the need and the occasion, that it may BE A BLESSING and GIVE GRACE (God's favor) to those who hear it.

How many corrupt words proceeded out of your mouth lately? Our mouths must be pure before God. Sometimes we get upset or say wrong things and then we want to burn incense, which are our prayers. You want to pray to God, but our hearts are not right. You are a leper who is going to die and miss your promises. Are your words edifying? Are your words tearing up people and breaking them down? Is your tongue the pen of a ready writer that brings encouragement? Is your tongue ripping apart those whom you talk to? You cannot draw your words back.

Many times I've gotten upset with my three sons. Many times I've realized that they're just children and they do things that you would not expect from a fourteen-year old. You treat a four-year old and a fourteen-year old differently. Till today I've gone to them when I got upset, bow before them and ask forgiveness. They were wrong, but I'm sorry that I got upset. The words of my mouth were hard, but after it all they must be edified. When I'm finished they must know that life is worth the living.

Edifying word imparts or brings grace.

When you spoke to people, was grace released?

Grace brings people to Jesus.

James 2:12,13 So speak and so act as [people should] who are to be JUDGED UNDER THE LAW OF LIBERTY [the moral instruction given by Christ, especially about love].



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For to him who has shown no mercy the judgment [will be] merciless, but MERCY [full of glad confidence] EXULTS VICTORIOUSLY OVER JUDGEMENT.

Ephesians 4: 30 And do NOT GRIEVE THE HOLY SPIRIT of GOD, by whom you were SEALED for the day of redemption.

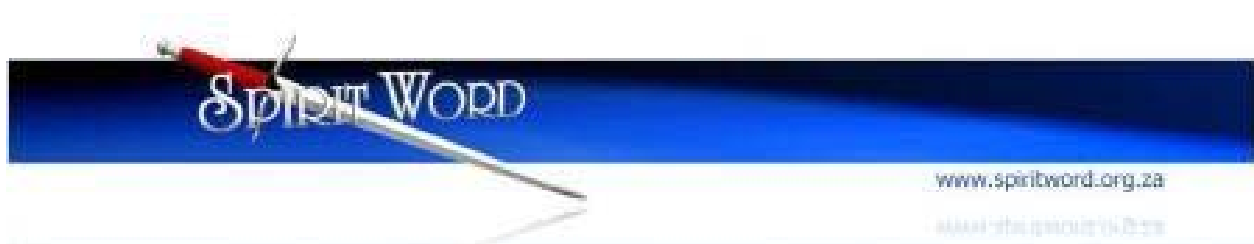
Don't grieve Him who sealed you. When you break the seal, the contents of the container spills out, whether it is a sealed envelope, a bottle or a tin. You've been sealed with the Holy Spirit that the Christ life on the inside may not be damaged. If you grieve the Spirit, the Christ life runs out. That is why you feel empty and hurt. You are filled with sorrow and you must work with it to bring you to repentance. If you don't work it to repentance, you will only feel sorry.

2 Corinthians 7:10 For GODLY GRIEVE and the pain God is permitted to direct, PRODUCE A REPENTANCE that leads and contributes to salvation and deliverance from evil, and it never brings regret; but worldly grief (the hopeless sorrow that is characteristic of the pagan world) is deadly [breeding and ending in death].

You must repent after feeling sorry. If you do not repent, you have remorse. The whole world feels sorry about what they are doing, but it does not bring them to repentance and to salvation. Godly sorrow brings repentance, which means that you ask forgiveness and turn around and ask God to help you not to do it again. When you just feel sorry, you'll do the wrong over and over again. When you repent, you get the seal back so that Christ can be formed within you again.

Ephesians 4:31,32 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil SPEAKING be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you.

Ephesians 4:31,32 (Amplified) Let all bitterness and indignation and wrath (passion, rage, bad temper) and resentment (anger, animosity) and quarreling (brawling, clamor, contention) and slander (evil-speaking, abusive or blasphemous language) be banished from you, with all malice (spite, ill will, or baseness of any kind) And become useful and helpful and kind to one another, tenderhearted (compassionate, understanding, loving-hearted), forgiving one another [readily and freely], as God in Christ forgave you.



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Ephesians 5:1 THEREFORE BE IMITATORS OF GOD [copy Him and follow His example], as well-beloved children [IMITATE THEIR FATHER].

DON'T LOOSE YOUR SONG

Ephesians 5:16 Making the very most of the time [buying up each opportunity], because the days are evil. Therefore do not be vague and thoughtless and foolish, but understanding and firmly grasping what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but ever BE FILLED and stimulated with the [Holy] Spirit. [Proverbs 23:20]. Speak out to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, offering praise with voices [and instruments] and MAKING MELODY with all your heart to the Lord,

Be filled with the Holy Spirit is to understand the will of God. His will for you is to be continually filled with the Holy Spirit. Speak amongst yourself with songs, hymns and spiritual songs. When your life is filled with that, there is no place for stealing, killing, lying and cheating. Where are the melodies that should come out from your mouth?

Dwight Thompson preached a sermon on never to loose your song. You have learned to sing on the mountaintops, but have you learned to sing in the valley? Have you learned to sing when you are just on the plain? When everything is troubling us, irritating us or disturbing us, it is because we've lost our song. When you buy out the time to just sing in the Spirit and something goes wrong, you will be able to conquer it, to rule over it and to get it under your feet. Worldly people walk around with a song and they are always happy. Nothing gets them down. How full are you or is the seal broken and you've run empty? Are you trying to scrape something from the bottom to get your life right before you go to bed or start your day? Are you running on "full"? My car is hardly ever empty. I always keep it full of fuel. It is an attitude of my life. When it gets close to half, I fill it up. I do not like cars to run near empty, because I do not like people to run on empty. You see it on them. They get angry, they flip and they shout because the seal is broken. For some the seal has been broken so long ago, but God says that you must come and buy out the time and get full so that He can seal you again. Then you must not grieve Him again. Get your words in tune and do not get angry and use foul language. Build up and edify the people you speak to.

In 1987 Dwight Thompson preached a sermon that changed my life in an area and he said that he grew up in a house and never knew that preachers do not like one another. He never heard his parents talk about people. He said that he could talk about love because he never knew that people had feelings against each other. Imagine if no one knows of other people's things and we can come to church without any strife, jealousy and anger. Be filled with the Holy Spirit

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and don't grieve Him. You know what is standing in the way. You know the sin and weights that so easily beset you. If you do not know, pray for a meek and humble heart, because your heart has become hard.

GROW UP!

A child doesn't bother a mature person. When you are immature, the children irritate you. A father would say, "They're just children." A young man cannot take a father or a child. They always think they know better. A young man does not want the children around. The mature Christians irritate him. A father allows the others to be themselves at the stage that they are.

Moses missed his promise after eighty years through the thing that so easily beset him. Uzziah did not repent when he did wrong, but do his own thing, got leprosy and died. The man that did not go into the physical temple, but saw the LORD, asked to God to forgive him. God forgave him and God sent him.

We must put off the old man and put on the new man and do not grieve the Holy Spirit. Get your tongue in tune and be filled with the Holy Spirit. Let the Name of the LORD be hallowed by your actions and by your obedience.

God is God and He can work with disobedience too. He said things in His Word and even though people may be disobedient, God will still do it. You cannot judge people because of the gifts. Everyone must work out his own salvation and you must walk your walk with God. Allow the five-fold gifts to bring the church to maturity and if you are gifted, your gift will make room for you. God will open the doors. The apostles, the prophets, the pastors, the evangelists and the teachers are there to equip the saints so that they can do the work of ministry and come to maturity. The five-fold gifts must be in the church. Someone must say the things that Paul taught. When Peter said it, he got in trouble. He was withstood publicly by Paul.

Are you the same all over?

Is Christ real to you with children, with young man and with grown-ups?

How is your heart? Is it pure with God?

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