

CHIEF MINISTRIES

November 2009

“For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes in the morning”. Psalms 30:5

There have been a few nights lately that I have been weeping. It’s a mixture of things. I think about those around me who have no idea of the intimacy that comes from knowing God in such a way that He really does talk to us. I wish I could express to you in writing some of the absolutely marvelous things He’ll say to our spirits if we will just take the “relationship time” He wants with us and learn to listen. I weep for those who just don’t want to listen to the voice of God any more than the man in the moon. They’ll come to church, every spiritual class, be a Kairos member, or in Discipleship, they’ll even show up to Spanish church and not speak a lick of Spanish because they’re longing to be around the presence of God, but on their terms. Having a form of religion that looks good to those that are watching, yet causing division and strife. And as I was weeping, I heard the Lord say “Fear not, weep not, for I am lifting my hand from them and their disease shall be exposed, for no longer will I allow the infiltrators to wreak havoc among my children. I have redeemed you and called you by name. Child you are mine! Focus on Me, I will take care of the enemy. Love Me and do what is right”. It was then that I began to feel the burden carried lifted and the source of my weeping to tears of joy as I felt Him look on me with favor. Have you allowed God to look at you? He turns His head from sin, so...unless you’re living truly right, you’re not letting Him look at you. Ah, that love, that ‘desire to bless you and give you all that you will ever need’ glance that assures your spirit that your God will supply ALL of your needs according to His riches in glory. A wink from this God can break the hardest heart into pieces. Shattered by love. Reach out and grab the Masters hand and never let go men. You are whom our Creator sent His son for. He’s looking at you. What does He see? A broken heart, a wounded soldier, a shattered vessel, perhaps....but there’s healing in His eyes, sweet salve from His presence to soothe, fresh clay to form you anew. Lower the walls, break the walls and facades of your flesh, He sees through them any ways. Let the burden be lifted in Jesus name.

Joy comes in the morning. Yes it has! Though there is indeed weeping in the lives of the faithful sometimes because our misdeeds have incurred God’s anger, or sometimes just because of suffering that comes from living in a fallen world, it comes to an end. Morning stands for a time when God gives relief (Psalms 90:14, 49:14), it might not arrive until the last day, but it will surely come. Verse 4 of the 30th Psalm tells us what we should do in that morning hour. *“Sing praises to the Lord, O you His saints, and give thanks to His holy name.” Psalm 84:11-12, “For the Lord God is a sun and shield, the Lord bestows favor and honor. No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly. He gives the light of life and protection. Proverbs 12:2 says, “A good man obtains favor from the Lord, but a man of evil devices He condemns.”* There is an incredible encapsulation of peace when you know His favor rests on

you. He literally does take care of everything. Even when we make silly, stupid mistakes, He takes care of them if He knows He has your heart. Trust Him!

So..... What is all this favor for? Isaiah 61 says: *The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; 2 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; 3 to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified. 4 They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. 5 Strangers shall stand and tend your flocks; foreigners shall be your plowmen and vinedressers; 6 but you shall be called the priests of the Lord; they shall speak of you as the ministers of our God; you shall eat the wealth of the nations, and in their glory you shall boast. 7 Instead of your shame there shall be a double portion; instead of dishonor they shall rejoice in their lot; therefore in their land they shall possess a double portion; they shall have everlasting joy. 8 For I the Lord love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. 9 Their offspring shall be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are an offspring the Lord has blessed. 10 I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. 11 For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.* Be thankful this season, be grateful for ALL He is doing around you, through you, and with you. You have been saved for service, delivered for destiny, planned for a purpose. Don't drop the ball now. And if you fumbled, pick it up. We've come too far to turn back now. He's loving you right now this moment as you read this, hoping you'll get it, that you'll fulfill His calling. He wants you to know you don't have to accept a counterfeit. You get the real thing. You haven't forfeited the prize because of your current position in the race. You get to win! You get to be 1st place! You are the apple of His eye. The center of His attention. He will never, never, never, never, never, ever leave you or forsake you. He loves you..... He's looking.....

May the favor of the Lord surround you and protect you.

You are my brothers,

Chief

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Christ's

Heart

In

Every

Felon