

dec 14

to all of those on this journey with me. i come again to share with you what the Lord has shared with me. this morning was again like those we hope for. i am uniquely aware that some of my writings lately were not as inspiring as they could be. but perhaps it was a time of growing for me. we all have to be stretched if we are to grow.

this morning was one of those times where you just lay and listen to the Lord, praying the words He is saying will all return to remembrance when you sit down at the computer to write. the only comparison that comes to mind, is like a parent when they are first teaching a child to walk. they securely hold your hands as you try to move your legs. as the lessons progress, they occasionally let go and leave you to make that next step on your own; always there to catch you if you fall.

i feel God is like that with us. teaching us how to walk. He does not just want babes. He wants mature sons of God who are able to distinguish whether to take that next step with care or if it is safe to take off running. now is our training time. now we are most dependent on our Father. to watch Him smile makes us want to run to Him. still we are struggling and our legs remain weak.

the word says, "my people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." hos 4:6 certainly faith alone is enough to believe for salvation. that will get you there. "if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and

believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. for with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." rom 10:9-10

are we satisfied to remain as babes? "that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ." 1 pet 1:7 this is a matter of "use it or lose it". our spiritual strength must be exercised as much as our physical does.

as some of you know, my older brother died when he was very young. he spent several years as an invalid. he was injured while playing football. the doctors put him in a full body cast, causing him to go paralyzed from the waist down. towards the end, his little legs became useless appendices which only needed to be moved out of one's way; sticks as it were. the point is they had become withered from lack of use. because there was no feeling, the muscles could not be used and exercised to become strong and functional.

such is the same for our spiritual muscles. we all say we believe God can do anything, and that is certainly true. do we really believe that enough to act on it? He says, "so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it." isa 55:11

we are told to pray for one another. if you pray for a person and they are not healed, do we cease from

praying for others? i have heard stories of how people have prayed for a number of people and never saw a result, until! there are people that possess a confidence for a certain type of healing. why? because they have seen it manifest so many time. they are no longer surprised when one is healed, but surprised when they are not.

yet, there remain those times when someone is not healed. these are times when we must leave it in the providence of God. was it training on our part? is God that cruel to withhold healing for our training. we know our God better than that! was there another reason? our understanding is not yet complete. our faith remains yet imperfect. we see not clearly how things are and know the thoughts and intents of another's heart.

the word says that "for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him." john 3:34 being yet a man, He had full access to the heart and will of God. perfect faith leads to understanding. perfect understanding leads to knowledge. perfect knowledge leads to love. perfect love leads to God! we are only in our infancy. now we are to "trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths." prov 3:5-6"

i'm not speaking of healing only? whether it be finances, food, shelter or family; do we stand firmly in our faith, trusting God and His perfect will to be done in all things? is that not how the Lord taught us to pray? "Your kingdom come. Your will be done on

earth as it is in heaven." matt 6:10

on my wall is a simple quotation. "day by day three things i pray. to see the more clearly. love thee more dearly. follow thee more nearly." as this is my prayer, i hope it will become yours also. may we all stand firm in our faith, even through those times of testing. let us all proclaim as did job, "though He slay me, yet will i trust Him." job 13:15

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