

dec 8

well, it seems as if yesterday was a time of weeping. i don't know what was going on in the spirit world but it must have been something. i was weeping all day long. often, for no apparent reason, i would just start crying. all i know is, it was not for myself. no one likes to spend their day in tears, but i was privileged to know that God would share His tears with me.

perhaps they were tears needed to water a new birth into the kingdom. there could be many reasons. we obey without knowing now, the reason behind it. "passing through the Valley of weeping (baca), they make it a place of springs; the early rain also fills [the pools] with blessings." psa 84:6 amp

what does our precious word say? "weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning." psa 30:5 how can we restrain ourselves from joy when we know we have been redeemed? free and yet we willingly submit ourselves to servitude. "but if the servant shall plainly say, i love my master, my wife, and my children; i will not go free." exo 21:5 then it is said they are to pierce his ear and he will be the master's servant for life. has your ear been pierced for your master? are you unwillingly to leave?

slavery in america was a horrible thing. slavery throughout the world was. but can we pay for the sins of our fathers? it is burden enough to pay for one's own sin. will payment for another's be required of us? not so according to the word. "fathers shall not be

put to death for their children, nor shall children be put to death for their fathers; a person shall be put to death for his own sin." deut 24:16 yet, this is the dichotomy that life in Jesus brings. to be forgiven, one must forgive. to really be free, one must submit their will to His. to save one's life, they must lose it.

this certainly was not in my plans of writing about this day. i thought it was to be about forgiveness. then again, maybe God has tied all this together brilliantly, as usual. we can all spend out lives feeling used and abused; neglected or ignored. or we can decide to forgive those who have hurt and wounded us and feel sympathy for those who persist in such things. "but if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals upon his head." rom 12:20 the coals of fire being the receipt for their deeds coming due.

i cannot begin to imagine the torments that some blacks have gone through. even now the prejudice remains in the hearts of some. i am old enough to remember when there were separate drinking fountains for blacks and whites. and yes, they were required to sit at the back of the bus. perhaps it was even worse in some parts of the world. it was the slave trader, john newton, that penned the song "amazing grace". but neither can i imagine the torment and fear a young child feels as they are being abused; physically, mentally or sexually.

just because i cannot know your torment doesn't mean i

cannot feel your pain. it certainly doesn't mean that God wasn't there to see your pain. they will, in the end, receive their judgements. now, the primary thing in those with bitterness, is to get them set free. free from the invisible wounds that influence their every action. freedom requires forgiveness.

honestly, i do not know yet if i would be able to forgive someone who had grievously injured me. no one ever has. at least to the extent that it affected me. i just know, it is the hurts that wound us deepest, they are the ones we must give to Him. lay all those feelings of hurt and hatred at the cross. if we all really ready to release it, He will release us. we must keep confessing it until it becomes truth. keep acting as though things were the same until it is no longer an act.

we do this knowing there is a righteous judge at the bench. how would we desire Him to rule on our own misdeeds? "do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap." gal 6:7 i speak not for others, but for myself. i would rather have my sins forgiven, than to retain the sins of another. Jesus took their sins upon the cross as much as He did mine. what an overwhelming idea.

whenever we start to think that we are "special" in some way, He will certainly humble us to know that we are only forgiven. has He not said, "so the last will be first, and the first last." matt 20:16 "but by the grace of God i am what i am." 1 cor 15:10

we all stand only by grace, and grace is freely given.

as He has given to me, so must we all give to others.  
would you know His peace? "peace I leave with you, My  
peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give  
to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it  
be afraid." john 14:27 i pray you all will dwell in  
the peace He offers.

linda