

i wish i could convey the richness my mornings with the Lord have become. but that is perhaps something each of us have to explore for ourselves. after my sweet visit and meditation on His word, i sometimes have my alexa play music and get lost in worship and praise. would that i could be on my face in the floor before Him but i know my spirit man has assumed the position.

my God has said He will wipe away all tears from our eyes. i don't know how He will ever wipe away the tears of joy and worship that are felt are now felt. just imagine in His presence. revelation 21 says there will be no more sea, but the tears of joy His worshipers shed would make their own ocean.

words cannot express the depths i feel. just as in ezekiel 47, entering His river begins first ankle deep; then to the knees; then the waist and soon one has to swim, weightless in His river. "all Your waves and billows have gone over me". psalms 42:7 though we may at times float in His love, our effort is to swim rigorously to reach the depths; to drown; to get lost in Him. death in us is life in Him. "but His word was in my heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones." jeremiah 20:9 may i now attempt to ignite a spark in you from mine?

my desire is that you know my Jesus as i do, and even more. there are no limits or shortages of Him. my hope is to show the way to but you must be the one to explore. remember the woman at the well who came to draw water. she returned to her village saying this man told me all i ever did. could He be the Messiah? as the villagers went out to investigate, they returned

saying: "now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world." john 4:42 we each must know for ourselves.

have you ever heard of the game about kevin bacon and the six degrees of separation? one starts with kevin bacon and states that he worked with an actor who worked with an actor who worked with an actor who worked with "whoever you name". supposedly one can tie it back to any one. (personally i don't remember that many of his movies.)

just imagine how it might have been in the time of Jesus. i can hear one saying they knew someone who knew someone who knew someone who who knew someone who knew Jesus. friend, we are now two thousand years from the time of knowing Him in the flesh. now we only know Him in the spirit. "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." john 20:29

may i speak to you of that which i know. "i delivered to you first of all that which i also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures." 1 cor 15:3 for my sins and yours. yes, He died and rose again leading captivity captive. "o death, where is thy sting? o grave, where is thy victory?" 1 cor 15:55

the word says that while He was dead "He went and preached to the spirits in prison, who formerly were disobedient" 1 peter 3:19-20 have you ever wondered, as i have, why would anyone already dead not joyfully receive His message?

it is only speculation on my part, but He had not yet been resurrected. can't you hear them scoffing and ridiculing Him just as they did in life saying "you are in the same boat we are. you think you're going to get out of here." they had to trust and believe in Him just as we do now. their trust was justified as they came out of the grave with him. "the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised." matt 27:52

the belief of resurrection. it is a seed waiting to germinate in all of us. to those who trust in Jesus, it will sprout unto a joyful bliss. to those who do not, it will sprout to receive the seeds they have sown. the decision is: will your account be marked "paid in full" or will "payment be required". i really pray the former. our spirits are eternal as they come from God. there is only life in Him. the other place is a death one can only imagine.

i for one cannot imagine a life without Jesus. years ago i used to work at a place that had a large layoff. my last day there as my small group were sitting around a table, i decided i needed it was to witness to them all. though many remained silent, one lady spoke up and said she thought heaven would be boring. honestly, i was so taken aback that i know whatever i said wasn't enough. now i think i could argue with her and maybe even convince.

the word says, "be ready in season and out of season. convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching." i was a young christian then and not fully

equipped. later there was a time when i was test driving a car with a salesman. he kept making suggestive remarks and finally asked if i had a boyfriend. he was an older man and i told him it was Jesus. he got real quite and finally asked if we could pull over and talk. i did and he confessed he was a christian but had fallen away. we had a talk and i pray he not only found his way back but kept it. none of us can really know what another has going on inside; no matter what facade they present. this may be their last day or their last opportunity.

we all stumble and get side-tracked at times. He is merciful and forgiving, even as He swings His sword to convict. it is a wound of love. a wound to drive us back into the everlasting arms. arms of protection. "how often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, but you were not willing!" luke 13:34 can any of us be safe except under His wings?

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