

feb 14

another beautiful morning with the Lord. it is such a joyful thing to spend time in His presence. before, i never thought worship could be complete unless i was on my knees or face, but He is still God when i am lying in my bed. i was like a cup, just waiting to be filled. or a baby bird, mouth wide open, waiting to be fed. indeed, our Lord is everywhere we look for Him. i call these my "God whispers". and though i desire to share them fully with everyone, they always get diluted as they flow through this imperfect vessel. i urge you to also open you mouth to be fed. you will never go hungry. they are new every morning.

the Lord was impressing on me this morning this scripture: "for God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." 2 tim 1:7 we often quote the first part of that scripture, and well so for it is true and powerful. but are we breezing through the remainder of that verse?

POWER - we do not fear because we have power. there is power in the blood of Jesus. it is a thing we often overlook. yes, we receive it for salvation but it is much more. revelation 12:11 says we overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony. what do we overcome? "I have overcome the world." john 16:33 He overcame so we could overcome. "when the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him." isa 59:19 the blood is that standard. plead the blood. confess the blood. there is power in the blood.

LOVE - the most powerful spirit in this world and the next. "if someone says, 'i love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar." 1 john 4:20 a scripture that used to always give me trouble. i would say, "God it's easy to love You, but this other guy - he just ain't you." i know there's a vast difference between hate and dislike, but that gap closes quickly when you see them only by their actions which can be irritating and even hurtful at times. if we are to truly love God, we must also learn to love him who He created. i know many have slipped into evil and gone beyond our reach. their actions must not control our reactions. the thing that helped me most to understand this was a simple verse from an old song. "He looked beyond my faults and saw my needs". can you look beyond and let love prevail?

SOUND MIND - a mind established in the word of God. a mind that does not always have to know the end from the beginning, but they know the One who does. they rest content in that and are not shaken even when all around them is shaking. "for i know whom i have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what i have committed to Him until that Day." 2 tim 1:12 one of my favorite scriptures. yes, we are given a sound mind "that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting". eph 4:14

our God is good and perfect and all encompassing. He is that burning bush which does not consume. He is that drink welling up within us that we may never thirst again. He is that peace that no one can give

and no one can take. He is that life which has conquered death. He is Jesus.

now we too can quote that beloved scripture. "yea, though i walk through the valley of the shadow of death, i will fear no evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me." psa 23:4 the rod for our protection and even correction. the staff as our support to lean on. they both serve to comfort us and help us traverse that "narrow" way. "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you." john 14:18

you know, i have heard many stories of people who have died and gone to heaven. although some engendered doubt, others had a spirit of authenticity to them. but almost all had the shared the same desire. none wanted to return to earth. they all wanted to stay with Jesus. i have heard Him described in many ways, but they almost all said He had eyes one could drown in.

so we come to the end of my "whispers". may they help carry you through this day; a kind of staff. i pray you all will seek whispers of your own. our God is gentle and kind. "a bruised reed He will not break, and smoking flax He will not quench." isa 42:3 and He will only enter where He is invited. take time for Him. MAKE time for Him. these are the days we must have Him present and with us in our every moment.

you know how time seems to fly when you're having fun? with Him our journey will be swift and joyful. like the old song says, "everyday with Jesus, is sweeter than the day before". God bless you all!

linda