

mar 7

good morning. just think. someday soon we may be receiving that greeting from the Lord Himself. we will be awakening from this current age into the next. a place, perhaps, where there will no longer be a need for sleep. there will be no night for us to wander in. the Lord will be our light which never ceases to shine.

our need will no longer be of rest but a constant quest to know Him more. hopefully, even now, that is your quest. "that i may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death." phil 3:10 except then, there will be no more death either.

what is it the scripture says? "and as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man." 1 cor 15:49 He will be the water of life which will quench our thirst. "but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. but the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life." john 4:14 it is only our desire of and search for more of Him which shall never be quenched.

i am old enough and young enough to remember my first love. oh how i longed to be around him. i nervously sought to find the things which would please him. his joy was mine. his satisfaction was my purpose. i can still remember cooking him a big breakfast and watching him partake and enjoy. i would serve it before him on a tv tray in the living room. it was my pleasure and

happiness as i watched him enjoy.

that's the love He seeks from us. that first love, always panting to please. always searching for more ways to fulfill His happiness. that's the love He has for us. that's the love that drove Him to the cross and willing submit to all the pain and suffering.

yes, He has purchased us with His own blood. He has paid the dowry for His bride. now she is His and will soon share in all His inheritance. we here in america have forgotten many of the old practices that may have actually mirrored future events; maybe heavenly events. there is a courtship. one would seek the father's approval. there would be a dowry paid for the bride. an engagement time elapsed while a new abode was prepared for them to inhabit. and finally, a coming together. it is then the two become one flesh.

we can now only dream of all the joys He has prepared for us. He has loved us dearly. He has proven His love. "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." rom 5:8 it was the end He saw which drove Him. it was the joy set before Him.

now, as we look around at the happenings of the world, we feel empathy for their pain. there is so much need in this fallen world. even as ukraine is now enduring much suffering, it has been a constant in the life of many. though often sudden and unprovoked, too often it is brought on by one's own foolish actions. like the blind leading the blind. do not be that blind one in leadership?

"one thing i know: that though i was blind, now i see."
john 9:25 only those we who have had their eyes truly
opened can know the darkness that once engulfed them; a
darkness so thick it can be felt.

there is nothing quite so terrifying as feeling
absolutely alone, in total darkness and not knowing
one's way out. or if there even is a way out. even
now a majority of this world remains in that darkness.
and yet, one tiny candle may give enough light to find
the escape hatch. it is the door labeled "Jesus".

will you let yourself be that tiny light for someone?
will you risk the ridicule or abuse they might hurl at
you. it may be a rejection or merely a defense? only
the Holy Spirit can discern and direct us. will you go
where He leads at whatever the cost may be? i know
only one thing. the reward will be greater. then we
will hear that good morning from our Lord. we will
hear, "well done, good and faithful servant ... enter
into the joy of your Lord." matt 25:21

linda