

jul 16

weights become wings

"they shall mount up with wings as eagles." isa 40:31

there is a fable about the way the birds got their wings at the beginning. they were first made without wings. then God made the wings and put them down before the wingless birds and said to them, "come, take up these burdens and bear them."

the birds had lovely plumage and sweet voices; they could sing, and their feathers gleamed in the sunshine, but they could not soar in the air. they hesitated at first when bidden to take up the burdens that lay at their feet, but soon they obeyed, and taking up the wings in their beaks, laid them on their shoulders to carry them.

for a little while the load seemed heavy and hard to bear, but presently, as they went on carrying the burdens, folding them over their hearts, the wings grew fast to their little bodies, and soon they discovered how to use them, and were lifted by them up into the air—the weights became wings.

it is a parable. We are the wingless birds, and our duties and tasks are the pinions God has made to lift us up and carry us heavenward. we look at our burdens and heavy loads, and shrink from them; but as we lift them and bind them about our hearts, they become wings, and on them we rise and soar toward God.

there is no burden which, if we lift it cheerfully and bear it with love in our hearts, will not become a blessing to us. God means our tasks to be our helpers; to refuse to bend our shoulders to receive a load, is to decline a new opportunity for growth. - j.r. miller

blessed is any weight, however overwhelming, which God has been so good as to fasten with His own hand upon our shoulders. - f.w. faber

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friends, i know there are times we grow weary of our cross and would seek an easier way. but the cross is only to kill the sinful "self." the fire is only to burn away the dross. "when He has tested me, i shall come forth as gold." Job 23:10 as the old hymn goes:

that you'll never be filled till your emptied
until your broken you'll never be whole
until the potter has tried your vessel with fire
you'll never come forth as pure gold

i didn't know how much He loved me
until i'd passed through the storm and looked back
i didn't know Jesus was all that i needed
until He was all that i had

"for i am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us

from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our
Lord." rom 8:38-39