

a month of possible changes

"Jesus said to her, 'did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?' john 11:40

this was the assurance our Lord gave to the sister of lazarus, whom He loved. it's the assurance resounding throughout the past two thousand years, reaching to our ears now.

i am skipping the usual "familiar friday" message today because my heart is filled once again with expectancy and hope entering with this month. will it be just another hope dashed or will it be a precursor to the most violent of all times - the wrath of almighty God poured out? i cannot speak for all, but i would gladly suffer a thousand disappointments than fail to watch for the one that wasn't.

i do not ask that He must prove
His Word is true to me,
and that before i can believe
He first must let me see.

it is enough for me to know
'tis true because He says 'tis so;
on His unchanging word i'll stand
and trust till i can understand.

- e.m. winter

i may not be a watchman but i am surely a "watcher."
our Lord told us all to watch and pray. "take heed,

watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is." mark 13:33 the feast of trumpets has long been regarded as the next feast day to be fulfilled by our Lord, and many signs in the heavens and on earth are indicating this might really be the one.

that does not mean we simply abandon our our everyday efforts. it means we occupy and continue in our well-doings, whatever they may be. we continue to shoulder whatever cross the Lord has assigned us. there is a poem called "the changed cross." it represents a weary one who thought that her cross was surely heavier than those of others whom she saw about her, and she wished that she might choose an other instead of her own.

she slept, and in her dream she was led to a place where many crosses lay, crosses of different shapes and sizes. there was a little one most beauteous to behold, set in jewels and gold. "ah, this i can wear with comfort," she said. so she took it up, but her weak form shook beneath it. the jewels and the gold were beautiful, but they were far too heavy for her.

next she saw a lovely cross with fair flowers entwined around its sculptured form. surely that was the one for her. she lifted it, but beneath the flowers were piercing thorns which tore her flesh.

at last, as she went on, she came to a plain cross, without jewels, without carvings, with only a few words of love inscribed upon it. this she took up and it proved the best of all, the easiest to be borne. and as she looked upon it, bathed in the radiance that fell from heaven, she recognized it as her own old cross.

she had found it again, and it was the best of all and lightest for her.

God knows best what cross we need to bear. we do not know how heavy other people's crosses are. we envy someone who is rich; his is a golden cross set with jewels, but we do not know how heavy it is. here is another whose life seems very lovely. she bears a cross twined with flowers. if we could try all the other crosses that we think lighter than our own, we would at last find that not one of them suited us so well as our own.

whatever your cross may be, know it is well suited for He will not allow us to be burdened above what we are able to bear. as such, we must all bear our cross and continue in the battle of good against evil. the good news that someday - and i believe someday soon - we will lay all our burdens down for we will be lifted up, almost weightless, to heights beyond our wildest dreams.

i read governor huckabee (the dad) said something the other day and we should all pay attention. he said. "our battle is no longer horizontal but vertical, meaning our warring must be in the heavenlies. so true, and yet in reality, was it not always? those who understand the eternal blessings which come from our Lord know that no sacrifice is too great, no price too heavy, no struggle too difficult in order to receive those blessings. there are never too many miles to travel, too many obstacles to overcome, or too much discomfort to endure. "but as it is written: 'eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the

heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.'" 1 cor 2:9

i can't help it that i get excited as i see each possibility of an impending rapture coming; the fulfillment of yet another "appointed time." i will be seriously watching from the middle of this month , possibly to the middle of next month. (i have heard it said calendars may be off by a month.)

won't you get excited with me? won't you embrace the possibility that this might really be that appointed time? someday it really will be and will you miss that one as well? i receive this as my "rapture month" and none can take it from me save my Lord Himself.

just a word to everyone. due to what i believe the significance this month might birth, you will be reading a few repeats during the coming days. i want to listen closely to what the Holy Spirit might be saying. i just see so much yelling "WATCH" at this time and thus, i will be watching. it's not the yelling we must be listening for - it's that still, small voice. rest assured that if i receive anything i feel from the Lord, i will chime in. God bless us, each and everyone! now let everyone say, "come Lord Jesus, come!"