

"IT'S A NEW SEASON!"

2 Corinthians 5:17 - *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*



I decided this year, for the first time, that I would engage in my personal season of Lent. I have a book entitled, "A Season of Spiritual Growth" which has daily affirmations I can read each day. And I have chosen to give up meat and sweets during this Lent Season. I've noticed that I have also acquired a greater sense of gratitude for the little things in life; such as traveling grace and mercy as I commute each day to and from work; a stronger hunger and thirst for God's word; and a deeper longing for true relationship with God. As I reverently engage in this season of Lent, and am preparing my heart and soul for a spiritual transformation through penitence and fasting, I am currently witnessing the slow but distinct transition from winter to spring! The true tell tale signs of the near approaching spring season are: warmer weather, melting snow, brighter and longer days, new sprouting buds, birds chirping, pleasant attitudes, happier people, and much joy in the air. It's a sense of anticipation of new and better things to come.

Well people of God, I feel the same way about the fast approaching Resurrection Sunday heading our way. Picture, if you will, that cold dark Friday afternoon after the same crowd of people who hailed Jesus King of Kings, are now crying out "Crucify Him!" After He has been marched from judgment hall to judgment hall, He is stripped of his garments and whipped "til the flesh falls from His bones. Then He is given a heavy cross to bear up "Golgotha's Hill." Mind you, on this cross is the weight of your sins and mine. They rivet his feet and nail his hands to that old rugged cross. They pierce Him in the side and place a crown of seventy-two thorns on His head. Then they hang Him high between two thieves. What a cold winter's night! The sun refused to shine. The moon dripped in blood. And the stars fell from their silver sockets. Can you see it? Oh what a night! The veil of the temple was rent in two from top to bottom. The earth shook like a drunken man. Then the graves opened up and some who were dead in Christ got up and started walking to the Holy City! And I can hear the Centurion Soldier say, "Surely, this must be the son of God!"

When they took our Lord and Savior off of that old rugged cross, they buried Him in Joseph's borrowed tomb! When they buried Jesus, they also buried all of our transgressions and iniquities with Him. When they buried Jesus, they also buried all of our pain with Him. When they buried Jesus, they also buried all of our disappointments with Him. When they buried Jesus, they also buried all of our doubt with Him. When they buried Jesus, they also buried all of our frailties and failures with Him. When they buried Jesus, they also buried all of our doom and gloom with Him. And when they buried Jesus, they also buried all of our sadness and hopelessness with Him. But the bible says in John 2:19, "Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." You see, death couldn't kill Him and the grave couldn't keep Him. He alone, took the sting of death away when He got up with all power in His hand!

So, if you and all of your imperfections, proclivities, shortcomings, inadequacies, inability, flaws, scars and unrighteousness have not yet been buried with Christ, I invite you today to seriously consider and experience the awesome transition in your life from Winter to Spring! I encourage you to confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, and you will be saved and you will be able to rise with our Redeeming Savior! Because He lives, you can face tomorrow. Because He lives, all of your fear should be gone. Your life is truly worth the living just because He lives.

Remember, today is the first day of the rest of your life. Your latter days will be greater than your past when you choose to bury the old and resurrect the new. I urge you to reflect on the following lyrics and let these words resonate in your spirit . . . "It's a new season, it's a new day. A fresh anointing is flowing my way. It's a season of power and prosperity. It's a new season coming to me."

Happy Resurrection Sunday!

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