

A String Of Pearls



The Proverbial Woman

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Special points of interest:

- God loves women

Facing The Challenges of our Times

As Christian women we face as many (if not more) challenges in our lives than women who do not know and trust the Lord as their Savior. I don't really understand how they survive or even cope without the peace of a Savior and God. I personally wouldn't want to trade shoes with them for all the money in the world. I thank God for the parents I had. My mother took me to Sunday school, church and even vacation bible school. I had a bible in my hands at a very young age and memorized countless scriptures on a regular basis. I don't think I was born again until I was married and in my early twenties, but I had a foundation of faith from my youth.

Today we hear of wars and rumors of wars. There are earthquakes, plagues and famine across the planet. Men are lovers of their own selves more than lovers of God. Many have a form of godliness, but deny the power of it. Gee, doesn't that sound familiar? Perhaps it's because God through the apostles and through the Great High Priest warned us what to expect. The most peace creating words I can think of are the following; *"I will be with you in trouble."* These are the words of Moses when he wrote Psalms 91! For years I thought David had written them, but not so. Long before David walked Moses was writing music unto the Lord. He told us of the secret place of the Most High God! He told us of the protection of living in that secret place. Moses prophesied of the coming of the one who would become our "secret place", the Lord Yeshua/Jesus.

When I imagine the Lord watching us from heaven I feel so rested. I know the word says he is able to "sozo" us to the uttermost BECAUSE he ever lives to intercede for us. In Greek the word "sozo" means; healing, protection, provision, deliverance and salvation. It covers all the scary places we find ourselves in. God is truly with us by His precious Holy Spirit. His Son is watching, interceding between God and man every nanosecond of our lives! He will do so until the Father sends him back to gather us up to be with him.

The world may have their designer clothing, luxury cars, boats, and homes, but we have the secret place of the Most High. We are truly under His "wing" like chicks under the wings of their mama hens. No matter what comes our way, ultimately we shall ever be with the Lord!

Selah

In His Image

No matter who you are (if you are born again) you have a spark of the Creator within you. For that reason there is an innate desire to express the creativity of God in some way. Our homes and lives reflect that. Sadly some of us have had that creative spark squelched. Whether by unthinking teachers or parents, the spark has been put out. The embers of your creativity are still able to be reignited, but it may take someone on the outside who has had her embers relit to help, but they can be brought back from the ashes.



I know that there are famous artistic and intelligent people who have shared how some well meaning person told them they weren't good at what they were endeavoring to do. For some reason they didn't take the hint or heed the advice, but instead kept on working until the embers of creativity and gifts became blazing fires for the world to see. Still others took what was said and became destructive because of the offense. Others curl up into themselves and hide from the chance of further criticism.

We can all become stagnant in life. We see folks who grow old, bitter and resentful at the hard situations that have come their way. No one is immune to being tempted to be offended, but with the knowledge of God's love and the desire to actively walk in the God kind of love we can rise above the temptations. The apostle Paul could have been offended when the other apostles didn't receive him. He had a special manifestation from the Lord and a specific job to do. He worked on his own for 14 years before the others would freely receive him. He kept on with his gifting and calling in spite of the rejection he received. We need to be like-minded.

If you have had your dreams crushed by someone, if your creative spark is a distant memory talk to the Lord. Ask him to help you stir up that which seems to have died. You are a reflection of the Father and He is full of faith and hope for tomorrow!

2 Timothy 1:6 Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. 7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Standing For Our Children

I remember thinking (foolishly) that once my daughter was married I wouldn't have to work so hard using my faith for her. Boy was I mistaken. It is enough to say that I pray so much more for her now than I ever did when she was living under our roof.



I have been thinking about how sheep and wolves are constantly at odds with one another. I also have been meditating on how the shepherd watches over the sheep and what happens when sheep leave the flock. A little lamb is clueless to the dangers that lurk outside the fence, but the shepherd is all too aware of the peril. A lamb wanders beyond the watchful eye of the shepherd and his sheepdog and finds itself snagged in a bramble bush and is unaware that the whole thing was within the view of the ever vigilant wolf. No matter how much protecting a shepherd does, a wayward lamb is a thing

Standing.....continued

that can happen.

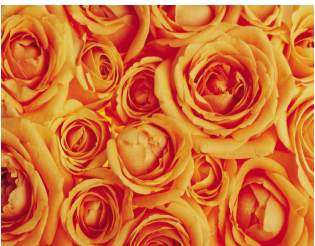
Once our children grow up and take on the responsibility for themselves, we as parents must let go. It can be one of the most difficult things God asks of us, but a parent that refuses to let go creates an even bigger problem. That doesn't mean that we simply let them fall and ignore their troubles. We have scriptural options and I encourage every parent to put them into effect. I myself am standing for our child. I refuse to let the adversary have the "win" in this without a fight. I stand on the word for our daughter and I won't give in until I draw my last breath. I can't stand for your child, but I can share the verses I've found and am putting in my heart for my quiet prayer time with the Father. I hope they bring you peace and help you find faith to stand when your children aren't where they ought to be.



Isaiah 44:3-5, Job 5:25, Isaiah 48:19, Isaiah 61:9, Isaiah 65:23, Genesis 9:9, Psalms 37:25-26, Isaiah 54:13

There are scads more, but you need to take the time to look them up for yourselves. The Lord is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him and I get rewarded for my diligence. You get rewarded for your diligence. Consider these few verses as a kick start for your stand for your children. Ask, seek and knock. Don't give up until the work is done! Don't be moved by anything natural, only be moved by what God has said. Never surrender, never give up.

Stop and Smell the Roses



We live in times where everyone seems to be in a huge hurry. Where they are headed and what the rush is about I have no idea, but no matter where you go folks seem to be in a panic to get somewhere fast. I find myself having to pull back on my own reins and tell myself, "Whoa..." If you're breathing you have more than likely found yourself wondering if things will ever slow down. Even when we "vacation" we don't slow down.

While doing a search for the word "haste" in my PDF of the bible I noticed that being in a hurry was all about danger and emergencies. David used the word haste when he was in trouble and was asking God for his help. Proverbs says that a person that hastens with his feet sins (Prov. 19:2). It also tells us that when we are in a hurry to get rich we aren't innocent and has an evil eye (Prov. 28:20 & 22).

Isaiah 28: 16 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.

We need to slow down and listen for the voice of the Lord. Even when it looked like all hell was breaking loose, the Lord never rushed anywhere to do anything. When he heard that Lazarus was dying he actually stopped and stalled for two days before responding to the panicked cry of Mary and Martha. He went in power because he stopped and sought God and His will BEFORE he rushed into a place where the enemy was at work. For this reason he was able to raise a dead man to life. How many of us have situations that appear hopeless and feel the need to rush in?

How about Jairus' daughter. She was dying and died while he was getting help from the Lord. While they

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Sowing Not Sewing

All of us have needs, natural and spiritual. If you have received spiritually by reading this newsletter please know that it is your responsibility to sow of your carnal or natural resources. The website and the work involved in creating this aren't free to me. I work hard to hear God and put ONLY the truth here. If you have blessed you can sow something as seed for the answer to your problems. You also enable me to reach more people. I trust that you will hear God and obey Him to do whatever it is that He asks of you.

Deuteronomy 25:4 Thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he (or she) treadeth out the corn.

1 Corinthians 9:11 If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things?

Stop and Smell the Roses.....continued



were on the way to get help a woman with an issue of blood actually slowed the Lord's progress and diverted him from his way. I can only imagine how freaked out Jairus was. Can you put yourself in his shoes long enough to imagine how angry he was tempted to be. The Lord just told him, "Fear NOT, believe only."

I know that each one of us face those moments where we're tempted to rush. When someone slows down our progress we are sorely tempted to get ugly. Remember Baalim and how his donkey prevented him from being smitten by a humongous angel? He kept hitting the poor donkey, wanting him to keep going.

The next time you're on your way and feeling rushed and panicky slow waaaaay down. Stop and smell the roses. Listen for the Lord to give you instructions. You absolutely don't know what is before you. You don't know whether some trap was set for you and the enemy is rushing you into that trap.

I watch people speed like maniacs to get in front of me. They always seem to end up at the same traffic signs and lights just seconds before me. They also put everyone including themselves in harm's way by speeding, breaking the law, and doing things that seem insane to get ahead. *There is a way that seems right to a man but the end thereof is death.* Or so the bible says anyway.