



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

Sunday –April 30, 2023

To Know Christ...

What do you tell yourself when you are completely exhausted? Mentally, emotionally, and physically exhausted? Where do you go? Where is the well to draw refreshment and strength from? In your heart of hearts, does it feel like the time to quit? Should you ever let your mind go there? Is it even ok to be thinking about giving up or giving in? The answers to those questions will result in an eternal outcome. Do we still want to quit? Or is it time to start drawing from HIS strength, now that ours is fully exhausted? He will have to carry us; we cannot go on without Him. We are just too weak on our own. In Deuteronomy 1:29-30, Moses tells Israel, **"Do not be shocked, nor fear them [the nations], The LORD your God who goes before you will Himself fight on your behalf..."** How often in times of weariness do we consider that as we stand with HIM, He Himself will fight on our behalf? Then in the next verse, **"...in the wilderness where you saw how the LORD your God carried you, just as a man carries his son, in all the way which you have walked until you came to this place."** Who do we think carried us to where we are now? THE LORD DID! When do parents carry their children? Think about it. When we were so exhausted, weak, and weary, HE CARRIED US to where we are NOW!

Deeply consider the words of Paul in 2 Corinthians 1:8-10, **"...we were burdened EXCESSIVELY, BEYOND OUR STRENGTH, so that we despaired even of life; indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves so that we would not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead; who delivered us from so great a peril of death, and will deliver us, He on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us."** There is a purpose and reason as to why the Lord lets us get into situations that are "beyond our own strength". It is so we do NOT trust in OURSELVES, but in God who even raises the dead! (Can we raise the dead? -NO! We are so limited.) The Almighty God in what is good, HE CARRIES US, His Children. Is our hope set on Him?

Even Jesus knew that God always Provides as He would go up to His Father's house, the Temple. The Temple was built [2 Chronicles 3:1] on the same mountain where Abraham went to offer up Isaac. (A shadow type parallel with God offering up His Lamb & Son, Jesus.) The Mountain was then named Mount Moriah. Moriah means "God will Provide". The Lord provided for Israel in the wilderness, He provided for Jesus, and even NOW He provides for Us, His Children. He will even carry us when we are exhausted beyond our own strength. What a Mighty and Compassionate God We Serve. Hold His hand until the end, knowing that He will carry us as we rest in His arms, even when we are exhausted beyond our own strength. He is our HOPE!

- Carey Terry