



~ Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled ~

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going." – John 14:1-4

The disciples had such hopes. They had spent the past few days in the temple at Jerusalem with Jesus. Those days revealed to them that Jesus would never be accepted by the priests and rulers as the Messiah. All their temporal dreams and hopes were slowly dissipating and falling away.

As Jesus spoke about His impending death and their subsequent betrayal, their hearts were heavy. It was hard to see through the darkness that was creeping in. Jesus read their sorrow and their disappointment and spoke words of promise that later would break through the darkness and provide light and hope to them.

So many times we are in the same place. We see what is around us and all we see is darkness and failure. What we had hoped on is not visible and we cannot seem to understand how things could possibly change for the better. It is when we are the most despondent and the most crushed in spirit that the enemy's craft is most effective.

The enemy roots our eyes on what we see, and we soon lose hold of the faith that clings to what is not seen. Our enemy can touch our circumstances and in doing so, tempt us to give up and lose ourselves to despair as we watch the reality of what we see unfold before us. But, we must always remember WHO our enemy really is "....He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies." – John 8:44

His work is to deceive. What you see is not necessarily what it appears to be. Our Lord's promise gives us the ammunition to stand strong. Don't give up. Trust in God. Remember your future, not your past. You have an inheritance. You are a child of a King! You are not alone or abandoned. God has not forsaken you. The Word says: "so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it." – Isaiah 55:11

The key to fighting the enemy is resisting the urge to compare your life to what you SEE instead of what you KNOW by the Word of God. Many times when we are faced with negative situations, we are tempted to stay stuck in that attitude. By looking to Jesus and clinging to His promise for the future, He teaches us the truth in the middle of the enemy's attacks and restores our peace and hope. This action causes the enemy to lose his hold and brings glory to the name of Jesus.

Remember, faith "is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. – Hebrews 11:1, 3 What is before us is not necessarily what they appear. God is working. Give him your burdens to carry today and He will give you back your joy and your peace.

Kimberly Mills

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