

REST: ONE OF THE GREATEST COMPLIMENTS YOU CAN PAY THE LORD

by Sandra A. Hudson

One morning, as I was about to awake from a great night's sleep, the Holy Spirit spoke to me within and said, one of the greatest compliments you can pay the Lord is to rest in the midst of a storm. After I was fully awake, I pondered what He said; then I responded, "That is so true."

So what does it mean to rest in the midst of a storm? It's not just sitting, waiting and hoping something good comes out of a situation. Nor is it being quiet and fretting when the enemy comes to attack your mind. It is doing like Jesus did (Mark 4:30-41 and Luke 4:1-13), taking the word of God, speaking it and standing against all accusations or mental assaults of the enemy, all the while fully trusting that God is not only able, but most assuredly willing to ensure that you triumph over any and every circumstance. Then it is going about your day confidently assured you will triumphantly overcome the situation.

Resting in the Lord is so easy when we esteem the Word of God higher than any situation we face in life. In Matthew 11:28 (KJV), Jesus said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour (have grown weary, tired, exhausted: with toil, burdens or grief) and are heavy laden (loaded down with burdens) and I will give you rest (enable you to cease from your labour in order to recover your strength and refresh yourself; help you keep quiet and of calm and patient expectation). (KJV New Testament Greek Lexicon)

With Jesus' strength and power, you can guard your mind and do as Paul wrote in Philippians 4:6-9 (KJV), "Be careful (anxious) for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you." When you agree with God by putting His Word in your mouth, you are in fact resting in His unfailing Word, love and covenantal commitment to us.

Since Almighty God, the maker and sustainer of the universe, and giver of life lives in, is with, and always for us, we should rest in His unfailing love, no matter what comes our way. According to Romans 4:20-22, "Abraham was fully persuaded that, what God had promised, He was able also to perform." As with Abraham, based on our covenant blessings, of which we now partake in Christ, God shall surely cause all grace (favor, kindness, ability) to abound towards us; we need only confidently trust Him and do as His Word says in Hebrews 4:10, labor to REST. Shalom!

