

BLESS THE LORD



Recently, I struggled with pain in my left knee. I was not willing to accept the possibility of a knee replacement; I have already had one joint replaced and did not want to go through that again. I began seeking God for his highest and best solution. The pain was so intense that there was moment when I could not even put weight on my leg. It brought tears to my eyes. I held onto anything nearby for support, as I made my way around the house.

The first thing I did was to rebuke the Devil each time the pain would start. This worked, but the pain would return in a short period of time. I asked The Lord about this and he reminded me how many times he rebuked Satan in the wilderness (Matt.4:1-11), and yet Satan only left him for a season, (short time). If Jesus had to rebuke the devil multiple times, I figured I should do the same thing. I began to rebuke the enemy every time the pain started up again, even if it meant doing it every five minutes.

I knew there must be a way to get lasting relief. After all, Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever (Heb.13:8). He is my healer. He paid for my healing at the cross, just like he did for my redemption.

Around that time I was reading Ps.103, and there was my answer: “Bless and affectionately praise the Lord, O my soul, And all that is [deep] within me, bless His holy name.² Bless and affectionately praise the Lord, O my soul, And do not forget any of His benefits; Who forgives all your sins, Who heals all your disease.”(Amp)

For some reason, it is easy for us to believe that God forgives all our sins. We accept that readily, once we get over the shock that he can, and will do that. But, somehow, we have a problem with him healing ALL our diseases. But there it is in black and white. “He heals ALL our diseases.” I looked closer at this passage of scripture. It says that first David Blessed The Lord. Not only did he bless him, but he blessed him with ALL that is within him. I ask, exactly what is within me. The answer was “The Kingdom of God is within you” (Luke 17:21). Jesus brought the Kingdom of God to earth and now he lives inside of you, so, His Kingdom is within you. “For the Kingdom of God is.... righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.” (Rm 14:17) That is what is truly in you, and in me.

In God’s kingdom there are beings proclaiming “Holy, holy, holy,” day and night. The worship and gratitude for the Father is never ceasing. (Rev.4:8)

I decided I would begin to bless the Lord more and more. Most of us make an effort to worship God. But this is different. It is a moment by moment blessing. Every time it comes to mind, it's giving him credit and honor for every good and perfect thing in this life and the life to come.

Then there was another scripture that kept coming to my mind. It was out of Revelations: "Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanksgiving to Him who sits on the throne, to Him who lives forever and ever, 10 the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne, and they worship Him who lives forever and ever; and they throw down their crowns before the throne, saying, "Worthy are You, our Lord and God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they exist, and were created and brought into being.(Rev. 4:9-11)

I always thought that scripture was strange. "Worthy are you to receive glory honor and power." Didn't he already have Glory, honor and power? Who was he going to be receiving it from? Then it clicked, he didn't have that kind of glory from me. He didn't have it from you. Glory, honor and power are already his. But, had I given him a place of glory, honor and power in my life? Have you? Is he still waiting to receive that from us? Or does he have to wait till we see him face to face. Have we given him the power to mold and correct us? Or are we resisting him? Are we willing to cast our crowns (or whatever is precious to us) before his feet?

I decided that he did not have to wait. Not from me, anyway. I began to Bless the Lord. I began to tap into the kingdom within me to bless him. To reach down with the righteousness of God within me to bless him. To be joyful, to tap into the peace of God within and to bless him at every turn.

Guess what? The knee completely healed. As in... I'm able to dance and do stairs without effort. I am completely healed.

We all have trials of some kind in our lives. They teach us if we are open and listening. I am learning to Bless the Lord, Oh my soul, with all that is within me, and I am enjoying the benefits of his forgiveness and of his healing power in my life.

Try it. You will like the results.

Blessings,

Pastor Sharon Cluck-Smith