

Disappointment Turns To Joy

When Jesus was crucified, His disciples lost their leader. Three years before this time, they had left their jobs to follow Jesus, because they believed He would set up His Kingdom on earth. They were interested in such things as, *“Who would set next to Jesus on His throne.”* They were engrossed in places of positions, and holding a significant office in Christ’s Kingdom. Now Jesus had been crucified!

Sure, we know the outcome now, that we are this side of Christ’s resurrection, but Jesus’ disciples did not understand. They expected Jesus to build His Kingdom on earth, to deliver them from the Roman rule and set them free in a new world empire. They wanted to fill important places in Christ’s Kingdom. They thought Jesus, at that time, would turn an evil world into a good, godly place. But, instead, now, their Leader was gone!

Since the Romans had killed Jesus, surely they would, very soon, come to kill them too. They were frightened, discouraged, and terrified. Theirs had been a lost cause. They hid behind closed, locked, doors. They were scared to death. Their future looked bleak and dark. They had lost all hope.

Have you ever felt like that? Have you ever felt like – *“If I could just survive!”* But it seemed that you just couldn’t find a survival kit.

Then something happened! John 21:4 says, *“But the morning was now come!”* The disciples did not realize it, they were still hiding, crying, and wondering what the future held for them. They even doubted if God was still working, or not.

We think God is not interested, that He is no where around. We get the impression that we are running the whole show by our self.

But, God was at work then. He was on the job, then – and He is on the job in your life!!

“The morning came” – and the news began to spread across the land, ***“He is risen!”*** The disciples became changed men. They came out from behind closed doors, and faced their own death without any fear whatsoever. Why? Why? Why? – Because, *“The morning had come!”*

What did the morning bring? It did not change the world around them. It was still the same. They still lived in the tense times. The disciples were still rejected by the religious leaders and governmental officials. They had every need to be afraid. It was as dark as before – Except for one thing – ***Jesus was alive!*** He was not in the tomb.

What will make the difference today, in your life? ***Jesus is alive!*** If He is alive in your life, as you leave this service – the world around you may not be one bit different. You may still have the same set of circumstances tomorrow morning, you may have the same problems at home, and the same impossible situation – but, if Jesus Christ is alive in your life, *you* will be different! Things may not change, but if you have the living Christ *“in”* you, you will be able to face your situations with a new, fresh approach.

The living Christ, within you, will not, necessarily change the world around you – but the morning will come for you. ***Let Jesus Christ into your life!***

Scripture refers to “*Christ `IN` you*” It does not matter what happens, as long as you have two things:

1. God on the throne
2. Your faith in His is intact

Everything will turn out alright – Maybe, not “*your way,*” but God will enable everything to “*work together for good*” – “***His way!***”

One of our missionaries witnessed to a tribal chief, who accepted the Lord as his Savior. The chief looked for the day when he would turn everything over to his son. But, his son was stricken with sickness and died. The chief went into the bush to mourn. He could not be comforted.

Finally, the missionary reminded him of God and began to quote Scripture to him. The chief responded, “*Where was God when my son died?*” The missionary, thoughtfully, said, “*He was the same place when His Own Son died – on His throne!*”

As long as God in on His throne, and, as long as our faith in Him is intact, we will never have to worry about the night.

The morning is coming for you!