

Spiritual Care Message with Prayer

The other day I was reminded again of a statement by the Psalmist in Psalms 77:6. It reads: I will remember my song in the night. But when we think of singing, we think of sunshine, carefree spirit, pleasantness and happiness. We think of lightness of heart and joyful anticipation. When the Psalmist mentions a song in the night it seems worthy of thought. Night is like darkness, worry, fearfulness, dread, with complicated sad anticipation. But I also notice that the word song is not by itself, but it reads 'my song', so what is that? Well, humanly speaking my own song is my own...it is manufactured by my own thoughts and emotions. It would be most unlikely that with darkness, worry, fearfulness, dread and the anticipation of sadness that I would personally have my own song.

In Psalm 40:3, the Psalmist mentions a song also, and he says: 'He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God'. This is a new song, a gift from a Giver...the Giver is God. His song becomes 'my song' when He gives it to me...so a song in the night, 'my song' is a gift of God the Father to His child, to be sung not only in sunshine, carefree, pleasant, and happy circumstances, but also 'in the night'. This is one of the things that cause the follower of Christ to live with a quiet confidence in God, the One who loves and cares for us, in the midst of all difficulties. His song becomes 'my song'. And the rest of that verse says it is a song of praise to our God. Wonderful song that affects our world!

Many years ago, when my husband and I directed a conference ministry in the Berkshire Mountains in New England...a summer activity of the Hephzibah Ministry, I recall a serious problem we were facing. We lived in a cottage with a covered porch, and because I could not sleep as I kept thinking over and over about the problem and no seeming solution, I quietly slipped out on this porch in one of the chairs, in total darkness. As I sat there during the hours after midnight, quite suddenly out of the darkness, I heard a single bird warble a song. It was startling, yes, but it also brought tears to me and this wonderful Scripture from Psalms 77. 'I will remember my song in the night; I will meditate with my heart, and my spirit searches.' The words for the rest of this Psalms, indicates he works through all his doubts and misgivings and arrives at the right conclusion, that in life there are hurdles and storms and stresses, but God is present and powerful and personal. God gives songs in the night for those of us who follow Christ Jesus.

~Lois E.

Prayer:

We are grateful, Lord, that you give us a melody in our hearts when we are in a hard place, when things seem out of order and darkness moves in. Thank you for the song that praises you even when all is not well, simply because we know that when things are in your hands, when we are in your hands, no good thing you withhold from us and you work all things for good to those who trust you. We praise you, Father. Amen

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