

Rest For A Weary Soul Daily Devotional - Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Praise the Lord and Good Evening,

Last year one of my neighbors elaborately decorated the exterior of his home for Christmas, only to have his decorations stolen and/or destroyed. The neighbor was furious and stripped down what wasn't stolen. This year, sad to say, his only decoration is a wreath on his front door.

What I found interesting though is this year there seems to be more homes lighting up throughout the neighborhood than there've been in years. I don't know what to attribute the noticeably increased level of outward displays, but it's beautiful to see.

So far the neighbor who was victimized hasn't done anything else than the wreath. It is sad to drive up and see his home so dark. Even though he has some physical limitations, he made a great effort to decorate his home so beautifully last year. This year it looks odd that his home is not one of the homes on the street glistening with bright lights. However with the greatly increased participation of other neighbors (we haven't decorated yet, but plan in celebrating with decorating our windows) to me it feels great to see that for the one that was lost, so many others have stepped up in place of the neighbor whose celebration was destroyed.

Now I know we can celebrate Christmas without lights and this devotion really isn't about my neighbor's lights. My point is the enemy of our souls would love for the saints of the Lord to take the same attitude as my neighbor.....have some things gone down the road of disappointment? Are you experiencing something that you feel has robbed you of your joy and you've resorted to not going beyond the basics? Have you decided it's lights out for you since being hurt/taken for granted/walked on and over/mistreated/misunderstood?

The enemy loves to take your desire to press on away. He is pleased when you say, "Fine, take it all. I'm not even going to bother anymore since this thing has happened to me. It's not fair." Consider this....it might not have been fair...but if God is God and we celebrate Him for being God and not for giving....then we should step it up again and celebrate because God is still God.

Yes, this is easy when it wasn't my lights that were stolen. But we've all felt at one time or another that we've been mistreated. What will you do about it? What will your spiritual house look like? Will it be a bare-bones praise....simply giving the minimal because you've been attacked by the enemy? You mean that's all the Lord had to give and the devil took the last one? You mean you can't move on? Don't let the enemy rob you again and again....so what if he took this, that or the other....that still doesn't change the power of God, nor does it change what God has planned for you. Why should you put your spiritual lights back up and celebrate again? Because God is still worthy, that's why!

And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. (Luke 1:47 KJV)

In the Master's Service,

Pastor Michele D. Turner
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Matt 11:28-29 **Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls**