

## Rest For A Weary Soul Daily Devotional - Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Praise the Lord and Good Evening,

On the drive home tonight from work, I noticed quite a few homes in our neighborhood were well decorated. Then there were some that were done on a smaller scale. And then there were some that had no decorations up at all. I thought about my neighbor with only a wreath up (if you didn't know the history of how intricately involved his home was decorated for Christmas, you might not think anything of his wreath on the front door)...but I thought about his anger and subsequent scaling back of Christmas lights.

I considered how we can get caught up in feeling sorry for ourselves and end up scaling back in our praise, worship and overall walk with the Lord. We are responsible for maintaining our spiritual walk. It is on us to make sure that we're seeking the Lord (and not just when we need Him to deliver us)...but to truly seek Him....to want to be in His presence. There are days when we don't always feel our best, but our walk with the Lord should not be based on how we feel. If that is the case, then we're in a world of trouble, because the enemy of your soul will have you "feeling" bad all of the time. Do you know people who, on a good day, can find reason to complain? There's always something wrong? There's always a reason to frown? I know we've all had periods in our lives where we didn't "feel like" spiritually walking right....however, just like we don't always feel like going to work (but go anyway), pressing out and going that extra mile....we must not be so quick to give up our spiritual walk.

Thank God for renewing our strength.....He knows we feel bad some days and He knows the reason why we've scaled back, but the reality is scaling back in our walk with the Lord only hurts us. My late Pastor/Mother used to talk about becoming bitter or better. Did someone make you angry? You feel you have a right to scale back on God because of what people did to you?

I've learned that regardless of what you choose, becoming bitter or better, either one you choose requires effort on your part. Obviously the enemy will feed bitterness (he will "help" you justify why you have a right to scale back....turn the lights out, take the ball and go home, let them do it without me....it doesn't matter how the enemy does it, he just wants you to buy into his selling points....We can choose...we must choose what we will become...you can tune out spiritually and become bitter or you can become better (effort required here as well.....) You can find cause to rejoice (and when your strength wanes, you can ask the Lord to restore your strength) or you can find cause to wear the badge of bitterness, scale back and throw up just enough to appear to be celebrating, but God knows the real story.

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

In the Master's Service,

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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**