

July 22, 2022

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

1 Pt. 5:5-11 *In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.” Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you. Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. And the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will Himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To Him be the power for ever and ever. Amen. (NIV)*

I have to admit there are some days that I just feel down, flat, uninspired and tired. We all do. I find on those days in particular, that I need some rest. Not necessarily a nap or extra sleep, but a refresh. Spiritually, this can only be done by surrender. Peter says we are to be clothed in humility. The Greek word here means ‘to tie a knot.’ It is like a baker’s apron that is put on and tied in the back. The LORD moves forward and we move backward. As a servant, we must serve. We must choose to do the will of the Master. This comes from continual submission to His will and His way. When we humble ourselves, it means that we are putting Him above everything else in our hearts, minds, and souls.

We are then able to cast our anxiety and cares upon Him. It means to throw something onto someone or something else with the intention of leaving it there. I think sometimes we cast our cares on Him and then come again and pick them up and carry them as a burden again. **Ps. 55:22** *Cast your cares on the LORD and He will sustain you; He will never let the righteous be shaken.” (NIV)*

Now, we know that the most difficult part of this is the consistency and determination of this. Once we give these things over to Him, we must not come and pick them up again. We must trust that He has taken our burden and is acting upon it. We must not listen to the roaring lion that is trying to frighten us, but to the King of kings Who is not frightened of anything.

Dear LORD, we submit ourselves and our cares upon You alone. You are able to carry these because of Who You are. You will restore us and strengthen us to stand firm today. In Jesus Name, Amen