Daily Devotion #173

**Jesus Knows What He Is Doing**

**John 16:33 (NASB)** *"These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world*."

There have been many things in life that have frustrated me because I didn’t know which direction to go or how to handle them. Every person who had lived understands those frustrations. But what keeps me feeling any sence of stability is knowing Jesus is in control of my life.

When I don’t know what to do, I can confidently put my confusion in His hands and let Him guide me. However, this is a learned trait. It is not normal for the human heart to respond and react this way. When left to ourselves, we make decisions based on the information available, but mostly, we are taking shots in the dark. We don’t have the ability to see the outcome of our decisions. Try as we may, we cannot know for certain what is around the next corner.

When the disciples first met Jesus, they were overwhelmed with Him, in a good way. They, no doubt, had heard about Him, but then when He called them to follow Him, they were so taken by Him, they couldn’t help but follow. And of course the Holy Spirit was leading them to follow. But they also had a lot of confidence in Jesus. Why else would someone leave everything to follow someone into the unknown?

Even with this confidence in Jesus, the disciples didn’t leave their humanness behind when the Lord called them. There were many times when they made assuptions about what Jesus would do in certain situations. And often they left those situations completely blown away by what He said or by what He did. For a long time, they didn’t fully comprehend that Jesus was truly God who had come to the earth in human form.

It wasn’t until a couple years after they had been with Jesus that it started to become real that they were in the very presence of God incarnate. In fact, the verses just preceding our verse for today proves that. If you take a moment to read them you will see the disciples finally believe Jesus is God – the full realization of which came after His resurrection. And praise the Lord they did believe because what He was about to tell them was going to take them to a new level of faith and trust in their Leader.

It was just after this great announcement that Jesus gives them a huge challenge to their faith. He says in my paraphrase of verse 33, “Hey guys, in this world, this world controlled by Satan, you will have a lot of trouble. I mean there are going to be times when you will be so overwhelmed with challenges your heads will spin.”

What Jesus meant was that in our lifetimes, no matter who we are talking about and when, there will be times of difficulty. Some emotional, some mental, some physical, some even spiritual. And we can all attest to that truth. There is not one soul who has lived any length of time who has not experienced times of challenge like these times I’m talking about. Unfortunately, often they get the best of us.

Jesus says to all of His followers (again my paraphrase), “Listen, you are going to question a lot of things and why they happen. But I’m telling you. If you put your focus on Me, I will get your through them. Why? Because I came to overcome all of them. I am God. I can handle anything that comes at you. I can get you through the saddest of times and the most confusing times. I can get you through the troublesome times and the times when your physical body won’t work any more. I can even get you through the times when you have to say good-bye to a loved one. Why? Because I am God. And as God, I can do all things.”

What is troubling you right now beloved? What issues are you facing that seem to have no answers? What hurts are you experiencing? How many disappointments are you working through. Who has hurt you? Jesus is the answer. So, be of good cheer. That means, instead of worrying or fretting over something or someone, look into the face of Jesus. Keep your eyes on Him. He knows the way. He will get your through. Why? Because He is God, and He loves you so much, He came to rescue you from this world of trouble. Let Him do so.