*Thursday, June 12, 2013*

**Now Faith**

Romans 13:11-14 And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. 12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. 13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. 14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof. (KJV)

One of the most popular children’s songs is ‘rock a bye baby’ which is sung softly to get a child to sleep. The devil has his own version of that song to get carnal, baby Christians to fall back to sleep spiritually and miss out on what our Lord has for them. The enemy has many of God’s people out chasing a dream in the carnal realm thinking that something in the outward can bring peace and contentment to the Church. The enemy also lulls people to sleep getting them to think someday, when I am ready, then I will deal with this God stuff.

John 11:25-26 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he was dead, yet shall he live: 26 And whosoever lives and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? (KJV)

The last couple of weeks we have discussed the term baptism, what it really means and what it no longer represents. We have seen that baptism is really a new way of life, that doesn’t take place until there is a death. The same holds true with a resurrection; you won’t rise up, until you put the old man down and leave him there. Our Lord operates in the now, even describing Himself as, I am. Isn’t it comforting to know that when the Lord said that He would never leave us nor forsake us that we have been assured that when we call upon Him, He responds “here I am”?

Galatians 2:20-21 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. 21 I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness comes by the law, then Christ is dead in vain. (KJV)

If we are to be Christ like then shouldn’t we be operating in the ‘I am’ also? Our new life in Christ and being baptized into His death is what allows us to live by faith in the realm of the Spirit. I no longer frustrate the grace of God with old, outdated, dead rituals of the flesh, but I now walk in a newness of life.

John 14:5-6 Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? 6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. (KJV)

The Bible asks the question how can two walk together unless they are in agreement? How can you know that you are truly going the right way unless you are heading there today, right now? You can have directions to a destination but miss getting there simply by missing one turn. The same thing can happen spiritually if you start thinking beyond today, or keep your mind in the past, thinking that something back there is going to bring peace today.

Exodus 3:13-14 And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, what is his name? What shall I say unto them? 14 And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you. (KJV)

So what answer will you give when encountering one of God’s people today? Will it be some old outdated response, or are you ready to give our Lord’s response? I know I am ready, are you?

God bless dearly loved, and have a prosperous day in Christ Jesus our Lord.