

From Our Father's Heart  
11613

There are many ways that I bless My people.  
Some of them look and feel as if I have abandoned them,  
but the opposite is actually what is happening.  
Few people in the church see prosperity as I see it.  
It is because their flesh dominates their thinking.  
They are unable to really see My ways,  
because they haven't died to the world's way of thinking.  
Prosperity, in My economy, is how much your heart and life  
are in line with the heart and life of Jesus.  
Few really press in long enough to gain His heart,  
turning away when I begin to separate them from the norm.  
You are truly prospering  
when I place you in My refiner's fire.  
These times are misunderstood and frowned upon by most of the church,  
because you look as if you are out of control;  
and most of the time appear as if you have failed miserably,  
sometimes for long periods of time.  
The road to intimacy with Me, which creates in you the heart of Jesus,  
is never a comfortable road to the flesh.  
I take you there because I have plans for your life.  
Some of you have wondered why you are even on that road.  
Your life is continually in upheaval, your plans are dashed on the pavement;  
and you feel as if you are abandoned more often than you feel secure.  
Be at peace.  
No matter how much your flesh resists,  
I know who you are in your inner being, the real you.  
I have called you to a place you have never been;  
a place you may never have thought of going with Me.  
Soon, even though you could never imagine it now,  
you will be more comfortable when you are being refined,  
than you are when you're at rest, being refreshed.  
You will even be anxious to get back on the path to Jesus.  
Your heart will delight in each trial and test,  
knowing that you are pleasing Me by your submission to My hand.  
The "inner man" in you will cherish spiritual growth more than material gain,  
understanding that it is far more important in My eyes.  
While others attempt to protect their lives from any kind of discomfort,  
you will embrace the challenges that I present to you  
as the love gifts that they are.  
While others remain close to the world with their cold religion and empty lives,  
you will crave only intimacy, and press into every trial with fervor.  
They will appear to be the ones who are being blessed.  
You and I know better.

Isaiah 30:18 The Living Bible "Yet the Lord still waits for you to come to him, so he can show you his love; he will conquer you to bless you, just as he said. For the Lord is faithful to his promises..."

Isaiah 30:20 The Living Bible "Though he give you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet he will be with you to teach you – with your own eyes you will see your Teacher."

Isaiah 55:8-9 AMP For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, says the Lord.

9) For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.

Phil. 3:10-11 AMP [For my determined purpose is] that I may know Him [that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him, perceiving and recognizing and understanding the wonders of His Person more strongly and more clearly], and that I may in that same way come to know the power outflowing from His resurrection [which it exerts over believers], and that I may so share His sufferings as to be continually transformed [in spirit into His likeness even] to His death, [in the hope]

11) That if possible I may attain to the [spiritual and moral] resurrection [that lifts me] out from among the dead [even while in the body].

Rev. 3:19 AMP Those whom I [dearly and tenderly] love, I tell their faults and convict *and* convince *and* reprove and chasten [I discipline and instruct them]. So be enthusiastic *and* in earnest *and* burning with zeal and repent [changing your mind and attitude].

The times soon to come will require honest followers of Jesus Christ, not cold, confused zealots. God is refining a people to not only represent Jesus properly in this world; but also, to be fully prepared and waiting eagerly to meet Him when He comes. Unfortunately, many in the church do not see themselves as both.

Jesus will not be joined in marriage with anyone who has a whorish heart, a heart that is not like His in every way. This presents a problem for many of the doctrines present in the church today, because most of the church has a heart that craves many things other than His heart for satisfaction. We “sell” our emotions and desires to areas of comfort, rather than refinement. We look for His return only because it will allow us to escape this world.

Should the return of Jesus be soon, two things must happen. Either He will take only a very few - those who have a mirror of His heart - with Him, or an intense refining fire is coming to the church to create His true heart in us before He comes, one that desires and loves only what He desires and loves. Anything other than that denies the work and intent of the cross and the holiness of Jesus.

I believe it is vital for all of us to set aside all conjecture, debate, and contention about pre, mid, post, or “even if” and seek God’s presence with all of our hearts. Finding out what pleases God should be our only pursuit. This life in Christ requires the absolute death of all our fleshly ways. It is the intent of the cross and the only way to intimacy and Christ-likeness.

It’s time that we got on with it. Each of us needs to request that the Lord do what it takes to take us where He wants us to go. What is His intent for our relationship with Him? How are we intended to represent Jesus? How do we become like Him?

Wanting to really press in – Jim Corbett