

Psalms 90:10 The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength, labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

January 15, 2010 is my 80th birthday.

Birthdays are a fleeting thing. This one will be also. The other 79 were. But this one has some things in it that are different. All of my family will be here to celebrate with me. I requested it be only them for a reason. I want to talk to them from my heart. I want it to be in a comfortable family gathering where they all feel a love from me and for me. I want them to listen to me out of a heart full of love. I want my whole family to be saved. They all know what it takes to be saved. They were all born and lived in a home where Acts 2:38 was the Plan of Salvation.

The key to staying saved is hope. Romans 8:20 For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, Hope is a dwelling place, designed by God, where all is well. The key to this type living is to accept it and be aware that God is always there looking out for you. God will never leave you nor forsake you. God is there in your darkest hour.

We all live alone. We all have felt pain and told no one about it. There are people all around us but only one person lives in our body. God chose to make us this way so He could develop His children as individuals. Jesus came to show us how to think and live alone in our body. He said: Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. Also, My peace I give unto you.

Some things, that we do not call well done, God gives high rewards for. It is caused by staying and fighting the battle of right, only to lose it. God rewards us for faith, not for the ground we conquer. His "well done" is not for the spoil we bring to heaven but for our spirit we kept clean by His blood. God's personal reward is to see a child He died for stand before Him, praising Him throughout Eternity. His well done is for the battles we lost fighting evil. Many men die on the battlefield before the war is won. **The One Big Battle we must all win is against SIN.**

All my big decisions for God I have had to make alone. As you get old and can work less, life becomes more of a decision making process. The saying is true: Old men for counsel, young men for war. It fits the battlefield. Old men do with wisdom the things their muscles can no longer do. The Word becomes precious to them. It is their strength.

The faith of a young person is in endurance. Waiting on God is a powerful mind set. I have done it many times. God has a waiting room and the Bible is on the table in this room. I have sat there many times, reading the Bible, as I waited on God. The first thing He would teach me is the -how to- of waiting on the LORD. 1 Thessalonians 1:3 speaks of my ~ work of faith ~ my labor of love ~ my patience of hope.

Knowing without faith it is impossible to please God, I start with my work of faith. Do I believe God? I have trained myself. When I ask myself this question, which I do often for my own benefit, I have the right type of a -yes- ready to respond. Everything in me says yes, I believe God. Next is my labor in love? Do I love what I am doing? Despite all the hardship my answer is yes. When you love what you are doing it is not work.

Then: Is my patience of hope? Can I be patient while I hope in God? Again my answer is yes, I will be patient. This is what endurance is all about. They that wait on the Lord will renew their strength. The inspiration of God renews the muscles. Excitement cures fatigue. Love is a power generator. You become full of power when you are full of love for someone. Ask a married man who crawled out of bed to provide for his wife and children. Also, there are men who gave their life in battle to save a buddy. Greater love hath no man than this.

To arouse such love in your life you need to study the life of Jesus. There are thoughts He did not and would not think. The first being, He would never abandon His reason for coming into the world. We need to let Him bind us to the horns of this altar of sacrifice. The battle cry is: Faithful unto death. Death is part of my journey.

The full scope of my ministry is not complete until the dead are raised and I awake in His likeness. Then death is swallowed up into victory. Then I have finished my journey. Then I will be like Him and see Him as He is.

Until then I will carry on. I will fortify my faith with His WORD. I will believe God. I will keep the faith. Here I stand. I can do nothing else.

My prayer is: "God save my family at any cost, to me and them!"