

There's Beauty in My Brokenness

We've been in the midst of a pandemic for over a year now. Our finances have been affected, our jobs have been impacted and our ability to move about freely has nearly evaporated. We've all experienced what I call "COVID brain." Whether we realize it or not, our minds have been scrambled by the lock downs and the new way of living. This season has reignited loneliness, anger, depression, disappointment, anxiety and fear. In many ways, we feel broken.

What if I told you there is beauty in brokenness?

I was listening to a song with that very phrase in it as I watched the snow falling outside. I wondered, what on earth is beautiful about being broken? If we can pull our thoughts for a moment out of the pit of brokenness, we will see that there is beauty in everything. If we look close enough through the despair, just for a moment, we can see the light of Jesus beckoning for us to look up.

We find ourselves in this pit of brokenness through the enemy's constant bombardment of our thoughts about how awful things are. I'm not discounting our problems, by no means, but think for a minute. What kind of thoughts dominate your mind? Believe me, he has kept us in our brokenness through repeatedly filling our thoughts with how hopeless things are, and how little control we have over our situations.

Praise God that even in the pit of brokenness, we can have joy, peace and love. Sound impossible? It isn't. In our brokenness, we still have power and victory. Jesus didn't die on that cross, grab the keys of death from the grave, and then rise again with forgiveness and salvation in both hands so that we can sit in a pit with a broken spirit forever. Look up beyond the hurt and the pain. Look past the discomfort and the feeling of hopelessness. Look to the One who holds your future and the answers to your brokenness.

Then capture your thoughts and chase the enemy out of your head. I hear some of you saying, "Easier said than done." You are right. It's easy to say, "I refuse to be burdened with your lies" to the enemy whether you believe it at the moment or not. Will he try to cause you to struggle? Yes.

But who are you and who do you belong to? If you can't do anything else, just shout back, "I am a child of God. He loves me. He brings me joy when you bring me pain. He brings me peace when you bring me confusion. He brings me love no matter my situation. I belong to the King of kings. I have beauty even in my brokenness!"

So when the enemy tries to dump those thoughts of anxiety, fear, and hopelessness, block them with these affirmations. Keep repeating them until they become truth and light for you. Then feel the beauty, true joy, and love of Jesus. Then come out of that pit singing His praises. You don't have to stay there. Ask the Father to show you His joy.

"I will be glad and rejoice in Your love, for You saw my affliction and know the anguish of my soul. You have not given me into the hands of the enemy but have set my feet in a spacious place." **Psalms 31:7-8**

"Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy...Very truly I tell you, My Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete." **John 16:20, 23-24**

Prayer

Jesus,

I praise Your holy name and thank You for my freedom. I thank You for my salvation and for being my Way to the Father. Because of You I am a child of God. I am redeemed, a new creation, blessed and highly favored. I

belong to You because I am one of Your flock. You are my Good Shepherd and You lead me, comfort me, and protect me. If You are for me who can be against me? In the storm I am not alone because You are with me. In the desert You sustain me. When the enemy comes in like a flood You raise up a standard against him. I am standing firm on You, the Rock of my salvation. Your praise is on my lips and I recount all the miracles, answered prayers, and mighty deeds You have done in my life. You have brought me this far and I know that whatever may lay ahead of me, You will get me through it. You are the author and perfecter of my faith; what You have started in my life You are faithful to complete it. I know who I am, I am a child of God. I praise You for that! Amen!