



Prisoners of Hope – Soul Food

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- A Weekly Insight into the Current Real Life Issues -

IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO SMILE AGAIN

“We were filled with laughter, and we sang for joy...” (Psalm 126:3).

There was a man suffering from a deep-seated lingering disorder for 38 years at the pool of Bethesda (**John 5**). The scripture refers to this man as an ‘Invalid man’. The word ‘Invalid’ means: ‘worthless, unacceptable, illogical, etc.’ That means, for 38 years this man was not accepted by his community. For 38 years, this man was found worthless and rejected by his own people. I don’t know who am I talking to, but I strongly believe that this man might be representing you or someone you know. Well, you might say that since you’re not sick, you don’t relate to this man. You might not be sick physically, but you might be sick spiritually, financially or emotionally. You might be wearing that beautiful smile or makeup, but deep down within you there’s a gap that nobody else can fill.

You keep on tossing & turning throughout the night, tears coming down your eyes, wondering ‘*how long should I suffer like this*’. You live with somebody in the same house, you don’t even talk to each other and you wear a bright smile on the outside as if all is well. You might be feeling ‘*worthless, rejected, unacceptable, unloved, lonely and discouraged*’. But I’m here to let you know that God has not forgotten about you. In case you didn’t know: God never reject His own. Those plans He has for your life are not dead yet!

This man was at the Pool of Bethesda. Bethesda is a Hebrew word which means ‘A Place of Mercy or a Place of Grace’. In today’s scenario, we would call a Church the Pool of Bethesda. This man had been at the place of healing for 38 years, but still he didn’t receive his healing. You’ve been going to church every Sunday hoping that your situation would get better but you’re still the same! You’ve been prayed for; laid hands on & you’re almost disappointed because you didn’t receive your breakthrough, right at the place of Mercy.

It doesn’t matter how long you’ve been in the shape that you’re in; there is still hope for you! Yes, I’m talking to you whose ‘*having marital problems, going through a process of divorce, facing financial crisis, going through emotional struggle, been sick for a long time, struggling through drugs, alcohol, etc.*’ I want to let you know that when it’s your day of deliverance, nobody or nothing can stand in your way. The scripture says **“Everything happens at God’s appointed time” (Ecclesiastes 3:1)**. Don’t get off the queue yet, because you’re next on the line.

You might have lost some things in the fire. You’ve lost some things through that divorce. You’ve lost some things in the battle field. You’ve lost some things through that sickness. God knows about the pain you’ve endured. He knows about the times you’ve been tossing and turning throughout the night. He has seen your tears. You must understand that the enemy took them by force. But the good thing is that you won’t have to lift up a finger in this battle, because the Lord will fight for you (**Exodus 14:13**).

I’m here to announce to you: **‘It is time for you to recover all that rightfully belongs to you!’** I don’t believe God brought you this far just to leave you now. God has a surprise in store just for you. Your end will be greater than your beginning. Don’t give up; because God has not given up on you. In fact; I saw you tomorrow and **‘You are better than this’**. It’s time for you to smile again. Expect God to show up early in your life this week! Enjoy a fresh new beginning today, have a very Blessed week and **Continue to be a Prisoner of Hope**.

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PRAYER OF SALVATION

The Bible says if you believe that Jesus Christ died for your sins and was raised from the dead; your soul shall be saved. Your decision to accept Jesus as your Savior is the most important decision you can make in your life. It’s a decision that gives you assurance that your soul will find rest, when your body is buried.

If you can believe, please give your soul an assurance of rest and say this prayer from your mouth:

Dear Lord, I come to you now, just and I am. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sins. You know my life. You know how I’ve lived. Forgive me Lord. I repent f my sins. Lord Jesus, come into my heart and make me the person you want me to be. Live your life in me and through me from now on. I receive Jesus Christ as my new Lord and Savior. From this day forward, I belong to you. Thank you Lord, in Jesus Name. Amen!

If you said this prayer for the first time, I personally welcome you to the family of God. I would like to give you some information and pray with you to assist you in your new life.

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