

Let There Be Light

"The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the defense of my life; whom shall I dread?" Psalm 27:1 (NASB)

Number 3 in the series "God's Faithfulness in My Daily Battles"

I was 38 years old when I put my trust in Jesus as my Savior. In those 38 years, many hurtful things were done to me, and in my sin, I hurt a lot of people. There was no light in my life. No hope. All was darkness and pain. I did not know that God loved me and that I could talk to Him and ask Him to help me. I did not know that Jesus died on the cross for me to pay for all of my sins and to forgive me. I did not know that I could get comfort and help in making decisions by reading the Bible. I did not know that Jesus could heal my broken heart and that the power of the Holy Spirit could free me from bondage to sinful habits and restore my marriage. I did not know any of those truths. All I knew was pain, hopelessness, guilt, shame, anger, bitterness, and so much darkness.

Then on March 30, 1976, God's amazing grace flooded my heart and soul with the truth of His gospel light. Mere words cannot express the changes that happened in my life and marriage as I surrendered my life to Jesus as my Lord and Savior. Daily as I read the Bible, I came to know and love God not only as my God, but also as my heavenly Father. I came to have a deep, loving relationship with Jesus not only as my Savior, but also as my friend. I came to love and respect the Holy Spirit not only as my teacher and the source of my power to obey God's Word, but also as my friend and comforter.

Surrendering my life to Jesus did not mean I had no more problems, suffering, or pain;

however, I was no longer in darkness, hopelessness, and despair. I now have the light of God's Word to lead and guide me and daily give me wisdom for each situation. I have Jesus praying for me 24 hours a day. I have the Holy Spirit giving me His wisdom, discernment, power, strength, and comfort daily. I have family and friends who pray for me, listen to me, hold me accountable, laugh and cry with me, and encourage me.

I know I will never be alone again because Jesus said in Hebrews 13:5 (NKJV), "... I will never leave you nor forsake you." I have forgiven everyone who hurt me. I live free from guilt, shame, and condemnation because I am quick to repent when I sin in order to receive Christ's forgiveness.

My worst days now are wonderful compared to my best days as an unbeliever. My peace and joy do not depend on my circumstances. They come from my daily relationship with Jesus Christ. I no longer live in darkness. I live in the light of Jesus' love for me.

Beloved believer, whatever suffering, tests, and trials that you are going through, remember you have the Word, you have prayer, you have Jesus and the Holy Spirit to love and help you, to comfort you, and to encourage you. I want to encourage you today. Trust God. He will never leave you nor forsake you. Can I say to you, let there be light. Let there be light! Unbeliever, there is light for you in Jesus.

With a goal to glorify Jesus Christ

Janice McBride