

Time for Improvement

As I was preparing for today, I had a thought, “When God works within us, it always brings improvement.” Right now, He is at work improving something within you.

Friends, the season in which we live is always at work to destroy our faith in Him. It is vital that our confidence (faith) is rooted only in Him. Trust the work He is doing within you.

“Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ” (Philippians 1:6).

When we lived in Illinois the Lord told us to sell our 2000 foot home and move several towns over to open a daycare. We loved our home, and we were very active in our community. However, God confirmed to us several times we were to move.

The home He led us to purchase was on the corner of a busy intersection and a main road connecting several towns. We had five children, all under the age of 14. Not a great choice in the natural next to a busy highway, but it's what God told us to do. We knew what God had spoken to us. We knew God was directing us and that He had this specific place in mind for us: “having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation” (Acts 17:26). Did I mention the house He picked for us was not set up to be a home and a daycare?

In order to do what God asked of us, we needed to have some pretty detailed work done to the house. We sought out a contractor to help us and began the remodel. The transformation to the daycare center was huge, took time, lots of money and a lot of hard work. It had to be done right. Each thing needed special attention since something else would be part of it. We hit some BIG bumps along the way where we questioned if we had heard right, but trusted Him anyway. We were determined to keep our eyes on Him knowing He would take care of it.

Can I tell you something? Sometimes, it was hard. I mean really hard! There were times when unexpected things had to be ripped out or totally taken down almost to the foundation (otherwise it couldn't support or serve it's true purpose).

Some of you feel like your being taken down to your foundation!
Some of you are feeling ripped up.
Some of you have been overwhelmed by unexpected things!

Some of you are undergoing changes you don't like!

Please hear this, change isn't always easy but it is necessary to move forward in HIM!

The Lord is saying that some of you are in the very process of being changed. You are being transformed into something completely different than what you once were. The process has been slow, at times painful, but it is necessary to transform you. You are frustrated with the process but you are rooted in Him and will come out of this.

When Paul wrote to the Philippians, he was confident in what God was doing in him and through him. Paul knew God was building something better. Paul's confidence was not in the situations or the people but in his God.

This verse is twofold because there are two types of work being done:

- (1) work being done in you
- (2) work being done through you

There is a GOOD WORK underway within you. The process may hurt at times, but it's a good thing! (Getting rid of footholds is never easy).

Keep in mind that it is Kingdom work. It has Kingdom purposes. Therefore, it brings Kingdom changes. But you must keep your confidence in Him!

Be encouraged. Your Contractor is God Almighty. He will continue to work this good purpose within you until Christ returns. Whenever His work is done it always brings improvement. The work God does in us accomplishes one central thing. It makes us more like Jesus (see Philippians 2:5-10).

God's purposes are eternal and never change. His purposes are rooted within the events of our lives, but we need to fully surrender and present ourselves to Him.

November 6, 2015
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