

Q&A from previous meditation.

- **What does the Spring harvest really mean personally in a believer's life? A practical definition if possible.**

The spring harvest is of the barley and wheat. This represents the first resurrection, the first fruit Christ and they that are Christ's at His coming. The significance of the Spring harvest is a call to a higher life in Christ. This is a time God is separating us to Himself. The first fruits are willing offerings. *Revelations 14:1-4* shows that the first fruits are not defiled by women, but they follow The Lamb wherever He goes. This means they are chaste and have not broken their covenant with their God. They follow the lamb and not man-made ideas or doctrines. As they follow Him, He teaches them the right way to worship Him. There is a reward for those who serve God in the due order. These are also people who do not have guile or flattery on their lips. This is what we must watch for in our lives to be a part of the spring harvest.

- **Can you explain *1 Thessalonians 4:13-17* again?**

This scripture has a lot contained in it; however, we considered this verse to establish that there will be a resurrection. The verse starts off by saying that those who believe in God will be brought with Jesus. In verse 15, Paul begins to emphasize the resurrection of the dead. To examine the full message in this scripture would require further teaching which would come in a different meditation.

For this very reason, applying your diligence [to the divine promises, make every effort] in [exercising] your faith to, develop moral excellence, and in moral excellence, knowledge (insight, understanding), [6] and in your knowledge, self-control, and in your self-control, steadfastness, and in your steadfastness, godliness, [7] and in your godliness, brotherly affection, and in your brotherly affection, [develop Christian] love [that is, learn to unselfishly seek the best for others and to do things for their benefit]. [8] For as these qualities are yours and are increasing [in you as you grow toward spiritual maturity], they will keep you from being useless and unproductive in regard to the true knowledge and greater understanding of our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 1:5-8 AMP

The bible says we are co-labourers with Christ in His house, which you are. Peter began this chapter speaking of great and precious promises and in the above portion of the verse, he shows important things to take heed to because of the hope set before us. We are to use the seven promises to add these things

to bring about the perfection of our faith. The attributes shown in the verse above cannot be added by any man. As one stays yielded to God, He adds these things to an individual.

In the Old covenant, God supplied all the equipment needed to build the tabernacle of Moses and then asked the people to willingly bring these things to build His house. *Exodus 20:25* says we do not lift up our tool to build the Lord's altar, lest we corrupt it. The things listed are also not added to us Chronologically either. However, we need to examine ourselves daily to see if we are growing in these blocks to ensure that these things abound and prosper in us, *1 Corinthians 13:5*. *Jeremiah 23:5* says the King will reign and prosper. This means that Christ will not have a regime in our lives, but He will be prosperous. If these attributes are in a person, they will never fall but will always abound in the knowledge of God.

BLOCK 1: Virtue.

Virtue, when mentioned through out the bible, majority of the time speaks of strength. We see this in *Ruth 3:1*, *Proverbs 12:4* and *Proverbs 31:10*. Virtue is not just power, it is prevailing power. *Mark 5:30* and *Luke 8:35* speaks of Virtue as Dunamis. The word Virtue in this verse speaks of moral excellence. A chaste life brings healing. As we believe in God and becomes acquainted with Him, Virtue flows from Him to us.

For a thing to be considered powerful, it must be driven by excellence. Virtue rides on the Spirit of Excellence, working in you and causing you to excel in every aspect of your life. This excellence manifests itself in excellent living. This virtue is a right of the first born. In Christ, we have been given a first-born Status, though gentiles, *Ephesians 2:15-22*. Hence, we have access to this prevailing power.

The Advantage of The First Born.

Reuben, thou art my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, the excellency of dignity, and the excellency of power: Genesis 49:3 KJV

The verse above shows the five-fold benediction to the overcomer: The firstborn status, might, beginning of strength, excellency of dignity and the excellency of Power. This was given to Reuben by right, as a first born. However, he was unstable as water and lost it due to fornication. His fornication did not reduce the power of a firstborn; however, this right was simply transferred over to Joseph. Christ made sure that we were adopted into the firstborn status as shown in *Ephesians 2:13-22*. We see a type of this in *Genesis*

45:5, when Jacob adopted the sons of Joseph and said they will be as “Ruben and Simeon” to him, first and second sons. Hence, when Ruben lost the first-born status, the next first born was Joseph, *1 Chronicles 5:1*.

In the case of Jacob and Esau, we see in *Genesis 25:22* that there was a contention for the birth right in the womb that continued even after they were born. However, Esau initially prevailed in the womb and was given the first-born status, even though by election, God had chosen Jacob. Although Jacob was a supplanter and stole the birth right, we see his prevailing before God in *Hosea 12:3-5*, when he wept and made supplication before God. Fornication, either spiritually (loving the world and despising our birth right) or physically can cheat us of our birth right, *Hebrew 12:17*.

Another example of this firstborn status was seen in *Genesis 38:28-30* in the case of Perez and Zerah. There was a fight in the womb for the position of the first born. Zerah put his hand out long enough to be tied with a scarlet thread. However, Perez prevailed and won the genealogy and birth right. He did not lose his right due to fornication like his uncles has done. We see that he was placed in the lineage of grace. The first born right secures our place on the throne so long as we abstain from fornication.

Zerah however, had the scarlet thread upon him which was the mark of redemption. This story would be the same of us, who press on to partake of the first fruits. We would redeem our brethren. Zerah indeed needed redemption. The family of Akan which had the accursed garment, causing a set back for Israel in *Joshua 7:18-20* was from the line of Zerah. However, after his redemption, by King David from the line of Perez, a number of the mighty men of David were Zarahites (from the line of Zerah) as seen in *1 Chronicles 27:11&13*. We also will bare many up through our ministry without bounds. Zerah was in the courts of the King, while Perez was on the throne.

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In conclusion, we have the right to prevailing excellence in everything we do, physically, spiritually and soul wise. This virtue has been given to us and as we remain in fellowship with God, we grow in it.

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Philippians 4:8 KJV

The grace of the Lord Jesus be with your Spirit. Amen