

FREE SPIRIT *Restoration Ministries*

Weekly Word From The Pastor

Pastor Talisa Thomas-Hall

March 2008



March 1, 2008

Sunday's Message: The Uncommon Man

Scripture: Acts 11:1-29 (Key scripture: Acts 11:9)

Responsive Reading: Psalm 47:1-9

"He shall choose our inheritance for us, the excellency of Jacob whom he loved, Selah."

A Word From the Pastor

"He shall choose our inheritance for us, the excellency of Jacob whom he loved, Selah." Psalm 47:4

The Holy Scriptures are able to enlighten and encourage us if we only allow. As we go through the course of life, situations may arise that lead us to ponder how we ever came to arrive at this point and how will we ever see daylight. It may not be a life or death struggle. Sometimes just arriving at a crossroad in time where we are required to make a life-changing decision is cause enough to make us say, "Why me Lord?" Psalm 47:4 professes that God himself has chosen our inheritance...our portion.

I am mindful of Abraham who left the comfort of home to journey on a path that he knew not. He could have rested in the security of his earthly father's house but God chose and called him for a higher purpose...one that required that Abraham relinquish his earthly inheritance to acceptance God's will. In trusting God, and accepting the will of our heavenly Father, Abraham inherited a promise that was rich enough to extend to all of his generations included you and me.

Psalm 47:4 says, "He shall choose our inheritance..." You see, God had a portion that was just for Abraham. No man could have given this to him. This kind of inheritance comes only by the hand of God. Likewise, God has a portion that is uniquely chosen for you. As it states in Psalm 47:4, God CHOSE your inheritance – it was hand-picked by the will of God. No one else can deliver this customized promise to you and no one else can receive it but you. Even more so, the Word says that your inheritance is "the excellency of Jacob whom he loved." Know that excellency means "of outstanding or valuable quality" and "a title used for high dignitaries of state or church". In other words, God has reserved for you a portion of the same quality and value as one of His royal beloved.

So how does this apply to our situation today? Know that God is in control of your life if you allow Him to be. As the God of your life, He desires to bless you far beyond what you envision your success to be here on earth. He has a royal blessing in store for you so don't be fooled or grow weary in your present state. Allow this promise to enlighten and encourage you – celebrate the excellence that God has in store for you. For He truly loves you and desires to bless your life.

If you have not accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord, or if you need to renew your relationship with Him, please do so today. For God desires to adopt you into the kingdom promise but this only comes by Jesus Christ. (John 1:12) We rejoice with you and welcome you. If this word has been a blessing to you, we also invite you to visit with us again...and bring a friend.

Love and grace...

Pastor Talisa Thomas-Hall

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March 23, 2008

EASTER Sunday

Sunday's Message: Freed By His Grace

Scripture: St. John 18:1-8 (Key scripture: St. John 18:8)

Responsive Reading: Psalm 95:1-7

"O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise unto the rock of our salvation.

A Word From the Pastor

"...Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead on the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins shall be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.
St. Luke 24:46-49

As we celebrate Easter let us remember that He, Jesus Christ, was victorious in His resurrection so that through Him, we can also taste of victory. Examine today the "dead" areas of your life – those things that seek to rot the vision and hope; and decay your peace and joy—anger, hurt, mistakes, unforgiveness, condemnation, abuse, loneliness, sin. Commit these things to the grave and let your spirit be resurrected. For Christ was compelled by the love of God to take our sins upon Himself and deliver them to the grave so that we could experience true freedom and liberty. So let these things that seek to destroy you, remain buried under the blood of Jesus Christ!

Through our deliverance, we are witnesses of His compassion, love, and power to forgive pardon and uplift. Through victorious living we are a testimony of His grace and resurrection. And even more so, through the exercising of our faith in God through Jesus Christ His Son, we release the power from on high of which we are endued (filled).

Thank you Lord for loving us more than our human hearts can ever comprehend. Let our little light so shine to reflect a portion of your love to a world in need of hope.

If you have not received Jesus as your savior and Lord, or if you've drifted from His presence, I personally invite you to come unto Him today. Let Him free you from your sins and restore you to love, hope, and newness of life. We rejoice with you and invite you to share the news of this awesome freedom with others.

Love and grace...

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