

Prayer Focus

December 28 - January 3, 2021

Running the Race

When the LORD touches us, we often cannot help but run....

"Then the hand of the LORD came upon Elijah; and he girded up his loins and ran ahead of Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel." 1 Kings 18:46

"Then Ahimaaz the son of Zadok said, 'Let me now run and take the news to the king, how the LORD has avenged him of his enemies." 2 Samuel 18:19

"Then the LORD answered me and said: 'Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it." Habakkuk 2:2

"I shall run the course of Your commandments, For You will enlarge my heart." Psalm 119:32

"10 Hear, my son, and receive my sayings, And the years of your life will be many. 11 have taught you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in right paths. 12 When you walk, your steps will not be hindered, And when you run, you will not stumble." Proverbs 4:10-12

"He sends out His command to the earth; His word runs very swiftly." Psalm 147:15

"Do all things without grumbling or disputing; so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I will have reason to glory because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain." Philippians 2:14-16

"³And there was the angel who talked with me, going out; and another angel was coming out to meet him, ⁴who said to him, 'Run, speak to this young man, saying: 'Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls, because of the multitude of men and livestock in it. ⁵For I,' says the LORD, 'will be a wall of fire all around her, and I will be the glory in her midst.'" Zechariah 2:3-5

New Year Resolution

I (Melody Divine) confess that I detest New Year's resolutions. Promises made to the self about the future.

However, reflecting upon true changes that need to be made as directed by Holy Spirit, and relying on Jesus' strength to help one make those changes, have true life-changing potential.

I have run numerous long-distance races, which have helped me develop the discipline of endurance. One thing I have been reflecting on is my desire to run "the race" well, without getting weary, and without stopping.

When one runs a marathon, or even half-marathon, there are water/Gatorade stations that you run past while being handed a cup to drink and toss. The idea is to get the nutrients needed without having to slow one's progress or lose time.





I believe we are entering a time of increased urgency to run, and keep running, without stopping. We know there will be an end to this race, and we know that once we reach the end, it is victory for us. What we do not know, exactly, is how much will be required of us as we run. For this, we must rest in Him, and get our strength from Him, alone.

"If you have run with the footmen, and they have wearied, you, Then how can you contend with horses? And if in the land of peace, In which you trusted, they wearied you, Then how will you do in the floodplain of the Jordan?" Jeremiah 12:5

Running without getting weary can only be accomplished by abiding in the Vine, fixing our eyes on Him, and partaking of His strength alone.

"1Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,** ²**looking unto Jesus**, **the author and finisher of our faith,** who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:1-2

"28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, The Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the weak, And to those who have no might He increases strength. ³⁰Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall, ³¹But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint." Isaiah 40:28-31

We are awaiting King Jesus, the Lord Himself, and our desire should be to invite everyone possible to the wedding banquet of the Lamb.

We need to run in this time. May we resolve to do it.

"6And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, 'Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! ⁷Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.' ⁸And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints." Revelation 19:6-8

"Then he said to me, Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!' And he said to me, 'These are the true sayings of God.' And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, 'See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." Revelation 19:9-10

Pray

- Offer thanksgiving, gratitude, and joy at being blessed to be called to the marriage supper of the Lamb.
- For the Body of Messiah to have supernatural endurance and care for one another.
- That the urgency of the times would be ever before us.
- Thank the Lord that we have the high honor to Stand for Him.

- For courage, boldness, and the fire of the Lord to ignite our hearts to live in the victory we know is sure.
- That we would live in Revival, be Revival, and that the State of California (as a beginning) would be awakened, saved, and redeemed due to the lost being saved, healed, and delivered. "Revival: restoration to life, consciousness, vigor, strength." See Dictionary.com
- That we would run the race that is set before us with endurance, and that we would throw off everything that would hinder us.
- Offer thanksgiving that He supplies our needs, including our very strength.