

A New Beginning

“What a mess!” I thought as I looked at my cluttered floor, over laden desk, and messy closet. The task of cleanup was overwhelming and I started to do what I always do – delay, procrastinate, put-off until tomorrow, etc. The problem was that my existence was in the same shape, advertised for all to see in my cluttered surroundings . . . too many hats to wear, too many tasks to accomplish, and too many demands on my time. What a mess!

It is so easy to think that what Jesus did for us – his passion, his death, his burial, his resurrection, his ascension – just applies to our spiritual life. However, I was reminded, as I looked at my messy surroundings, that Jesus came that we might have life, and have it more abundant . . . and He didn’t mean clutter! He meant the God-kind of life where victory and success abound. To me that day it suddenly meant victory over clutter.

We often talk about Lazarus and the day after his resurrection; he had to go to work. We do not talk much about Jesus and what He had to do after His resurrection. First, he appeared to His disciples to help them put the pieces of the puzzle in place and to give them their marching orders. Next, He went to the Father and took His place at the right hand of God. He had a new job . . . a new beginning. He stepped into the position of being our Advocate, the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, a Son over His own house, an intercessor, and the mediator of the new covenant. I could go on with His many titles but I think you get the picture.

The position He filled had never been before – it was a new appointment. Finally, after the many years of preparation, the position was created and He was qualified to fill it. The plan of redemption had been carried out and He had taken back authority and dominion from the devil. God in man (incarnate); “man” in the throne room of heaven.

I don’t know about you, but it is hard to wrap my mind around all that Jesus accomplished for us in His death, burial, resurrection, and ascension. I have a difficult time keeping all the provisions and blessings of that new covenant in my awareness on a day to day basis. I have to visit and re-visit God’s word and refresh my understanding and my memory. But, the one thing I am sure of today is this – Jesus brings new beginnings.

When we accept Jesus as our Savior and our Lord, we begin a wonderful adventure – discovering and filling the new position that God created for us through the gift of His Son. That new position comes with knowledge, understanding, wisdom, skill, authority, and power built in to fill that position with victory and success. All we have to do is our part – spend time with Him and let His mind be in us.

We can take our place in that new position (yoked with Him) and learn to use His help at all times for our entire life. He will reveal His word to us and put all the pieces of the puzzle in place. He will give us our marching orders, telling us what we are supposed to do and when -- just like He did His disciples so long ago. Then, to top it all off, He makes Himself and His grace available for the asking. We just have to be bold and go to Him, the source.

In John 16:33 Jesus declared the peace and the victory that He brings with these words, “These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.”

Take courage. Jesus has overcome the world (Satan’s system). There is nothing that He cannot give you victory over -- even over cluttered desks. Hallelujah! Jesus is Risen! He is risen, indeed!!