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ALL IN TO BUILD FOR OUR FUTURE

"The God of heaven Himself will prosper us: therefore we His servants will arise and build...So we built...for the people had a mind to work. A good person leaves an inheritance for their children's children..." Nehemiah 2:20; 4:6; Proverbs 13:22 (NKJV)

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This Week's Thought – April 9, 2017

"Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30 (NKJV)

One of the worst kind of burdens we might encounter, can come from our own doing. The burden of worry overwhelms us at times, so much so, that we can't see the big picture of God's faithfulness because we are so consumed with our own anxieties staring us in the face. The burden of pride is equally as exhausting in its relentless desire to be right, to be recognized and not be rejected. For many, the most crushing emotional weight is the burden of fear—the feeling of our nose being just above the water, knowing any new issue will drown our faith in quiet despair. Yet, when we go to Jesus and embrace His meek heart—we rest, we renew, we rejoice for our burden becomes light under the lift of our Lord.

Jesus was a man who was not unacquainted with sorrow and the caustic effect of sin—not His sin, but the sins of individuals and of society. He knew firsthand the necessity for rest in His heavenly Father's comfort and care—to stay the course on His Kingdom mission. Jesus is a gentleman—He invites: "*come to Me*," not demanding but gently reminding that He is the place of soul care.

"In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith." (1 John 5:3-4)

The world only offers trouble, not trust and rest. So lay down your burdens at the feet of your Lord Jesus. By faith convert burdens into building blocks of faith whose architect is Almighty God. Meekness does not mean you passively disregard your desires, but it does mean quiet confidence in Christ to carry out His calling on your life.

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You can boldly move forward because your heavenly Father has your back, so no need to embrace disbelief. Meekness means strength under control. Go to Jesus and learn of Him!

Learn of His love and you will learn how to better be loved and to love. Learn of His gentleness and you will learn how to let the Holy Spirit harness your heart for His purposes. Learn of His humility and you will learn a new level of serving others that brings only joy, not jealousy. Learn of His rest and you will learn of a deep peace uniquely qualified to calm the soul and a contentment that is fully satisfied with Your Savior's agenda. As the fruit of meekness ripens its harvest is a Kingdom inheritance on earth—peaceful and resting in Christ.

"But the meek will inherit the land and enjoy peace and prosperity." (Psalm 37:11)

<u>Prayer of reflection you might pray this week:</u> "Lord God, You have promised to remain forever with those who have received and acknowledge Your Son Jesus as Lord of their life. Help me to live in Your presence. The loving plan of Your wisdom was made known when Jesus, Your Son, became man like us. I want to obey His commandment of love and bring Your peace and joy to others. Keep before me the wisdom and love You have made known in Your Son. Help me to be like Him in word and deed, as I seek to follow and imitate Him in every area of my life. This is my prayer in the matchless, wonderful and compassionate name of Jesus. Amen!"

"And then God answered: "Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what's coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn't lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It's on its way. It will come right on time." Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Pastor King