

My Thoughts for Sunday 21 September 2014

Hello my friends and readers. It looks like I can say I am back for as long as our gracious God allows. I am now 3 weeks back and feel you all deserve some explanation for my unannounced absence. I was recently married, early in July to a very wonderful lady, a true gift I felt the Lord had deliberately placed in the middle of my journey. Little did I know at the time of the value of this gift. Within a few weeks I was struck by a debilitating illness that placed me in a wheelchair on my good days, in bed or ER on my not so good ones.

I must confess and am finally able to do so, that the illness was not what kept me from writing to you. Along with this illness came another condition that I mentioned in last week's post. I kept asking God, "Why Me." Instead of remembering all the many blessings He constantly showers on me, especially the gift He gave me when He knew I was going to need her the most, I went off in my own little corner and told myself, with the help of often present Satan, that I just couldn't do it anymore.

I was wrong, I can and will continue with the constant and faithful help of God, through whom I can do all things.

My new bride finally got through to me with her constant encouragement that all I really needed were some serious and heartfelt prayers for healing of my mind and heart, not the constant questioning of God's reasons for my problems. I am swiftly learning to get back on track and stop looking at the down side. I assure you wholeheartedly that prayers do work.

With that said, I want to encourage you all, especially those who might also be on that downhill slide into a pity party; "Don't go there". Your gracious God is only a prayer away, and I assure you He is listening and waiting for you to ask for His help.

As God told Joshua so very long ago, *"No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you, I will never leave you or forsake you"* Joshua 1:5

We were reminded again of this promise in [Hebrews 13:5](#) *Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said; "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."*

When you get so down as we all have a tendency to do from time to time. when illness strikes, when jobs end, when we may have marital problems, when everything and everyone seems to be against you or when you are tempted to slide down that dead end road remember the promise God gives us in [1 Corinthians 10:13](#) (NIV2011) ¹³ *No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.*

We must always persevere in order to gain that prize God offers us in Hebrews 10:35-37

³⁵ *So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded.*

³⁶ *You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what He has promised.*

³⁷ *For, "In just a little while, He who is coming will come and will not delay."*

Rejoice with me as I say thank you God for your great mercies, may your name be praised forever and ever.

