

Living a Cruciform Life

That time of year has come again; the Easter season is here. It is a time for us to reflect upon our Savior's death, burial and resurrection. It is often difficult to think about Christ's crucifixion without thinking about His command for each of us to, "take up our cross and follow Him." (Luke 9:23) One must imagine that, at times, in this process (just as it was not easy for the Savior to carry out this act of ultimate salvation for the world), we are also often wearied when taking up our individual crosses and sacrifices for the gospel.

Listen to what Paul reminds us of in Romans; he says: "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." (Romans 8: 18) While we take time to meditate on the heroic act of our savior on Calvary's Hill during this Lenten season, let us also remember; that although it is not always easy to fulfill our individual destinies with Christ if we both maintain and suffer through it with Christ. In the end, we shall be able to partake in the glorious resurrection He desires to reveal in each of our lives. I am not sure what form this glory will take in your own life. Perhaps, you will experience the favor of God's providence regarding a special project or decision? Maybe, it will take the form of spiritual renewal or a career breakthrough after showing faithfulness to God in your current job? What about the removal of *burdens* that have held you down emotionally for years?

Whatever it may be, I encourage you to hold on and not give up so that you may see God's glory revealed in your own life. As a result, "the God of all grace, who hath called you unto his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast." (1 Peter 5:10 NIV). This week my prayer is, as we examine our own connection to our Savior sacrifice, that God's resurrection power will be essentially felt in all of our lives.

Remaining In His Light,

Rev. Rae