

Devotional From Charles Spurgeon

"They did eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year."

Joshua 5:12

Israel's weary wanderings were all over, and the promised rest was attained. No more moving tents, fiery serpents, fierce Amalekites, and howling wildernesses: they came to the land which flowed with milk and honey, and they ate the old corn of the land. Perhaps this year, beloved Christian reader, this may be thy case or mine. Joyful is the prospect, and if faith be in active exercise, it will yield unalloyed delight. To be with Jesus in the rest which remaineth for the people of God, is a cheering hope indeed, and to expect this glory so soon is a double bliss. Unbelief shudders at the Jordan which still rolls between us and the goodly land, but let us rest assured that we have already experienced more ills than death at its worst can cause us. Let us banish every fearful thought, and rejoice with exceeding great joy, in the prospect that this year we shall begin to be "forever with the Lord." A part of the host will this year tarry on earth, to do service for their Lord. If this should fall to our lot, there is no reason why the New Year's text should not still be true. "We who have believed do enter into rest." The Holy Spirit is the earnest of our inheritance; he gives us "glory begun below." In heaven they are secure, and so are we preserved in Christ Jesus; there they triumph over their enemies, and we have victories too. Celestial spirits enjoy communion with their Lord, and this is not denied to us; they rest in his love, and we have perfect peace in him: they hymn his praise, and it is our privilege to bless him too. We will this year gather celestial fruits on earthly ground, where faith and hope have made the desert like the garden of the Lord. Man did eat angels' food of old, and why not now? O for grace to feed on Jesus, and so to eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan this year!

News Bites

Islamic Militants Attack Pastor

Christians in Pakistan remained concerned over the situation of Pastor Paul Ashraf and his family after they reportedly narrowly survived a drive by shooting by suspected Islamic militants in Punjab province, seriously injuring their eldest son. Pastor Ashraf was in a van with his wife, Rubina Ashraf, and eldest son Sarfraz Ashraf, when two unidentified men on a motorbike opened fire. "Miraculously, Sarfraz Ashraf survived the shot to the face and was released from MAYO Hospital after just one day.

Sudan Christians Flee Bloodshed

Christians in Sudan were among thousands of amid several attacks against them and fears of a new civil war between the Arab-dominated north and the Christian-animist south. Hundreds of people have been killed in clashes over the last few weeks as the south, still reeling from the previous civil war with only 50 miles (80 kilometers) of tarred road, moves towards formal statehood. Thousand of civilians have been displaced following the occupation of Abyei Town by the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) last weekend.

If you would like a copy of Calvary News, you can find a PDF file at www.calvaryroswell.com under the "What's Happening" tab.

Upcoming Things...

VBS - The preparations for VBS are underway! If you are unavailable to volunteer, but have a desire to contribute in some way, a "VBS Donations" board has been set-up in the foyer. It will be updated often and has donations ideas on it!

Quotes

"God's mercy is so great that you may sooner drain the sea of its water, or deprive the sun of its light, or make space too narrow, than diminish the great mercy of God."

-C.H. Spurgeon (1834-1892)

"Trust the past to God's mercy, the present to God's love and the future to God's providence."

-Augustine (354-430)

