

Reflections of Israel

Bless Me LORD!

When I prepared to go to Israel, I asked all my prayer warriors to pray for a blessing for me. I wanted God to show me a sign, to reveal Himself to me, to speak to me, to confirm His presence to me. He answered me, but not exactly in the way I anticipated. Isn't it always God's way to do this. His ways are not our ways.

We arrived in Israel on Thursday, and I begin praying my little special prayer to God.

“Bless me Lord. Show me a sign. Give me a blessing. Lord, I know you have a blessing for me.”

On Pentecost Sunday morning, we attended Christ Church in Jerusalem. I imagined that this was a coincident, oops, I mean a GOD - incident. As I sat there in a supernatural, holy worship service I was praying, “Lord, give me that blessing. Show me something special. Give me a blessing.” Now doesn't that just sound like a spoiled rotten child asking? Oh, but He loves us even when we are selfish children. Thank you GOD. While I was praying, the pastor was talking about Aaron's blessing to the Israelites: *The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace* (Numbers 6:24-26). At that moment, it was as if God spoke to my heart these words:

“Teresa, I am your blessing. I dwell in your heart.
I am always with you. I am your blessing.
I am your portion.”

At that moment, it occurred to me that I was looking for God in physical ways. I was focused on the physical things with which He would bless me. He does give me physical blessings. However, He was telling to me that morning that He is my blessing. With Him, I need nothing else. I was moved from within so strongly that I could not contain my tears of joy. All day my mind kept going back to these words, “May the LORD bless you” (Numbers 6:24).

The following day our group went shopping. Looking around in a shop, I came across a most unusual silver ring. There was beautiful Hebrew writing on it. Not even knowing what the writing meant, I felt drawn to the ring. I looked at it and put it down; walked away and then came back to it. Finally, I asked the shop keeper, “What does this writing mean ?” He said, “It is Aaron's blessing given from God to the Israelites recorded in Numbers 6:24, THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU. This was God's confirmation to me. He is my blessing...in Israel as well as in South Carolina.

We serve a God who knows we need His loving confirmations. God took me all the way to Israel to confirm His love for me and give me this personal word. I shall never forget that He is my blessing. I do not need to look anywhere else.

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