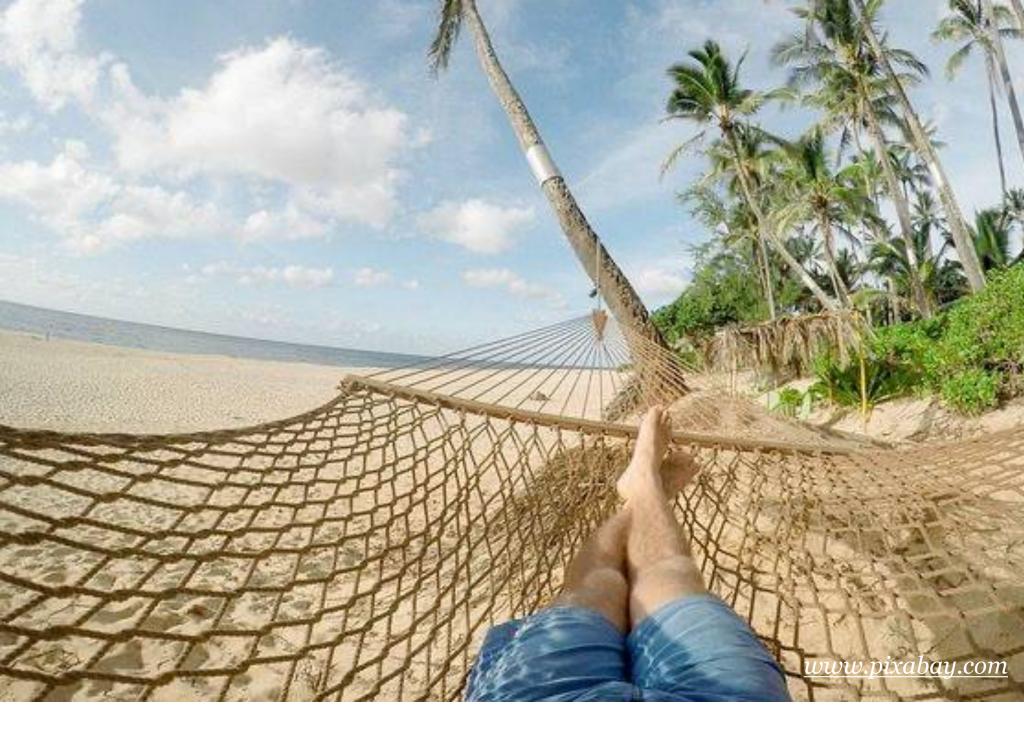




From the desk of your friend in Christ Jesus,



REST



the way to experience God

Celebrate God from right where you are.

"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you REST."

(Matthew 11:28 NAS77 emphasis mine)

We live in a soft-shelled world. We spend our time protecting ourselves from nature. This truth is pronounced today by Covid-19. Before this, our fragility was defined by the safety of our roofs, kitchens, and controlled heating



and cooling systems. Just our seasonal clothing says something about frailty.

Every moment of the day speaks to the incredulity of Jesus's teaching concerning REST. Though we are weary and heavy-laden, we are to come, and in coming find REST. Committing my frailty into a form of trust in Christ defines REST.

We are called to a magic show in which nothing changes but our insides, which are out of sight, and without measurable evidence of change, excepting from those who say it works. The 'transformed ones' declare they have REST amid their frailty, anxiety, weariness, and downright hard work.

10 "For the one who has entered His REST has himself also RESTed from his works, as God did from His. 11 Therefore let us be diligent to enter that REST, so that no one will fall, through following the same example of disobedience." (Hebrews 4:10-11 NASB95 emphasis mine)

Jesus invites us to REST while the Holy Spirit through the scribe of the book of Hebrews commands us to enter God's REST. From promise to precept, we are faced with an existential dilemma. Right here in our heavy ladened and weary state we are to enter into God's REST.

How? REST from your works.

We put away aside our efforts to create rest for ourselves and accept His. Creation speaks of what God has done to set the stage while Christ's passion is the play upon which we gaze. Once the curtain was drawn, Jesus and His acts capture the hearts and attention of both friend and critic. And with all the applause or slander one thing is assured, each person is in their assigned row and seat, an onlooker at best. Yet, even in their repose, they can miss His REST.



Time and again Jesus's work in a heart is punctuated by too statements.

The first is... "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing." (John 15:5 NASB95 emphasis mine)

You are instructed to simply remain in your seat, even if the unbelievable is happening all around you. How does this work? That is the second statement.

"Therefore Jesus answered and was saying to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner." (John 5:19 NASB95)

Yes, Jesus's miraculous show is in concert to what Father is doing, yet all His doing comes from REST. Our entering into His REST is nothing less than doing what He is doing, which is RESTing in the Father for both the acts and the results. Right here in our seats we REST and watch the passion of Jesus unfold at our feet. We become His expressions. Then the frail lives we live reflect His REST in Father.