

April 8, 2023 – Holy Saturday

Change Can Come

[Job 14:1-14](#)

Today, the last day of Holy Week, tends not to be a very eventful day in the Lenten/Easter season. Jesus has died, and His body is quietly lying in the tomb. Sometimes we are uncomfortable with quiet, aren't we? Especially if the quietness makes us feel isolated and alone.

Our Discipleship Ministries website shares this prayer for Holy Saturday:

In the hush of the tomb, we remember those who mourn.

In the hush of the tomb, we pray for those who have been neglected and rejected.

In the hush of the tomb, we lift up those cast down by dismissive glances, harsh words, and violent actions.

In the hush of the tomb, we come alongside those who wait for life while surrounded by death.

May the hush of the tomb, the quiet of the waiting, and the awe of Jesus' poured-out love form us into midwives of life in the midst of death. Amen.

One unusually uninterrupted morning, as I contemplated Job and read this prayer, I was reminded that, with God, no matter what trials or difficulties we face in life, He is there. We have quiet times and not so quiet times in our day-to-day existence, but that does not mean we are ever alone. Simple as that.

God is ever-present, and, as part of a community of faith and the connection of a church family, we are surrounded by people who love us and accept us. And, as disciples of Christ, we are also charged with making sure those around us are lifted up and do not feel lost in the quiet of their lives.

In our scripture, Job uses different examples to show how short and full of trouble a person's life can be. Job had lost almost everything, including ten of his children, his property and livestock, his social status. I'm sure he felt very abandoned and alone at times. He knew, though, that his restoration, or his change, would come. He kept his trust and hope in God.

Jesus' death and resurrection shows us that although we may live a short, sometimes troubling life on earth, there is another everlasting life to come. Holy Saturday quietly transitions into Resurrection Sunday, one of the most glorious days of our Christian year, and, as we prepare to celebrate Easter, we need to keep our faith and hope alive. God is our refuge.

Prayer: *Dear God of our quiet and not so quiet times, thank you for being there for us, and for allowing us to be part of something larger than ourselves; that we can not only feel the peace, love, hope and joy of our Christian lives, but to also share the same to those around us. Amen.*

Jim Minutelli, CLM

West Buckhannon & Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Churches
Greenbrier Wesleyan District Lay Leader & Director of Lay Ministry
WV Conference Communications Lead Team