

## **Teresa's Thoughts – March 2008**

Thank you for visiting us again this month! We have received so much encouragement from your responses to our first edition. Thank you for all of your kind words and excitement about the Ladies E-pistles. We are still excited and trying to keep our feet on the ground as we continue to strive to serve our LORD and reach out to our sisters in CHRIST. If there be any glory, if there be any praise it all belongs to GOD.

It is SPRING! What blessings the LORD gives us all- for free! All we have to do is wake-up and enjoy!! In Genesis 1:14 we find that GOD created the lights in the firmament and the seasons of the year on the fourth day. The seasons of the year are alike as each has day and night as well as rain and sunshine. Each season also has its differences. Spring is the beginning of the cycle for the growth in vegetation and animals. Summer has everything in full bloom and growing as the LORD waters and nourishes it for our benefit. Then comes Fall, with time for maturity and great blessings of harvest. And, of course, the winter comes to give things a rest. The cold and snow nourish and replenish the earth so the wonderful beginning of spring can occur once more. Who, besides our wonderful Creator, would be so giving, while receiving so little in return? It is often presented in poetry how our lives are as the seasons. This is a beautiful way for this blessing of life to be represented.

The spring brings newness as in the birth of a child. Think on this beautiful thought! What a fabulous way to picture the joyful gift of a child from GOD. Often the struggle of pregnancy and childbirth might be represented by the tornadoes and storms created as the temperatures change from the cold of winter to the warmth of spring. While at the same time the wonder of having a new life growing within us is as the small buds on the trees waiting to come forth.

The growing and maturing of our lives is as the summer. Just as summer is a time for sowing, this time is for making decisions that will affect the rest of our life and our eternity. This is a period of time when the young are full of life and exploring GOD's wonderful world. It brings so many changes and excitement to gently nudge us on our way.

The autumn of our lives come as we reach maturity in adulthood. Much like a farmer might take an account of his harvest to see what his hard work has brought forth, we humans feel a need to take a survey of our lives. We see the effect our life has had on those around us. We reap what we have sown. In Galatians 6:7-8 Paul tells us, "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his the flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he that sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life." (NKJV) What a marvelous blessing!!

Then the winter comes with its end of many things and yet its blessings of snow. The LORD points out the treasures of the snow in Job 38:22. He also expects the winter of our life to be filled with treasures – “The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness.” Proverbs 16:31 - As servants of GOD we cannot stop our work just because of time passing. We must not become weary or discouraged. Galatians 6:9 tells us, “And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.” (NKJV) Maturity is the reward of the struggles we faithfully endure. Wisdom is the wage we gain if we do things GOD’s way. We must use the winter of our lives as a time to bless those who follow us. We must set the example of continuing in His service and teach endurance in His vineyard. We must pray, study and work in the vineyard as we spread the wisdom of our years in the LORD.

Go out and enjoy the wonderful gifts of spring our Father has freely provided. No matter what season of life you are in, today is a great time to reconfirm your dedication to our Creator! Many blessings as you “smell the roses”. We look forward to visiting with you again next time!