

“The Time Is...NOW!”

“Pull Me Out Of Time”

2 Corinthians 6: 2, Luke 24: 1-12

March 26, 2016 *Easter*

Pull me out of time...please...I need a moment...to think, to process, Lord...to put my head in my heart and truly listen....to myself, to my life, to those whom I want to listen to because they have a track record of wisdom.

Pull me out of time so I can truly listen to this Easter story and move beyond it!

It is a story, right? What if it is just that and only a story made up to make a point? Would that be so bad? Would that really change anything for me?

If it were really true, would I let it change anything for me?

What do I need to know in order to believe, to believeto live?

Live...beyond the daily routine and malaise that happens in life...the palpable floating anxiety in our society that attaches itself to my every doubt, to every fear I have!

How do I become that new human being Jesus invites us to become...with a story like this in mind? Oh my....so much...too much?!! Pull-me-out-of-time....stop the clock... beyond daylight savings time....But ya' know.... even with all this over thinking....I know... I-know there is something beyond the literal meaning of this Wisdom Story and even my own life's stories.

I have this inner knowing:
There is a bigger plan than the one I have for my life alone.

I sense it. Even as I question it, I want it!

Even as I wish time to stand still, I already deeply feel You here with me in the moment!

O Holy One: You are with me!
And...I'm amazed at the way You love me all the time. I feel this subtle support with me all the time. Now!

and maybe, just maybe...what I'm really afraid of... is not so much You...

but me! The way...I...love You all the time. I need to love all the time...love You... And love people all the time!

Honestly...maybe what I'm most amazed of, and afraid of... is me....how I can love...or not! (...what I know, I feel, I need, I want.)

One thing is clear to me this Easter morning: something happened that morning long ago

It has to do with love amazingly lived!

This is a story about a love that has no end, that loves all the time, that really could, really does! ...pull us out of time and place and circumstance. Amazing!

Maybe I'm amazed at the way You love me all the time; and maybe I'm afraid of the way love You. Maybe I'm amazed at the way You pull me out of time, time after time. Maybe I'm amazed at the way I really need You.

Let it be, let that be, let it be, let it be!
Whisper words of wisdom, let it be!

The time is...now! The time is now! The time is now! For... Something....has happened again this Easter Day! Let it be!

Rarely is anything what we expect to be!
And we're more likely to expect too little than too much of life.

Our expectations are hollow, too ordinary, too mundane, not amazing! ...too defined by what has been rather than what can be and how the time is at hand. And, is NOW!

Easter is about the last thing those women who went to the cave expected that morning so long ago.

They heard the most unexpected question ever asked: "Why do you seek the living among the dead?"
The future in the past?

What a question, an unexpected question....
they never anticipated.

Took them totally out of time....
to new horizons of self-awareness and possibility.

I suspect that on this Easter morning if we tell the truth about ourselves,

the truth is that most of us...some of the time,
and some of us...most of the time...

really don't expect it either:
A surprise ending to the way things seem
to be going in our lives.

Constrained and conditioned by the mindset of the culture we live in,

we expect the dead to stay dead, dead ends to be just that,

the past to stay the future, broken hearts to stay broken,

might to make right, and violence make peace.

We expect this world to go on pretty much the way
it's always been going.

Easter is about reality taking an amazing,
unexpected twist.

Just when it's the last thing any of us are expecting...at the cave of our lives where all seems dead...

an alternative ending, possibility and hope await us ...seeming more than we can handle at first.

But...go with it...and

Expect problems.

Name your fears.

Manage yourself.

Be confident.

Learn to slow down...take the time...

AND don't expect dead ends, no help, no way through.

Let yourself be pulled out of time and expectation.

Come on down off your cross!

It's time for me and you! To love and be loved!

To be amazed!

Hear this: I don't believe in Jesus! I don't worship him!

I seek...to be with, live with Jesus!
He's not a set of ideas. He is an amazing way to love!
He's a practicum of spirituality!
I seek to believe like Jesus, not believe in Him.

A BELIEF system that strives to convince of its rightness through right thinking,
manage life rather than help us live it...
keeping expectations low...
is a faulty system, a false paradigm.

What a waste of time!
Jesus never tried to get anyone to believe anything ...maybe except to believe in themselves
the way God does!
We, as Christians, don't believe in Jesus...
we live with Jesus!

Today the point is not to believe in the resurrection
but to live a resurrected, new life...
against all odds and beyond what makes usual sense!

The Christian faith is not a set of beliefs.

We live in the ways of Jesus who preaches God's love of self, neighbor, stranger, and enemy;
shares table with those outside conventional thinking and acceptability.

We Christians show up time after time, all the time!

Show up at the Christmas Tree,
the Baptismal Font and the Mountaintop....

show up with and for each other,
staying alongside each other no matter what,
and never give up on anyone.

Christians walk the talk all the way
to our own Jerusalem-s and beyond,
willing to get nailed for what we...belove.

We go up on the cross with Jesus
and come down with Him...
not entombed but set free
to amazing possibilities of loving kindness...

You have been taken out of time this morning!

It's all in your timing now...and isn't it time?
The time is Now to love and be loved!
The time is Now! The time is NOW!

Let it be. Let it be. Let it be.

Let it be, let it be, let it be, let it be. There will be an answer
Let it be. Let it be, let it be, let it be, let it be. Whisper words of wisdom
Let it be...

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