

Tuesday; December 16, 1997; 6:25 pm \19971216.18 Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Dwight wrote this years ago. It blessed me then. It blesses me now.

HEALING A WOUNDED SPIRIT Birthday Meditations (Dwight Jester)

Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things...Even every one that is called by My Name: for I have created him for My glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him. Isaiah 44:24,43:7

Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. Jeremiah 1:5

For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.

Psalms 139:13,14

Your Life its God's gift to you!

Birthday Serendipity

For the purpose of answering the following questions, assume for a moment that you existed in heaven before you were conceived. Answer the questions with the first feeling or thought that comes to you.

1. Suppose you were setting in a group in heaven enjoying the angels and the saints of God. The Lord enters and says, "I would like three or four volunteers to go to earth." Would you have been one of the volunteers?
2. If Jesus had presented himself before you, had said your name, and asked, "Will you go to earth for me?" would you have responded, "Oh boy, yes sir, right away, Hallelujah!" or O.K. but I really don't want to go."
3. If you had come to earth but were given your choice, would you choose the time and place in which you were born, or some other century or country?
4. Would you choose to be born to your parents or some other?
5. Would you choose your father? Or some other father?
6. Your mother?
7. Would you choose to be a boy or a girl?

8. Would you choose your face?

9. Your body?

10. Your mind?

11. Your character and personality?

12. If you are a women, are you beautiful? Pretty? Attractive? Desirable? Loveable? Would someone choose you? Should they?

13. Do you like you?

14. If Jesus walked up to you in the present moment and said, "I'll give you your choice. You can either go all the way through life or straight up to Heaven with me right now," which way would you choose?

In whatever degree you would not have volunteered for life on earth or would have agreed only reluctantly to come, in whatever degree you would not have chosen your time and place or either or both of your parents, or you would not have chosen the sex you are, in whatever degree you would not have chosen your face, your body, your mind or character, in whatever degree you do not think you are beautiful or handsome, loveable or choosable, in whatever degree you don't love you, to that degree you are angry at God. You are saying inside that He could have done a better job creating you. In whatever degree you would choose to go straight to Heaven rather than live life here, you are telling God you don't like it here.

God reconciled us to Him through Jesus' cross, death and resurrection. What we can't see is our need to be reconciled to God. It is a two way street. We seem to think that we should never be angry at God because He of course does not deserve it. We think that there is no way we could forgive God because He has not done anything wrong. We forget that many times we have mistakenly held things against others who never did what we thought they did, yet we needed to forgive them. Forgiving them did not mean that they had done something requiring forgiveness, only that we needed to clear our own hearts. Just so in the matter of being reconciled to God. He is not to blame, but that did not keep us from pouting at Him, and must not keep us from forgiving Him. If we could have voiced our feelings as we were formed in our mothers womb, our cry would have been, "God, how could you? I didn't bargain for this! You didn't tell me it would be this hard! Where are you?" Or, "Lord you sent me here with a job to do for you, and then you put me in this messed-up family, and now I'm all mixed up! I can't even remember what I was suppose to do. Now how can I do the job? And how is that fair?" Or, "Where were you when I needed you. No caring earthly father would have let his child fall this far without doing something about it. Don't you care?"

Many Christians have accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior precisely to escape being who they are. Jesus had come to them and accepted them as they were without change. The sweetest meaning of Jesus' being born in a smelly stable is that He comes into us at our worst, accepting us before

we change, in any way, even when we were dead in our sins. Most people are not about to accept the awful child they have once been. They have used Jesus and the cross to escape. Imagine with me that runny-nosed, mess-in-the-diapers screeching little kid that you have been, standing tear-streaked in front of you. Now, you reach down and take that little one into loving arms. Not to clean him up first and then love him, but to hold and comfort him just as he is.

PRAYER

Lord, we repent for rebelling against being born here on earth where you put us. We repent for not liking and accepting what you created us to be. We repent for rejecting earth and ourselves and all of earth's experiences. We couldn't trust your Lordship, that you knew what you were doing. We forgive you, Lord Jesus Christ, and Father God, for creating us and putting us here. We repent for rejecting ourselves. We accept our bodies, our minds, and our personality. Reconcile us to ourselves.. Reconcile us to our time and place, or position in this earth. Reconcile us to our father and mother, our children, our brothers and sisters, our friends, and our enemies. Jesus, thank you for healing my wounded spirit, and restoring me to my place in your Kingdom.

Taken from: "Healing the Wounded Spirit" John and Paula Sanford, Victory House, Inc. Tulsa, Ok