



FRANKLIN ROAD

baptist church

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LIGHT, MOMENTARY . . .

¹⁶ SO WE DO NOT LOSE HEART. THOUGH OUR OUTER SELF IS WASTING AWAY, OUR INNER SELF IS BEING RENEWED DAY BY DAY. ¹⁷ FOR THIS LIGHT MOMENTARY AFFLICTION IS PREPARING FOR US AN ETERNAL WEIGHT OF GLORY BEYOND ALL COMPARISON, ¹⁸ AS WE LOOK NOT TO THE THINGS THAT ARE SEEN BUT TO THE THINGS THAT ARE UNSEEN. FOR THE THINGS THAT ARE SEEN ARE TRANSIENT, BUT THE THINGS THAT ARE UNSEEN ARE ETERNAL.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-18

LOOKING BACK TO EASTER WE ARE OFTEN OVERWHELMED WITH JOY AND HOPE BECAUSE OF THE KNOWLEDGE THAT JESUS IS ALIVE. AS WE WALK THROUGH GOOD FRIDAY, SATURDAY, AND EASTER EACH YEAR WE LOOK FORWARD TO SUNDAY KNOWING CELEBRATION IS COMING. THE JOYOUS REALIZATION OF AN EMPTY TOMB IS NOTHING SHORT OF EXHILARATING. THESE FEELINGS ARE NOT NEW TO US. WE ARE NOT SURPRISED EACH YEAR BY HOW THE STORY UNFOLDS BECAUSE WE'VE HEARD IT SO MANY TIMES BEFORE.

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE DISCIPLES? HOW DID THEY FEEL ON GOOD FRIDAY? HOW DEEP WAS THEIR DESPAIR ON SATURDAY? THEY DIDN'T HAVE A SERVICE PLANNED ON SUNDAY MORNING TO CELEBRATE THE RISEN LORD. THEY DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS COMING. EVEN WHEN HE DID REVEAL HIMSELF, THERE WERE STILL SOME IN DISBELIEF. TOO CAUGHT UP IN THEIR OWN EXPECTATIONS AND DOUBTS.

HOW OFTEN DO YOU FIND YOURSELF IN A "SATURDAY SEASON" OF LIFE? WHEN THOSE LIGHT MOMENTARY AFFLICTIONS WEIGH HEAVILY AND FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME ATTEMPT TO STRIP US OF HOPE. WE SEEM TO BE BLINDED BY OUR IMMEDIATE CIRCUMSTANCES AND FAIL TO UNDERSTAND THE WEIGHT OF GLORY THAT IS ON THE WAY.

THOUGH OUR CIRCUMSTANCES MAY SEEM HEAVY. THOUGH WE MAY BE WALKING THROUGH TIMES WHEN OUR AFFLICTIONS DO NOT MAKE SENSE. THOUGH HOPE SEEMS LOST. SUNDAY IS COMING. ALTHOUGH WE CANNOT SEE THE JOY TO COME, WE KNOW THAT THE WEIGHT OF GLORY THAT WILL CONSUME US FOR ETERNITY FAR OUTWEIGHS THE LOSS, PAIN, DESPAIR, ETC. WE EXPERIENCE FOR THIS VAPOR OF AN EXISTENCE ON EARTH.

OUR BODIES MAY BE RAVAGED BUT HE CONTINUES TO WORK IN US DAILY. PREPARING US TO SEE HIM. WE DON'T KNOW WHEN, BUT OUR HOPE IS SECURE.

GRACE AND PEACE,
ADAM