

May 1, 2011 "Catching God's Eye"

I've always been interested in Thomas the disciple; while the other guys were given nicknames like "Sons of Thunder" and "The Rock" poor Thomas was "The Doubter" for history. I wonder what my nickname might have been; "The One Who Snores" or "The Talker?" You probably have some for me that are not fit to repeat with children here.

I've always thought that it was so great that Jesus didn't forget about Thomas. Jesus made a point of coming to him and helping him through his doubts. This reminds me of the man having dinner at a restaurant as he noticed this beautiful redhead at the next table. He wanted to talk with her but was really afraid. Suddenly the redhead sneezed and her glass eye came out of its socket. He grabbed it out of the air and returned it to her. "I'm so sorry," she said, "Let me buy you dinner." They had a wonderful meal, followed by a movie, and a late night drink. As he drove her home they had time for a few kisses and hugs. He was amazed that this beautiful girl could fall for him. He asked her, "You are just the perfect woman, are you this nice to every guy you meet?" "No," she replied...."You just happened to catch my eye." Thankfully, we catch God's eye too.

We have our doubts and questions too, don't we? There are times we doubt what God is doing. We know that God is Good...All The Time..but it doesn't always show through the way we would want it. Our sinful nature has its own ideas. My Godson Marcus and his dear Elizabeth are struggling as their unborn baby has passed to her heavenly home. Why God? I was only 17 when my Dad died. Why God? My Mother-in Law is a woman of faith in the midst of Alzheimer's. Why God? I'm sure you have questions and doubts too, huh? Why God? Why God?

In the midst of our doubts, there are two things we can learn. First of all, doubts are not necessarily a bad thing. It has been said that doubts are the ants in the pants of faith. They keep us from getting lazy by sending us to church, reading the Word of God for His will, praying, attending Bible Class as we look for answers and strength. The Beatitudes in Matthew 6 assure us "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all things will be added unto you." If your doubts keep you seeking the Lord, this is a God-pleasing thing that will bring you peace and hope in God's time and God's way.

Secondly, like with Thomas, our Lord Jesus seeks us out. He doesn't forget us or turn His back on us just because we're confused. Psalm 55:22 assures us to "Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you; He will never let the righteous fall." Who are those righteous? All who have been washed by the blood of the Lamb because they believe that Jesus died and rose for their salvation.

Yes, God is Good...All The Time. Through faith in Jesus, we'll see those nail pierced hands for ourselves, just like Thomas did, as they hug us and welcome us into heaven because He loves us and we caught His eye. Amen...pastor matthews.