

January 2007

Blessings upon you in this new year of 2007! It doesn't seem possible that it is now well into Winter – deep enough that I can legitimately begin to reach out in my dreams for Spring. Where I live in central Indiana, we are accustomed to having frozen ground from around mid-to late December until the first to the middle part of March. But as I write this on January 18th, not only is the ground hardly frozen, but the lake where I live still has flowing water on it! Somewhere in all of this, there is a lesson.....

Farming friends tell me that we MUST have at the very least 2 weeks of a solid freeze during the Winter season so as to kill off sufficient pests that the crops have a chance to grow the next season. And those who live by the lakes here tell me that we must have a decent amount of time for the lake surface to be frozen solid, then covered over by snow, and this so as to deprive the weeds in the lake of sunlight. They have told me that if this doesn't happen, the lake will get choked with weeds the next season, not only affecting fishing and boating, but actually changes the health of the water for the sake of the fish!



While I like to fish and I love to eat food made from grains, I'm not a botanist or knowledgeable environmentalist. But these things make a lot of sense to me. My farmer friends say that if a Winter season is too warm, it can be made up by applying more insecticides on crops. However, this cuts into profits and puts more harmful chemicals into the ground. The chemicals in turn ends up in the streams, then in the water, then in the fish, then in

So winter. We need it. We need it in good doses. We need it for a season. Because we want to know all the blessings of Spring time, of new life, we need it.

We want to enjoy the beauty and maturity and warmth of summer; and we and others need the fruit of the harvest that comes in fall. For these “easier” seasons, we need a good solid Winter.

Of course this leads my thoughts to Winters of the soul – to times of spiritual frigidity, of the sense of barrenness and testing. How much we all desire to be flaming torches of passion for our Beloved, beautiful pungent flowers of His loveliness! But how to get there? The road goes straight through Winter seasons of the heart.

I don't know where you are just now in your love-life with the Lord. But I take comfort and want you to be blessed in knowing that it is in fact HE who leads us into all the seasons of our lives. If you read it carefully, you can be incredibly ministered to by the 23rd Psalm. While it doesn't speak of the season of Winter as we have been, it speaks of His being with us in every kind of circumstance.

Let's set our hearts to embrace whatever season we are in right now. Let's ask Him to pour into our lives, into our relationship with Him everything He has for us, that we might grow into yet a new season with Him – more beautiful, more lovely, more filled with grace, more like Him.

I enjoyed greatly the times of ministry the Lord afforded in the last 3 months. December was very quiet and restful. As usual I enjoyed Christmas Day with my family. I also spent several hours with Sharon and Jeff and Andrew and Elizabeth. They always sweeten my heart. The next three months I will continue with ministry 4 days each week, as I have mentioned before. In addition, I look forward to facilitating retreats in Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin. Please hold me up in prayer as I walk in these days of our Lord.

Do know you are greatly loved and appreciated. Without your prayers, without your financial support, much of what I do now would not be happening. Isn't it exciting to labor together in all the seasons of the Lord? Take care and be blessed, my friends.

My love,

Robin Lee