

“Bloom where you are planted...”

The fall of the year is an exciting time for me. It is still comfortable outside and in order to enjoy spring, fall is the time to plan as well as plant. I must ask myself, what do I want to enjoy in the spring as far as flowers are concerned? The early spring flowers must be planted in the fall. So fall is the time to decide where and what to plant. I do enjoy tulips and in early May I will be traveling to Holland, Michigan, to enjoy a couple of days of their “tulip festival.” Our tulips in southern Indiana are finished blooming but about five hours north.....I can't wait. And when spring arrives, so do the blooms of those bulbs that have been planted. I always expect those bulbs to bloom where they have been planted. Of course, I have another option for the spring. I could buy the bulbs I have an interest in and walk around my yard and drop the bulbs on top of the ground and hope for the best. Plant nothing but hope for the best. Not a very good approach because the bulbs have not been properly planted and anything could happen to the bulbs lying on top of the ground. They would easily become a nice dessert for animals.

My spring flowers and people have a lot in common. We were not just accidentally dropped and God hoped for the best. Not by a long shot. We find ourselves in a particular geographical location for many reasons. Have you ever considered that where you are right now is where God planted you? “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart.” (Jeremiah 1:5) If this was applicable for Jeremiah is it not also applicable to us? But you might say, I have been in many different locations in my life. Ok. Have you ever walked in your yard and decided certain plants did not look good where they were? And what do you do? Transplant of course. Have you ever considered that where you are right now is where God has transplanted you to? Remember Abram. “Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you.” (Genesis 12:1)

The great rewards of plants, whether planted in the fall or the spring, are the flowers. One plants the flowers to cut them and place in the home. One plants the flowers so that the blooms can be enjoyed for the season. The blooms on my tulips, daffodils, iris and many other plants are absolutely beautiful. I enjoy them in the yard and I enjoy them in the home and I often share them with others to enjoy. If we accept the idea that we have been planted in our location for a reason or if we accept the idea that we have been transplanted in our location for a reason and the business of planting and transplanting us was the work of God.....then the most important thing to address is, How are you blooming for God? I believe we were planted for the reason of blooming for God. Our blooms should be prolific no matter what our talents are. Remember Abram, “and all people on earth will be blessed through you.” (Genesis 12:3) It is expected of us to grow and bloom as a child of God. How are you blooming for God?

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