

Welcome back to the The Good Shepherd's Heart: Living Parables!

These parables are an account of my real life encounters with the Good Shepherd, which are by His divine design, and contain the heavenly jewels of revelation, wisdom and priceless lessons in leadership and stewardship that He has graciously taught me. These encounters take place on the countless prayer walks we have done, walking the beautiful farmland and coastal shores in County Kerry. They are what I call Living Parables where the Master Teacher has me walk something out in the natural, then makes me very aware He is there to teach me a spiritual lesson, wanting me to see another facet of His beautiful Good Shepherd's heart. The parables began soon after I arrived in Ireland in late September 2015.

It is my humblest honor to share the Good Shepherd's heart with you. I pray these accountings will bless you, strengthen you and encourage you as you run to finish the race that is set before you. May You hear the Good Shepherd's voice calling you closer to His bosom wanting to strengthen and restore you!

In His loving Mercy,

Tracy Hogan



Living Parable: Yours Is The Kingdom - Nothing Can Stand Against It!



I returned late Saturday night from several days of travel and ministering. After unpacking, and passing physical and mental exhaustion hours ago, I could not sleep. My physical body was done, my mind was done, but my spirit was more alive than ever and won over as I was being pulled into a place of worship around 2 A.M. I stayed in that place until about 4:30 A.M. when I finally I went to bed. I remember waking at 7:30 A.M. too tired to get up, and slept until 9:30 A.M.

After brushing my teeth, washing my face and making a cup of tea, I was anxious to be with the Lover of my soul and headed for the prayer room. As I sat before Him, my whole body felt so drained, yet I was longing to go for a walk as it had been days since our last walk. After some time in prayer, I just had to go for a prayer walk and felt the Lord's pleasure in this. He knew I was so weak in so many ways and how our walks refresh me, especially when I feel so drained.

I wanted to be with just Him – not even necessarily to pray with Him, but to just be with Him, to be in His company – to have a good family chat, or the long comfortable pauses that come in a relationship that has matured, to be able to just enjoy each others company without having to say anything.

With those thoughts I left the prayer room and got ready to leave. I had many ministry admin needs pulling at me, and I thought maybe I should review one of the prayer meeting messages that I had just completed while walking, or to keep praying as we have so much to pray for as a ministry. As I was contemplating all of this, what quickened my spirit was to abandon both those plans and to just worship Him! To worship Him to the one song, *What a Beautiful Name*, He had given me several days ago. So, I grabbed my iPhone with my worship music playlists and ear buds, and a little before 11:00 A.M. I headed out the door. I was so looking forward to this time of just being with our Beloved Yeshua in song!

It was a beautiful late morning, the sun was breaking through the clouds and the wind was refreshing, not too cold. I was marveling at His creation all around me – it is always a beautiful sight to my eyes and spirit. I told the Lord, "I think we should go on the walk that takes us to the high place." It's about a two-hour walk that passes the farmlands, up the hills to open land that is surrounded by mountains and hills, with a view of the valley and sea below.

As I was worshipping my spirit became more and more alive – wanting passionately to worship Him and proclaim His greatness, His glory, His Kingdom to anyone around me! Yet at the same time everything within me wanted to bow before His glory – He was overwhelming my senses

and it only made me want to worship Him more fervently! I soon forgot my fatigue, for every part of my being was awakened to His glorious presence.

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Soon into our walk, I became very aware of the Lord's tangible presence, as He was walking alongside on my right. I only wanted to tell Him how much I loved Him, adored Him – how He is worth everything! He then spoke some words to me that melted my heart and I started to cry. At the same time I could not stop worshipping Him!

As I did I could clearly perceive in my spirit, the Lord and I were not alone. His holy angels were on our left and right and slightly behind us. I felt the glory and majesty of the Lord like I have experienced on one other occasion. What it feels like to walk alongside the Lord of lords and King of kings, at the same time the Lover of our soul – how high and noble His heart is and how His Majesty commands all of creation to worship Him. It caused me to fervently worship Him even more.

As we continued our walk, and as I worshipped, His presence increased to the point He was now letting me see something I had never seen before. It is hard to describe in human words, but He was increasing His Kingdom all around me and letting me see just how glorious and powerful it is to the measure I was able to behold it in that moment. Even though my natural eyes could see fields, trees, roads to my right and left, my spirit eyes were opened and I could see His holy array gathering around us.

At first what I could see was the increase of His holy array around my immediate surroundings. It was glorious and astounding – I was speechless and in awe! The more I worshipped, especially when I sang the chorus of that song, You have no rival, You have no equal, now and forever God You reign, Yours is the Kingdom, Yours is the glory, Yours is the Name above all names, what a powerful Name it is, what a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus Christ my King, what a powerful Name it is, nothing can stand against it, what a powerful Name it is the Name of Jesus.

He kept increasing His Kingdom around me – more and more of His holy array gathered.

Every time I sang, He kept increasing to the point when we reached the high place – the open land – before me, behind me, the valley and sea below was completely covered with His holy array – His angels! I was quickly becoming more undone yet unable to stop worshipping Him! As I looked all around me – 360 degrees – as far as my eyes could see it was all His glorious Kingdom, and at the center of it all was the Lord Yeshua!

As we walked, the manifestation of His beautiful, glorious, majestic presence – His Light and glory went before us. As He moved, it not only moved with Him, but His power and Light increased! He was allowing me to stand right next to Him in the center of it all! How can one describe the beauty of His holiness and the awe of His power?

What He wanted me to see was just how powerful His Name and His Kingdom is – how nothing can stand against it! Darkness cannot even get close – His Light literally pushes it back. I could now understand the very words He had put in my heart to sing so many days ago on a Kingdom level – Yours is the Kingdom, Yours is the glory, what a powerful Name it is – nothing can stand against it!

This position in Him – this protection, is for all who will pay any price to be one with Him.

This position in Him – this protection, is for all who will follow Him wholeheartedly, all who will pay any price to be one with Him. For those who will deny themselves, take up their cross and follow the Lamb wherever He may lead, who will not love their own life unto death. For those who will be found without spot or wrinkle. That this is the glorious position His Bride will have in Him to accomplish His will in the dark days ahead.

What also came to mind in this moment, was the scripture He had put into my heart a couple of months ago to meditate on daily, "I pray that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will, with all wisdom and spiritual understanding, that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work, increasing in the knowledge of God. Strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and long-

suffering, with joy [Colossians 1:9-11].

He was letting me see and feel how His glorious power strengthens us with all might. How those who are for us are far greater than those who are against us. We all know the scripture, right? I can assure you this day it took on a whole new meaning to me enlarging my spirit! I stood in awe gazing all around me, undone, and thanking Him for allowing me to have this experience with Him. It will forever change how I see the battles that we as believers are called to not only walk through, but are expected to overcome by being love and Light.

I could only shout out as loud as I could for all to hear just how worthy He is! How He is worth everything – any price one may need to pay to be found to walk worthy of Him – to be abled to be positioned in that place of glory in Him where nothing can stand against the eternal kingdom plans He has for us. To crown Him with the honor that belongs to Him alone.

Beloved, we are in a serious spiritual battle against darkness that wants to stop His Light from coming forth in our lives. That wants to stop His Kingdom from being formed within us, in our loved ones, in our families and in our cities and nations. That darkness wants to stop us from fulfilling our high and lofty destiny that each of us has in Him.

If you are facing dark times, battles within and without, be encouraged and assured that those who are for us are far greater than those who are against us. Now is the time to surrender all and let His refiner's fire come and do the purifying work within your soul that the darkness within can be replaced with His love and Light. I promise you, if you are willing to let go of the things that are hindering the plans your Good Shepherd and the Lover of your soul has for you, you will not regret it!

Be assured though, it will cost you everything, but you will find there is no price too high to pay to be the Bride of Messiah – positioned in Him, in His glory to rule and reign with our Great King Yeshua for all of eternity!

Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them. If God is for us, who can be against us? [2 Kings 6:16, Romans 8:31]. AMEN!



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