

Daily Devotional

April 12, 2005

(Contributed by Lois Mullins)

Theme: Greatly Beloved

Text: Daniel 10:11-12 NKJV

"And he said to me, "O Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you.....Then he said to me,"Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words.

Thought: How wonderful, to be called 'beloved' by God. No matter what is going on around us, to be loved in such a way as Daniel is powerful. Could it be God calls me His beloved? The life of Daniel over and over reflects God's protection, provision and God's influence through Daniel on the lives of others. No, we are not exempt from hardships and trials any more than Daniel; but the love of the Lord and our sincere desire to be His, sustains us and gives us strength and direction. So many times, the scriptures soothe our troubled spirit, and help us with tough choices, and changes us in ways we could have never imagined. Perhaps, only in scripture will I hear his voice, but wait didn't I feel Him speaking to my heart when I was deciding where to spend my Sunday mornings? Was it Him who spurred me to help my neighbor, after her surgery? It must have been scary for Daniel at times, but he stayed obedient and available.

Prayer: "Lord, how I want to be known as beloved. Help me, for I am weak. Mold my life in obedience and understanding, to be used by You in sharing your love through Jesus Christ."

Reflections:

Have I set my heart to understand and humble myself before God Almighty?

As my Lord and best friend, do I share all my concerns, heartaches and weaknesses with Him?

Do I know what His Word says about my life choices? Has it made a difference?

Is He on my list of 'one day I will...?' What effect will my waiting have on those I love?