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July 2012

Dearest Friends,

*I have asked the Lord's help in continuing the content of my June/July theme in these letters to you, and as always, He is faithful!! He took me to 2 Corinthians 11 – 13, and in my June letter I shared those scriptures with you via The Message version. **I couldn't have said it better, so I didn't!** I let God's Word be shed abroad in your heart via that precious book form, and I pray, as His Word was **shed abroad** in your hearts, that the **seed**, [the Word], has fallen into fertile soil, and by now has **germinated**, and is being **nurtured to full maturity**, in readiness for that abundant **harvest**. That is just as God has promised in Matthew 13:39 and Revelation 14:15. You might like to read those for yourself and lay claim to them.*

*God's Word refers to **sowing, reaping, and harvest**, in every area of our lives; **spiritually, physically, and financially**; either for good or for evil. **It works both ways**. We will all have lived enough life to know, that should our time be spent **sowing seeds of righteousness**, [everything we do and say being found in right standing with God], then **grace and mercy** is the harvest we reap; for our personal good, and His glory, and, for the good of those with whom we have opportunity to bless. The opposite, too, is true. **If we sow seeds of strife and bitterness, jealousy and anger** etc., as found in 2 Corinthians 12:20, then our harvest is that of **discord and discontent**, and **all of the selfish by-products** associated with **evil**, and **confusion** and **dissension**.*

*That **choice**, however, forever remains ours to make. God told us way back in Deuteronomy 30:19 [Amp] **"I call heaven and earth to witness this day***

*against you that I have set before you life and death, the blessings and the curses; therefore choose life, that you and your descendants may live". The reason **we must choose** is because [excuse my grammar; God didn't make **no puppets!!!** He isn't into pulling our strings. I know we humans have tried to perfect that dirty, stinking, controlling, manipulative behaviour, as we practise it every day, on those we are close enough to, to try and control; but **God never uses such tactics. Amen!!** It's not part of His nature. That's why we are told in Ephesians 4:24 [Amp] "**...to put on the new nature [the regenerate self] created in God's image, [Godlike] in true righteousness and holiness**".*

*If we do this: - put some verbs in our sentences, and see some evidence in our actions and behaviour, then, that **seed sown**, will reproduce over and over, and become stronger and stronger, as we reach for that **wholeness of spiritual maturity**. Refer back to 2 Corinthians 13:5-10 and re-read it, and apply that advice to your own personal life. **It's like a personal faith testing kit!***

1. Test yourself to be sure your faith is sound.
2. Test yourself regularly/daily.
3. You need firsthand evidence (not hearsay) that **Christ is in you!**
4. Test yourself again. If you fail, do something about it. [Failure isn't an option; it leads to eternal separation].

*I tell you this because, living in the flesh, in the here and now, we are apt to become complacent and procrastinate, over making some of the choices we know we need to make, to fulfil our destiny and reach our destination. However, "**The authority the Master gave me is for putting people together, not taking them apart,**" [v10b, The Message], hence my letters of encouragement to you each month. The devil remains constantly on the roam seeking **to kill, steal, and destroy**, any **seed that hasn't germinated in fertile hearts**. He [the devil] hasn't gone on vacation. And if you aren't very vigilant with your **personal faith testing kit**, using it every day to check your level of **evidence**, [the good and blessed results that should be evident for all to see in your everyday life,] then you live a very frustrating existence, of never enjoying the **victorious life of blessing**, that Christ died to make available to you.*

*His death matters!! It was for **YOU** He died!!
Your life matters!! It is for Him **YOU** live!! (...or should be...)*

*If everything you do and say passes that **faith test**; that Christ [the hope of glory] permeates your being; you never need be concerned about failure. Christ has **paid in full** the price of your failures, **past, present and future**. Your only*

concern need be, to **believe and receive** the gifts He affords us on a daily basis; **“...My grace is enough; it’s all you need”** [refer chapter 12:9]. And remember He is **alive now!!!** And filled with the mighty power of God, and that **testing kit** will ensure we walk in that same **victorious** power, forever, with Him, [refer chapter 13:3-5]. Amen and Amen!!

Till next month,

From my house to yours,

Blessings of the abundant kind,

Leila Nord.

