



CelebrateChange.org

February 1, 2012

THE WEDDING VOWS

This past Monday, January 30, 2012 my body was afflicted. From 1:40am through the entire day to about 7pm I could not hold anything on my stomach. Today my lower back hurts and my abdominals feel like I've been doing crunches for hours. I enjoyed my first meal in over 24 hours and had a bowl of hot Cream of Wheat. I'm moving a bit slow but overall I'm on the road to recovery.

I shared this because through the whole year of 2011 I didn't have any illnesses at all, not even a sniffle. I was praising God and sharing my testimony with others about how the Lord kept me healthy all year long. When I took ill yesterday, I was disappointed as I anticipated keeping that testimony for another year. Meanwhile, as I was resting yesterday I told the Lord, the enemy gets no glory; I still praise God that my body's immune system is healthy and I can recover. I'm certain the enemy would like me to complain or become disenfranchised because of the setback. No way! God is great all the time.

Then the Lord brought to my mind the vows mentioned during a wedding ceremony. "Will you love, honor, and keep him/her, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all others, keep thee only unto him/her, so long as ye both shall live?" Both parties are to agree to these terms. In my relationship with the Lord He has made a covenant with me and I'm in covenant with Him. That means my relationship with Him is not to be fickle, but solid. He has promised to love, comfort, honor and keep me and has never changed or missed a beat in maintaining His promise. He does this no matter what I do. In other words, He keeps His promise and it's not contingent on my actions. That means I must keep my promise to love him, honor, obey and serve him at all times. No type of setback or change in my life should motivate me to squelch my promise to Him. I should maintain it no matter what happens. Sickness, losses, disappointments, obstacles, etc are not valid reasons to void my relationship commitment. He continues to maintain His even when if I get out of line, surely, since He is perfect, I should be willing to maintain my relationship with Him under any and all circumstances.

Bottom line is, our love affair with Jesus should last till the rapture and it should not be treated lightly, casually or as an on-again, off-again affair. He deserves our love commitment perpetually just as He has perpetually given His love to us.

Residing in Fort Worth, TX, Dr. Vanessa Dantzler Ussery is the former Senior Pastor of Home Assembly Church in Los Angeles and currently serves as its Chief Executive Officer. She is also the founder of "Celebrate Change Ministries" and the author of "My Be Attitude: Who Be You?", which is available online in softcover or eBook at MyBeAttitude.org, Xulon Press, Amazon and Barnes & Noble. Dr. Ussery is available for national speaking engagements, empowerment seminars, and lectures.

Info@CelebrateChange.org / 866-232-8176