



Day 44 - A Cardinal Reminder

Tuesday, December 7, 2019.

“But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds,’ declares the Lord..” (Jeremiah 30:17)

Whether you actively go bird watching or just happen to be out on a walk, there is one red bird that if you come across it, will be sure to capture your attention, even if just for a few seconds. It is the male Northern Cardinal. The name comes from *cardinalis*, which is Latin, meaning ‘important’. Its name also stems from the red clothing worn by Catholic cardinal priests given the bird’s vibrant, red feathers. In 1986, Dodie Osteen, mother of mega-church leader Joel Osteen, wrote the book “Healed of Cancer” after her miraculous healing of stage 4 liver cancer without medical intervention. The cover of her book is graced by the image of a red Northern Cardinal. I am not sure why this particular bird was chosen for the cover. However, every time I see one now, I am reminded of her story of healing. I later came across a Wikipedia article citing a report on birds and the transmission of the West Nile Virus during an outbreak. The 2016 Atlanta, Georgia study discovered cardinals were able to suppress the disease after becoming infected, unlike all the other birds studied. As a child of God, covered in the blood of Jesus, we are told that by His stripes we are healed. In Jeremiah 30:17, God declares via the prophet Jeremiah, “But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds...” If you, a friend or loved one is sick today, be encouraged and know that God’s will is for you to be healed. Release any unforgiveness, fear or negative thoughts and feelings. Embrace God’s love and hold to His promises as you travel on your healing journey.



Prayer: “Lord thank you for your love and for the healing blood of Christ. Thank you for the support of my doctor(s), family and friends. Give me grace, strength, greater faith and wisdom to become healed and whole. I release all negativity and embrace your love. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.”

Pray for God’s continued guidance, protection, provision and success for Cliffard Whitby (Macon-Bibb 2020 mayoral candidate) and the Whitby2020 campaign team and supporters.

Pray that God would grow and increase this movement and energize individuals to co-labor with us for positive change.