

## Sweet Surrender

I see an animal injured; it has found a protected spot under a tree and is now resting and licking the wound with its tongue. In its doggy eyes there is pain, sorrow, and loneliness. He feels so weak and cold but knows all he can do is wait, hidden, caring for the wound until it heals; if it heals.

Suddenly the animal is aware of another presence. Looking up from his wound he sees a man looking down on him. Instinctively he is fearful and tries to move away, but the sharp stab of pain reminds him of the wound, he subsides whimpering in anxiety at being at the man's mercy.

The dog glances up at the man again warily. The man is looking at him, their eyes meet, and the dog reads in the man's eyes compassion, determination, and love.

The animal feels the flow of love radiating from the man, the fear subsides. The man will not harm him, he knows. He senses that the man's desire for him is to be well and for a friendship to develop between them. The animal relaxes, hope moves his tail in a feeble flop, he allows the man to reach out and touch his wound.

This animal surrendered to another form of being - a superior being. We, as human beings, think we can treat our every wound; handle every situation, but often we find ourselves in a corner of despair, alone and hurting. We need to surrender to a superior being - God our creator, and allow him to minister to our area of need, whether it be healing, salvation or forgiveness.

God wants our hope to be in him, that we might be able to live our lives to the fullest extent and abundantly. John 10: 10

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## the jesus supremacy

*Psalm 30:1 "I will extol You, oh Lord, for You have lifted me up, and have not let my foes rejoice over me".*

*Psalm 148:13 "Let them praise the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted".*

### Warning - its fire season

These signs around Australia cause us to be very aware of where or when we light camp fires, or the burning of rubbish in the summer season. We can't take a holiday from behaving wisely and responsibly, just because it's the holidays. In life, sometimes our summers are made even hotter by fires of adversity hitting us or our families, with lightning strike precision! Clearly, the enemy of our soul does not take a Christmas holiday. (I guess Mr. Misery never can make himself merry!)

But Jesus who arose from the grave, doesn't go back to sleep in it either! (Psalm 121:3 'He who keeps you will neither slumber nor sleep.')

A tennis player in a major tournament scrutinizes his opponent for any signs of fatigue, lack of concentration or physical issues, due to extremely hot weather. I once heard a TV commentator utter a remark about a player. He said "He needs to recognise that his opponent isn't going to go away".

His opponent is human, but we have an opponent we can't see! However, Jesus is our unseen, yet supreme Master of the tournament and goes in to bat for us. He serves our enemy a mighty backhand, making him turn and run. As the Apostle Paul says in 1 Corinthians 15: 'if Christ is not risen our faith is futile and empty. But Christ is risen from the dead.'

Meditate on this chapter to reinforce the Jesus supremacy over your life.

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