



Motorcyclists Serving God and Community www.newliferiders.com Gideon1520@Gmail.com

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Dear Friends,

I'm sure we all have been on rides we enjoy remembering. Spectacular hills and valleys, twists and turns that lead to gorgeous scenic vistas. How we love to reflect and reminisce, especially during early Spring when several inches of snow, still glistening on the ground, may prevent our taking to the roads on two, or possibly three wheels, as might be the case.

As I looked out the large windows in our apartment earlier this week, I watched the snow falling. It was so pretty, even though we typically don't get as much snow this time of year; at least not as much as in the Poconos, where our eldest daughter and son-in-law live.

There is at least one fact about snow (or rain for that matter). Once it starts, we can't stop it. All we can do is react to it. And this, my friends, can involve treacherous slipping and sliding for some of us. It can also make for enjoyable times, such as skating, skiing, or riding on a sled.

Snow does present a dilemma for many of us. When it falls, it is beautiful, but after a while it begins to pile up. This creates problems for us and those who need to get from one place to another. Then, when it mixes with road salt, oil, and other sources of grime, it leaves a dirty, black slush on our garage floor.

This is where I think snow can be an example of our life. We are pure and clean when we come into this world but get filthy and dirty when we go off course. Snow can present problems as well as joyful opportunities. Snow, like life, is what we make of it.

One notable difference between snow and life is that we usually get a warning about snow in a weather forecast, while events in life often catch us completely off guard. However, we can be prepared for life's storms through the reading and studying of our Bible.

Please read the Gospel of John (16:33). It states, "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world, you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." There will be trials, we all know that, but the mere presence of Jesus in our lives gives us a sense of security in the midst of a storm.

In II Corinthians 4:8-9, we are advised to never give up, regardless of the circumstances because "we may be hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed." If you are a baseball fan you may remember legend Yogi Berra once infamously said, "It ain't over till it's over," but with Jesus it's never over, even to the point of death, because with him and through him, we will rise again and overcome all the woes of this world. And finally, there is this from Lamentations 3:21-24, **"The steadfast love of the Lord** never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. **'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul, 'therefore I will hope in him.'**"

We do, in fact, have hope from the beginning of our life to the very end when we covenant with Him. His love and grace and mercy are infinite, and His pledge to always be with us is affirmed through our rock-solid faith.

Take heart, the trials and tribulations of this life will give way to the glory and majesty of the world to come when we covenant with the Lord.

Even though we do not meet and have meals together like we used to, we are still New Life Riders. Our love for one another will show the world we belong to Jesus and be a testimony of the power of Christ to transform lives.

Prayerfully decide where you will be most effective. Look at what events are ahead and make plans now to use those days as opportunities to share God's Word. As I mentioned before, you never know who you may influence for the Kingdom of God... just by having a friendly conversation. Remember the world is changed by your example not your opinion.

Please pray for our country, our troops, firefighters, law enforcement officers, first responders, all those in the medical field and everyone who is serving to keep us safe!

May God smile upon your life so that the smile in your life reflects God's presence in it.

Until next time, love Jesus, be thankful and keep doing the good stuff.

God bless. Riding with Jesus, Bob Dillon <u>www.newliferiders.com</u>



Please watch for my emails, prayer requests and updates!

Jesus said, "Go into the world. Go everywhere and announce the Message of God's good news to one and all." Mark 16:15 (The Message)