

Some of us are *someday* people. I am going to fix that faucet *someday*. I will study for that test *someday*. *someday* I will read through the Bible, *someday* I will volunteer to help poor people. *Someday* I will stop using God's name in vain. I will stand up for the underdog *someday*.

Some of us are *today* people. I take time for prayer *today*. *Today* I help clean up around the house. *Today* I change the oil on the mower. *Today* take time to help a friend. *Today* I pay attention during church. *Today* I give an offering to help people who are poor.

I wonder, do *someday* people have a *someday* God? Do *someday* people live in a world where God is mostly about heaven and how we will be with God then? How the hungry will eat and be satisfied then? How there will be peace and justice then? Is the God of *someday* people like a coach sitting on the sidelines during the game – maybe shouting instructions, drawing up some plays during the time outs we call worship, but never in the game with us.

Do *today* people have a *today* God? Is their *today* God walking beside them and pulling the load with them? Feeding the hungry with God's *today* people now? Fighting for peace justice with God's *today* people now? For *today* people is God in the game with them, the leader of their team fighting for victory?

The second lesson today is a passage that I most often read when there has been a death. The family is gathered and I read these words: “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them and they will be his peoples and God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more for the first things have passed away.”

This is clearly a *someday* picture of God. God will be with them, God will wipe tears from their eyes, death will be no more. I imagine this as a description of God present with God's people in heaven.

But listen to the next words God speaks in this lesson: “And the one who is seated on the throne said: ‘See, I am making all things new.’”

I am making all things new. Not I will be making all things new someday but I am – right now, in this instant about the work of making all things new.

These are the words of a *today* God – a God who did not say, I will raise Jesus from the dead at the end of time but who raised him on the third day. This *today* God poured out the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost – coming to be with God’s people already. This *today* God battles sin and evil, hunger and illness, injustice and prejudice now already in the Holy Spirit –filled people who believe.

“See, I am making all things new.”

Sue and I watched the movie *Gifted Hands* the other night. It is the story of the surgeon who was the first to separate Siamese twins that shared a portion of their brain. As the story was told it was clear that God was at work with this man freeing these twins for living.

“See, I am making all things new.”

Every day among us broken relationships are restored as people forgive and begin again with one another. Children forgive parents, parents forgive children, sisters brothers, neighbors, enemies, through Christ reconciliation happens.

“See, I am making all things new.”

In some tough neighborhoods Habitat for Humanity volunteers faithfully report for duty month after month to raise up a new home and new hope for a family. God is wiping away tears and bringing laughter.

“See, I am making all things new.”

When you were baptized you were called to join God in this work – not just someday but today. God’s Spirit is in you, through faith God gives you love and strength and power to bring heaven down to earth now, already. The God of Jesus Christ is a *today* God and a tomorrow God and a forever God.

Today join God in God’s work of making all things new. You are God’s people – God himself is with you today. Amen.