Broken Things

The world today is full of broken things.

A broken window, a broken plate, a broken basket.

Broken branch, broken porch, broken fence.

Broken glasses, broken bones, broken toys.

Broken rule, broken promise, broken friendship.

Broken churches, broken marriages, broken hearts.

Who wants broken things? When things are broken, we are disappointed. Broken things are lost and wasted. It takes time and expense to fix or replace broken things. So, who wants something that is broken?

God does! God takes broken hearts and makes them whole. Jesus says, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised" (Luke 4:18).

Sometimes, broken things are the most useful. Broken flowers give more perfume. A broken watermelon allows access to juicy refreshment. A broken potato is much easier to eat.

It takes broken soil to produce a crop.

It takes broken clouds to grow the grain.

It takes broken grain to make the bread.

It takes broken bread to give strength.

God wants us to be broken so we can be useful in His perfect plan for us.

But who wants to be broken? Being broken is hard. But it is the only path to restoration and peace. God wants us to be broken, so he can remake us. Brokenness allows him to restore. Brokenness allows the light of God's life to enter and heal our spirit and soul.

How can we be broken before God? Listen to a parable spoken by Jesus.

Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, "God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess." And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes

unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, “God be merciful to me a sinner.” I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted. (Luke 18:10-14)

To be broken is to bow before God, confess my sin, and plead for His mercy. “The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit” (Psalm 34:18). It is then that we can be saved, justified, restored, and used of God.

If we are broken and contrite, God can make us beautiful.

~Daniel Allgyer