

**The Weather Didn't Cooperate**

I got an e-mail from Preacher the other day, asking about a new article for the paper. Since I am usually at the truck stop for four days a week, I spend time writing here between Tuesday and Friday. Today being Tuesday, I had it in mind to spend the afternoon writing the article after getting to Portage. The weather didn't cooperate. I got up this morning to a crisp sunny sky, and decided that Ol' Blue needed to get out of the garage. We went out a couple of days ago to do errands around town with Pinky, but we never got a chance to unwind. I've been scanning the roadways for sand and salt, and I like to wait on a really good rain, but, I will admit, "cabin fever" has gotten the best of me. I saw too many bikers cruisin' the highways over the weekend, and it is time.



When I opened the door and took the cover off of Blue, I could see my breath against the dimness of the cold shed. I could feel her pent-up breath waiting to exhale at the slightest valve opening. I regretted the fact that she had endured the cold darkness of Winter, isolated and alone, awaiting a flicker of life. I turned on the gas, pulled the choke and hit the start button. I almost felt guilty when she started up at first contact. I was remembering Jaysee, Rocky, Tommy, and others of bygone years who spent the best part of a morning trying to coax a kicker to life. Although we don't have the newest in electronics and injections, we have far surpassed the need of trying to apply a spark to a mixture in a small combustion chamber by memory, feel, and brute force. I can remember some days when the decision to ride was based on how worn out one got, just trying to get started. Whole clubs have been consumed with kicking one balky beast by turn, until it gave in or they all gave up. Many a trip was scrubbed because the beast wouldn't fire.

Ol' Blue was as anxious to get out as I was, so we set sail through town to McDonalds and the Tuesday Bible Study/meeting. I have been attending this gathering for 13 years now, and we talk about everything from bikes to Bible, politics to pursuits. I can't seem to leave town without the aid of these long-time friends telling me where to go. Three hours of staring at the parking lot through her twin headlights, and Blue was ready to be off, down the highway toward Portage. There wasn't much sand or salt on the road, and we were making good time, when the weather conspired against us. What had been a really nice day, turned into a perfectly gorgeous day, and the route to the truck stop became more diverse and indirect. I won't take time to tell you where we rode, but just let me encourage you take advantage of the opportunity to enjoy the God-given beauty around you this Spring. The earth is kick-starting to Life all around us . . . join in!

The devil takes great delight in trying to kick the life out of us. He has no feel for spark and mixture, he only has brute force. We must be worn out from all the kicking, so we retreat back into the dim dankness of the shed, hoping that another day will bring the life we seek. Mostly, our days run together with the enemy's abusive kicking, until we are ready to give up. That is when the Lord Jesus Christ comes along to bring us to life with a soft touch and a gentle word. We don't understand it, and often shrink back from it, because all we have known is the power of the boot which produces the hacking, coughing, stuttering life which is more like living death that leaks out all over the floor. Jesus said:

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Matthew 11:28-30

"If you are tired of the load of your sin, Let Jesus come into your heart.

If you desire a new life to begin, Let Jesus come into your heart.

If there's a storm that your voice cannot still, Let Jesus come into your heart.

If there's a void this world never can fill, Let Jesus come into your heart.

Just now your doubts give over, Just now reject Him no more,

Just now throw open the door, Let Jesus come into your heart."

Words and Music by Lelia N. Morris

Sam Downey



Were you in Madison Feb. 23rd fighting for your motorcycling rights? If not, don't whine when your in disagreement with the riding regulations you need to follow in the future....For more info on Lobby Day [www.abatewis.org](http://www.abatewis.org)

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