

*Come Holy Spirit
May You be glorified through these words, Lord Jesus*

Precious Pilgrim,

Have you ever had a statement that stuck to you? Such has been the case for these words: "It is what it is." This declaration was made by a dear friend. We'd been discussing a challenging situation. Strangely enough, it was not the situation that stayed in my mind, but rather her words. Maybe because we prayed and left it with the Lord. For you see, she is not only my friend but, more importantly, my sister in Christ and prayer partner. We pray together almost daily over the phone for our loved ones and this ministry, "Living Treasure," and for you, Precious Pilgrim. We'd also ask for you to pray for us.

"It is what it is." Why has that statement lingered with me for so long? I can appreciate how important it is to speak truth in love. I've been in situations and circumstances where there was like a big elephant in the room and no one would mention it, hoping the big elephant, if ignored, might go away. Wrong! Usually, it takes a loving Christ-like truth - a "Do you want to be healed?" type truth for interior sight and health and wholeness to be restored.

For me, I remember once overhearing a gentleman ask his wife, "What has happened to Lucy? She's gained so much weight." The wife seemed to embarrassingly cringe. I could tell she was hoping I hadn't heard. I had and although the statement did initially sting, it was a loving reality gift. The diet started the next day. And without realizing it, I was in the throes of my first

marriage unraveling. After 29 years, of course, I knew something was wrong, but I didn't know what. As a result, I'd been inappropriately reaching to food for comfort - not our living Lord Jesus and His Holy Spirit, the true Comforter. (Lord, forgive. He did and He does.)

The weight came off and my interior eyes became more focused on the Lord's Love and the Lord's Truth and the Lord's Healing power.

"It is what it is."

Yes - I can appreciate the importance of speaking truth in love about a situation or a circumstance - but - but - I believe it's crucially important to not put a period (.) at the end of that statement. I want the sentence to be left open ended. For it has been my experience that often, by God's grace, there is more - more than we can ask or imagine can and often does come forth - for God is working His purpose out!

Anyway, Precious Pilgrim, you've probably learned over the weeks, and for some months and even years that this ministry has been going on, I sometimes revert to writing Japanese Haiku poetry when my emotions get high. I don't have a clue why, except maybe this art form helps organize my thoughts. There must be an SOS safety valve in my brain - instead of blowing steam, I spew out Haiku.

Remember, each verse is made up of 3 lines - 1st line has 5 syllables, 2nd line has 7 syllables, 3rd line has 5 syllables, and then you repeat the formula.

Here's the first poem called:

*"It Is What It Is"
(A hopeful haiku conversation)*

*"It is what it is."
-- "but not what it might become
when our Lord does reign."*

*"It is what it is."
-- "might become more when He comes
or better yet, less."*

*"It is what it is."
-- "Are you sure that it is all?
Is it set in stone?"*

*"It is what it is."
-- "There's no hope in that statement.
I need a rainbow."*

*"It is what it is."
-- "It feels like Christ crucified.
Resurrection, please."*

*"It is what it is."
-- "Can't we get rid of the sin,
all evil, all dark?"*

*"It is what it is."
-- "Satan has been defeated.
He can not conquer."*

*"It is what it is."
-- "Kingdom come, Thy will be done
is reality."*

*"It is what it is."
-- "You're right about speaking truth."*

Our Lord's light shines there."

"It is what it is."

*--Healing power can come forth.
Wrong can be righted."*

"It is what it is."

*--"I would like to jump the gun,
move on to new life."*

"It is what it is."

*--"I know this world is broken.
My heart has been, too."*

"It is what it is."

*--"Can't we live in God's peace, now—
even if shattered?"*

"It is what it is."

*--"I've been put back together,
stronger in His love."*

"It is what it is."

*--"If me, then why not others?
Our Lord is fixing."*

"It is what it is."

*--"I want wrongs to be righted
Now! Please, Lord Jesus."*

"It is what it is."

*--"My perfect timing, not yours."
"The Lord has spoken."*

"It is what it is."

*--"You know what? You are correct.
It's OK for now."*

"I am trusting Him."

*He is making all things right.
Love is what it is."*

*"Love is what it is.
The only thing that will stand
All eternity."*

*"Love is what it is.
His name is Jesus our Lord.
All is well in Him."*

*"Love is what it is.
God is making all things right.
Peaceable kingdom."*

*Lucy MacLeod
May 4, 2005*

And Pilgrim,

You won't believe it! Another poem on the very same subject just came forth this week while my husband Paul and I were visiting my middle son and his wife at their home in Colorado. The poem came forth when I saw a family wedding picture on their bookshelf. It caught me by surprise. Here were gathered some of my loved ones and I wasn't there! Help! I hadn't died - no - I had divorced almost 5 years ago - and remarried and then widowed and then happily remarried once more. Why, my husband and I were even invited to this wedding. Still - it caught my breath when I saw that picture. My ex-husband and his new wife and all those loved ones - memories were being made and I wasn't in them. "It is what it is!" Another poem came forth:

A Haiku Prayer and a Photo
This moment, may I dwell in Your heart, Lord Jesus
And forevermore.
Amen.

Glancing at the shelves,
A family wedding photo
Caught me by surprise.

Took my breath away—
Loved ones gathered, but not me
A heartache occurred.

A strong reminder
Why, broken relationships?
Painful to behold.

All smiling faces.
How can this be without me?
My place and my space?

Aren't they missing me?
How can they have a good time?
I'm no longer part.

What is going on?
Did I die and not know it?
No—just a divorce.

And it hurts a lot.
It is my world no longer
At a different place.

“Catch a falling star
and put it in your pocket -
save it for a rainy day.”

I'll pull one out now

*Harmonious gatherings -
Happy memories.*

*Float up in my mind
There were a gracious plenty
Previous good times.*

*Thank You, Lord, for such,
But also for the heavy.
The hard times were good.*

*Healthy, humbling.
I learned to depend on you.
No reservations.*

*I surrender all
Totally and completely
"Your grace sufficient."*

*You taught me so much
You continue to teach me
I am a slow learner.*

*Try to remember:
Keep the main thing the main thing
Keep my eyes on You.*

*Rest, Precious Pilgrim
In the knowledge of His Love
He cares more than you.*

*Our Lord is in charge
He's working His purpose out
All is well in Him.*

*God is redeeming
He's changing, rearranging
All is well in Him.*

*I know that He is
Refining, realigning
All is well in Him.*

*"It is what it is."
No! It is more than it seems
Potential is there.*

*Do you see the cross?
Christ crucified changed it all
Tombs have been broken.*

*Because of Jesus
Even in the darkest night
There is always light.*

*All belongs to Him
Lord, may I never forget
Including loved ones*

*I can breathe once more
Life is rich and wonderful
May I embrace ALL.*

*"Precious child of mine
This picture is wonderful
Tell me about it."*

A Haiku Prayer

*This moment, may I
Dwell in your heart, Lord Jesus
And forevermore.*

Amen.

*I can breathe once more
Lord, be my breath.*

Amen.

