

Monday, 24 June 2019 Psalm 140:1-5

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. Deliver me, O LORD, from evil men; preserve me from violent men, who plan evil things in their heart and stir up wars continually. They make their tongue sharp as a serpent's, and under their lips is the venom of asps.

Selah Guard me, O LORD, from the hands of the wicked; preserve me from violent men, who have planned to trip up my feet. The arrogant have hidden a trap for me, and with cords they have spread a net; beside the way they have set snares for me. Selah

Lord, I don't know what challenges, temptations, trials and tests that I am going to face today. I do know that the Evil One is cunning in his attempts to swerve me from the path of obedience to Your word. I also know, that in my own strength and left to my own devices, I am weak, I am a coward and I bring disgrace to Your Name. Therefore, guard me, Lord, set my feet upon the path of righteousness so that I will not trip and disgrace You.

Tuesday, 25 June 2019 Psalm 140:6-8

I say to the LORD, You are my God; give ear to the voice of my pleas for mercy, O LORD! O LORD, my Lord, the strength of my salvation, You have covered my head in the day of battle. Grant not, O LORD, the desires of the wicked; do not further their evil plot, or they will be exalted! Selah

Lord, You are my Lord, I come to You pleading for strength and wisdom. You are the source of my salvation, You have equipped me for battle and direct my every step. Praise You, my Lord and my Master.

Wednesday, 26 June 2019 Psalm 140:9-11

As for the head of those who surround me, let the mischief of their lips overwhelm them! Let burning coals fall upon them! Let them be cast into fire, into miry pits, no more to rise! Let not the slanderer be established in the land; let evil hunt down the violent man speedily!

Lord, I am in Your hands, You are my Protector, You are the One who stands between me and the forces of the Evil One. All You ask of me is that I seek Your face, that I

swerve not to the right or the left and that You are my God, always and in all things. May it be so, my Lord and my Master.

Thursday, 27 June 2019 Psalm 140:12-13

I know that the LORD will maintain the cause of the afflicted, and will execute justice for the needy. Surely the righteous shall give thanks to Your name; the upright shall dwell in Your presence.

Thank You, my Lord, You are my Rock, my Shield, Your Name is exalted among the nations. You are the Source of justice; You are the Restorer of Shalom; in You all goodness dwells and the upright find pleasure and comfort in Your presence.

Friday, 28 June 2019 Psalm 141:1-2

O LORD, I call upon You; hasten to me! Give ear to my voice when I call to You! Let my prayer be counted as incense before You, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice!

Lord, I call to you, I plead with You, fill me to overflowing with you, let my mouth drip with your praises as honey from a comb, let my every thought be of You and Your glories, let my heart be consumed with passion for You, let the eyes of my heart roam to and fro seeking Your presence. Bless me, my Lord and my Master with You.

Saturday, 29 June 2019 Psalm 141: 3-4

Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips! Do not let my heart incline to any evil, to busy myself with wicked deeds in company with men who work iniquity, and let me not eat of their delicacies!

Lord, only Your Holy Spirit can be the guard of my mouth, direct my heart away for evil and control my appetite for the delicacies of the world. I have proven time and time again, that I am powerless, all too willing to succumb to the siren call of the Evil One. But in You, with You, for You will be goodness and mercy all the days of my life.

Lord's Day, 30 June 2019 Psalm 119:59-60

When I think on my ways, I turn my feet to your testimonies; I hasten and do not delay to keep your commandments.

It is a miracle, Lord, a miracle of grace and mercy as I think on my ways and realize where I was and where I am now. Life in the Kingdom of God is infinitely more joy-filled than life in the Kingdom of Man. You are the great and gracious Redeemer, to You I not only owe all obedience but am consumed with a passion to serve You in Spirit and in Truth.

Voices Together is available as two annual volumes of meditations based on Psalm 1 through 75 and Psalm 76 through 150. A companion book, *The Love Story*, is a 22 week series of meditations based on Psalm 119. They are available through the Fellowship of Ailbe book store at www.ailbe.org/bookstore/christian-discipline

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Scriptures



June 24-30, 2019

Prayer of the week, based on Paul's prayer in: Romans 15:5-6

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Lord Jesus, may the focus of every aspect of our lives bring a spirit of unity to our fellowship so that we will glorify Your and our God and Father with one voice. Give us that endurance and encouragement that comes only from You so that we do not allow the routines of life and ministries to distract us from that call to bring glory to You and the Father.

Through the power of the indwelling Spirit, granted to each of us. *Amen.*

To fear or not to fear, that is the question.

The fear of the Lord, an expression that occurs many times in Scripture, 142 in the ESV in various forms, is not well understood in the Church today. For many, the phrase represents a weak and flabby description of an overly saccharine spiritual being of some sort. It certainly does not include the concept of the LORD, God the Almighty who spoke all things into being and who controls all things.

Join with me in examining the fear of the LORD and seeking an understanding of life in the Kingdom of Heaven in the here and now as guided by that fear.

Voices Together is published daily on the website of the Fellowship of Ailbe, www.ailbe.org; along with material by other writers to encourage and assist in our walks as disciples of Jesus Christ. All Scripture is from the ESV unless otherwise noted. These messages can also be received as daily emails or in a monthly printed version by sending a request to:

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