

**Monday, 15 July 2019** Psalm 58:1-5

*To the choirmaster: according to Do Not Destroy. A Miktam of David. Do you indeed decree what is right, you gods? Do you judge the children of man uprightly? No, in your hearts you devise wrongs; your hands deal out violence on earth. The wicked are estranged from the womb; they go astray from birth, speaking lies. They have venom like the venom of a serpent, like the deaf adder that stops its ear, so that it does not hear the voice of charmers or of the cunning enchanter.*

Lord, the hatred of Satan towards You boils over and spews from the hearts and actions of men. It manifests itself from birth; it is characterized by lies and refuses to hear the Word that heals and restores. That hatred is cleverly disguised with honey and perfume; it holds all in its deadly charms. Keep me alert to its influence on me, O Lord.

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**Tuesday, 16 July 2019** Psalm 58:6-9

*O God, break the teeth in their mouths; tear out the fangs of the young lions, O LORD! Let them vanish like water that runs away; when he aims his arrows, let them be blunted. Let them be like the snail that dissolves into slime, like the stillborn child who never sees the sun. Sooner than your pots can feel the heat of thorns, whether green or ablaze, may he sweep them away!*

You, the Lord of love, light, and mercy, have prescribed a curative and restorative to mankind's raging. You, in Your Love, have provided for the ripping of the fangs, the dissolution of the sins, the bringing of light to all who seek the cure. You render the ferocious powerless, the helpless strong, and the blind able to see.

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**Wednesday, 17 July 2019** Psalm 58:10-11

*The righteous will rejoice when he sees the vengeance; he will bathe his feet in the blood of the wicked. Mankind will say, "Surely there is a reward for the righteous; surely there is a God who judges on earth."*

As the inmates to whom You have sent me are so fond of singing, "It's the Blood, nothing but the Blood of Jesus." Not the blood of the wicked but Your Blood, the blood of the Lamb, restores and cures and makes us whole.

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**Thursday, 18 July 2019** Psalm 119:1-3

*Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!*

What a blessing this is, Lord, to walk in Your ways, knowing that Your law and testimony guide me. You are opening the eyes of my heart to seek you with my whole heart.

There is a growing sense of the awareness of Your presence, a knowledge that You are with me, that your Holy Spirit is indeed the Guarantor of my salvation and my passport to the Kingdom. Thank you, my Lord, for this incredible and generous gift.

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**Friday, 19 July 2019** Psalm 119:4-5

*You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently. Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!*

Diligence, Lord, diligence, and steadfastness. Living, telling, teaching, serving, praying, doing, being one who seeks to follow in Your steps in every aspect of my life. Not a work of my mind but a work of a Spirit-filled heart. Be ever at work in me, O Lord.

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**Saturday, 20 July 2019** Psalm 119:6-8

*Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments. I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous rules. I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me!*

Lord, one thing I do not fear is that You will utterly forsake me. I may forsake you, I have in the past, but You are always with me.

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**Lord's Day, 21 July 2019**, Exodus 20:1-2, 14

*And God spoke all these words, saying, "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ... "You shall not commit adultery."*

Lord, a perfect example of both the rightness of Your Law and the goodness of Your teaching: You do not give bare bones Law but only what is accompanied by

the instruction of the Holy Spirit to transform me so that I can recognize Your good and perfect will for my life.

But, Lord, keep my feet on the path. Keep me in Your Word.

*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](http://www.ailbe.org/bookstore/christian-discipline)

# VOICES TOGETHER

*Daily Meditations from the Scriptures*



*July 15-21, 2019*

**Prayer of the week, based on Paul's prayer in: 1 Corinthians 16:23**  
*The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.*

This is a necessary and sufficient statement. There is nothing that I can add to these words from Paul to make it more appropriate for each of us to pray for our congregations. Let us each use this as we meditate upon the richness of our Lord and how it is displayed through our community.

*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](http://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:

Pastor John Nunnikhoven, The Church at Prison, Inc.  
PO Box 8318, Essex Junction, VT 05452 or to [prior@ailbe.org](mailto:prior@ailbe.org)

The Fellowship of Ailbe, ([www.ailbe.org](http://www.ailbe.org))  
Realizing the presence, promise and power  
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