

Monday, 12 August 2019 Psalm 63:1-2

*A Psalm of David, when he was in the wilderness of Judah.
O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.*

Show me Your face, Lord, bring me into the radiance of Your presence. Bring a hunger for You that cannot be satisfied; a thirst that cannot be slaked, a longing after You that knows no comfort. Let me gaze upon Your glory and power as it moves and transforms; bless me with Your presence.

Tuesday, 13 August 2019 Psalm 63:3-5

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name, I will lift up my hands. My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips,

You are kindness and goodness and holiness and mercy and grace incarnate; You are that which satisfies the hunger that cannot be satisfied, slakes the thirst that cannot be slaked and comforts the longing that cannot be comforted.

Wednesday, 14 August 2019 Psalm 63:6-9

[W]hen I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night; for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy. My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

Utter contentment, complete joy, entire satisfaction; richness, goodness, righteousness, holiness beyond imagination. You can and do more than can be asked or imagined by those who seek to live in Your Kingdom.

Lord, as I meditate on Your Goodness in the watches of the night and the brightness of the day; as my heart, mind, and conscience seek the knowing of your Word, fill me with that peace that passes all understanding as You fill my heart and soul with Yourself.

Thursday, 15 August 2019 Psalm 44:17-22

All this has come upon us, though we have not forgotten You, and we have not been false to your covenant. Our heart has not turned back, nor have our steps departed from Your way; yet You have broken us in the place of jackals and covered us with the shadow of death. If we had forgotten the name of our God or spread out our hands to a foreign god, would not God discover this? For He knows the secrets of the heart. Yet for Your sake we are killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.

Though we trip and backslide, You are there to forgive and restore – ever-loving, ever patient, ever-restoring Lord and Master. We know that You are the Faithful One, Who purchased us with His blood, and Who will not let us go. We gladly suffer persecution for the sake of Your Name.

Friday, 16 August 2019 Psalm 119:25

My soul clings to the dust; give me life according to your word!

Lord, I more than cling to the dust, I wallow in the filth. Why is it that I am so resistant to give up the ways and habits that bring death and turn to Your precepts that give life? I know entirely and well that pride goes before a fall, and that a fall is inevitable and will be very painful, but I cling to my pride. I cannot let go, it is a false god, but it is my god.

Release me from the bondage of pride, Lord, release me into the joy of life in the Kingdom. Release me from the filth that stands between me and You, that pollutes our relationship and give me the Abundance that is offered.

Lord, this dust, that my soul clings to tarnishes my joy. I want Joy that is burnished and gleams, reflecting Your Glory truly and completely. Give me a thorough dusting! I need house cleaning.

Saturday, 17 August 2019 Psalm 119:27

Make me understand the way of Your precepts, and I will meditate on Your wondrous works.

Give me understanding of the way of your precepts, an understanding, Lord, of that beautiful coherency that a hallmark of Your law. There is no law of unintended consequences in Your law; all fit together and each part

complements all other parts. It is complete and beautiful in its completion.

Give me understanding of the way of your precepts, an understanding, Lord, of how Your precepts are leading me and the direction that You have set out for me. Help me to clearly see where my foot is to be placed today and forgive my weak faith that demands to know where my foot is to be set tomorrow.

Lord's Day, 18 August 2019 Exodus 20:1-3

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 have no other gods before me."

You are my God; I swear allegiance to Your Word and to the Kingdom for which it stands. One Kingdom, under You with grace and mercy for all.

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



August 12-18, 2019

Prayer of the week, based on Paul's prayer in: Ephesians 1:18a, 19b-21
I pray also that (incomparably great power) ... is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

LORD, God the Almighty whose incomparably great power is directed towards and made available to us, those who are called by Your name, has been proven and made manifest through the resurrection of Your Son. Hallelujah!

It is beyond my comprehension, LORD, to grasp the degree to which You have exalted Him. He is seated at Your right hand, above and beyond any measure I can name, above and beyond all temporal authority, above and beyond all earthly titles. I must acknowledge Him as Lord and Master, the only begotten Son of the Living God. *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:

Pastor John Nunnikhoven, The Church at Prison, Inc.
PO Box 8318, Essex Junction, VT 05452 or to prior@ailbe.org

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