

Monday, 18 April 2016

Matthew 5:6

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied

Or I will be supremely well-off if I am famished and parched for the LORD, God the Almighty's justice to be supreme in my life. Am I willing to make every decision, make every action based upon whether it will or will not advance justice in my personal mission field?

Tuesday, 19 April 2016

Matthew 5:7

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Why is it that I expect to receive compassion from the LORD when I refuse to treat another one of His children with appropriate compassion? Why is it that I often confuse compassion with indulgence? Is it because it is the easy way out? Why do I not recognize that the LORD's compassion is often in the form of discipline?

Wednesday, 20 April 2016

Matthew 5:8

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Do I really want to see the LORD? To be able to intently gaze upon His remarkable purity? Am I beginning to get the point that I must seek holiness to be able to enjoy the holiness of the LORD, God the Almighty? I am beginning to sense that the Beatitudes are the specifics of the LORD's dictum, *"For I am the LORD who brought you up out of the land of Egypt to be your God. You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy."* Leviticus 11:45

Thursday, 21 April 2016

Matthew 5:9

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

To be one who is known as one who seeks to bring about the restoration of Shalom in contrast to the adversarial and litigious nature of the Kingdom of Man is to be recognized as one who is a son of God. What a noble goal with the most precious title imaginable.

Friday, 22 April 2016

Matthew 5:10

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. Luke 6:27-28 Isn't this turning persecution into a blessing? If I love those who hate me, call for the LORD to bless those who curse me and pray for those who abuse me, I will enter into the Kingdom of Heaven in the here and now. Isn't this a part of the process of the Romans 12:2 transformation of my mind?

Saturday, 23 April 2016

Matthew 5:11

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

I find two key conditions here. One is that the reviling, the persecution and the evil acts must have a false basis. If not, I've got some repentance and transformation to work on. The second is whether or not this is because of my witness as a son of God or is it just something that hurts my pride? If the latter, I've got some work to do on my humility and contrition. But if it is on the account of my testimony regarding the grace and mercy of my Lord, hallelujah.

Lord's Day, 24 April 2016

Psalm 119:129

Your testimonies are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them.

The very beauty of Your testimonies, their consistency and constancy, their coherence and completeness, their sweeping application to all of life; all this to make it a joy to live in Your Kingdom according to Your word.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Scriptures



April 18-24, 2016

I was dealing with a very difficult and perplexing problem in the spring of 1989 and tackling it by trying to learn everything I could on the subject. One evening, as I continued my studies, God told me very clearly that the root of the problem was that I did not know Him. I put down the book I was reading and picked up a Bible figuring that was where I was going to find Him. That began what has been a 27-year search to know, really know in a John 17:3 way, the Lord, God the Almighty.*

Voices Together has and continues to be, a very important part of that search. It is extracted from my daily meditations and is shared in the hope that others will be encouraged to turn to the Scriptures as a rich source of guidance for prayer and meditation.

It 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.

These messages can also be received as daily emails or in a monthly printed version by sending a request to:

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Realizing the presence, promise and power
of the Kingdom of God.

*LORD or LORD, God the Almighty always refers to the Trinitarian God.