

Monday, 5 December 2016

Psalms 44:4-8

You are my King, O God; ordain salvation for Jacob! Through you we push down our foes; through your name we tread down those who rise up against us. For not in my bow do I trust, nor can my sword save me. But you have saved us from our foes and have put to shame those who hate us. In God we have boasted continually, and we will give thanks to your name forever. Selah.

Where do I put my trust? My faith? It is my choice. I can be like a storm tossed vessel, blown and twisted by every turning of the winds and waves, or I can choose to put my trust in the steady, unfailing promises of God. I rarely know how He is going to resolve the turmoil but I can trust that He will. And I must trust Him when the resolution is to give me the strength and wisdom to walk through the fire. I must praise Him in the storm!

Tuesday, 6 December 2016

Psalms 52:7-8

"See the man who would not make God his refuge, but trusted in the abundance of his riches and sought refuge in his own destruction!" But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God. I trust in the steadfast love of God forever and ever.

How easy it is to trust in my own strength, to trust in my own wisdom and creativity. And then to blame God when disaster results. But oh to be like a young plant in the House of the LORD, nurtured by His steadfast love forever and ever.

Wednesday, 7 December 2016

Romans 10:8-11

But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord

and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."

I have heard several "alter calls" recently that have disturbed me. Dietrich Bonhoeffer said it well in the Cost of Discipleship. "Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, Cheap grace is grace without discipleship," These alter calls have been cheap grace or another term would be "simple salvation."

Grace is not cheap nor is salvation simple. There is a cost: the repentance of sin, the commitment to pursue the life of a disciple of Jesus Christ, the acknowledgment of Him as Lord and Master and the sacrifice of self on the alter of the Cross.

This study began as an effort to thoroughly understand what it means to believe in Jesus Christ, to trust in His promises, to have faith in Him and to obey Him. It will continue.

Thursday, 8 December 2016

Psalms 56:3

When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

Sometimes my fears are relational, sometimes financial, sometimes health, often times concerns about the future, never a dearth of concerns and anxieties. But the word of the LORD, God the Almighty is sure. Deuteronomy 31:6 *Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.* **NEVER!**

Friday, 9 December 2016

Psalms 56:4

In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be

afraid. What can flesh do to me?

What can flesh do to me? Read Fox's Book of Martyrs, study the lives of present day Christians in the Middle East, sub-Saharan Africa, China, India, Russia. Remember our 21 Copt brothers. Those who suffered extreme persecutions and went to their deaths praising the LORD, God the Almighty and trusting in His goodness.

Saturday, 10 December 2016

Psalms 56:10-12

In God, whose word I praise, in the LORD, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me? I must perform my vows to you, O God; I will render thank offerings to you.

I'm complaining that my constitutional rights regarding freedom of religion are being curtailed? A joke, they were granted by man and can be withdrawn at man's whim.

I am called to praise you always, to pray continuously and to give thanks in all circumstances. Man can never prevent me from fulfilling these directions. It is only my deliberate disobedience that can and will interfere.

Lord's Day, 11 December 2016

Psalm 119:51

The insolent utterly deride me, but I do not turn away from your law..

Lord, give me strength and courage to remain steadfast in the face of trials and tribulations, even those of my own making.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Scriptures



December 5-11, 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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or at
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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.