

Monday, 4 April 2011

Psalm 67:6-7 The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us. God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!

Lord, You have called me to be diligent in the consecration of those in my personal mission field; to bring the knowledge of the message of salvation to them; to show the transforming power of that message by my life; to teach the way of Your disciple and to glorify you in all that I do or say. Put me to the test today and every day.

Tuesday, 5 April 2011

Colossians 3:1-14 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. (3) For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all. Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Ah, LORD, the grand sweep of Your plan of redemption to restore Your creation to its pristine state as You intended. Having redeemed a people unto Yourself, You are calling us out of our earthly nature to live as a separate and holy people, bringing glory to You. We are the called ones.

Wednesday, 6 April 2011

Psalm 68:1-3 For the director of music. Of David. A psalm. A song. May God arise, may his enemies be scattered; may his foes flee before him. As smoke is blown away by the wind, may you blow them away; as wax melts before the fire, may the wicked perish before God. But may the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; may they be happy and joyful.

My prayer this morning is that my life will exalt You; it will glorify You; it will honor You; it will be a living testimony to Your love, grace and mercy; it will speak in word and deed of Your compassion; it will cause others to hunger and thirst after righteousness; it will serve You in all things and that I will walk in the faith of Your promises.

Lord, that my life would make the unseen seen.

Thursday, 7 April 2011

Psalm 68:4-14 Sing to God, sing praise to his name, extol him who rides on the clouds— his name is the LORD— and rejoice before him. A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families, he leads forth the prisoners with singing; but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land. When you went out before your people, O God, when you marched through the wasteland, Selah the earth shook, the heavens poured down rain, before God, the One of Sinai, before God, the God of Israel. You gave abundant showers, O God; you refreshed your weary inheritance. Your people settled in it, and from your bounty, O God, you provided for the poor. The Lord announced the word, and great was the company of those who proclaimed it: "Kings and armies flee in haste; in the camps men divide the plunder. Even while you sleep among the campfires, the wings of my dove are sheathed with silver, its feathers with shining gold." When the Almighty scattered the kings in the land, it was like snow fallen on Zalmon.

Praise You, Lord, for You have vanquished the addictions that held me in their grasp and have given me the strength and will to resist the Evil One. Only through the power of the Holy Spirit, only through His guidance, only through His intervention! I am protected and made holy for Your name's sake. Praise You, Lord.

Friday, 8 April 2011

Psalm 68:15-20 The mountains of Bashan are majestic mountains; rugged are the mountains of Bashan. (16) Why gaze in envy, O rugged mountains, at the mountain where God chooses to reign, where the LORD himself will dwell forever? (17) The chariots of God are tens of thousands and thousands of thousands; the Lord has come from Sinai into his sanctuary. (18) When you ascended on high, you led captives in your train; you received gifts from men, even from the rebellious— that you, O LORD God, might dwell there. (19) Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior, who daily bears our burdens. Selah (20) Our God is a God who saves; from the Sovereign LORD comes escape from death.

What a picture, Lord, of Your majesty and grandeur. The thousands of thousands of chariots, blazing with fire, followed by hordes of captives bearing rich gifts, all ascending Your mountain to praise You. And then the contrast, for You are the One who bears all my burdens, the One who saves, the One who provides escape from death. How can the God of the universe be the One who comes, born of man, as a humble servant to die for me and take the punishment for my sins? Beyond mortal comprehension! Praise You, LORD God Almighty.

Saturday, 9 April 2011

Psalm 68:21-31 Surely God will crush the heads of his enemies, the hairy crowns of those who go on in their sins. (22) The Lord says, "I will bring them from Bashan; I will bring them from the depths of the sea, (23) that you may plunge your feet in the blood of your foes, while the

tongues of your dogs have their share." (24) Your procession has come into view, O God, the procession of my God and King into the sanctuary. (25) In front are the singers, after them the musicians; with them are the maidens playing tambourines. (26) Praise God in the great congregation; praise the LORD in the assembly of Israel. (27) There is the little tribe of Benjamin, leading them, there the great throng of Judah's princes, and there the princes of Zebulun and of Naphtali. (28) Summon your power, O God; show us your strength, O God, as you have done before. (29) Because of your temple at Jerusalem kings will bring you gifts. (30) Rebuke the beast among the reeds, the herd of bulls among the calves of the nations. Humbled, may it bring bars of silver. Scatter the nations who delight in war. (31) Envoys will come from Egypt; Cush will submit herself to God.

The picture of the triumphal entry, the singers and musicians, the throngs of the redeemed, the thousands upon thousands answering the invitation of the LORD to celebrate the full and complete establishment of the Kingdom. The humiliation of the nations and peoples who refuse the message of love and grace; the exaltation of those who choose to submit to the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, the LORD God Almighty.

Lord's Day, 10 April 2011

Psalm 119:137 Righteous are you, O LORD, and right are your rules.

What is righteousness? Righteous means good, sound, virtuous, upright, just; but in and of themselves these words don't carry much meaning. I am left with the questions, "What does good mean?" "What does just mean?" "What does ... mean?" But You, Lord, provide the definition through Your law. You tell me this is what I mean righteous, examine and learn My law and you will understand that My law is the definition of righteous. Praise You, Lord.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Psalms

April 4-10, 2011

Voices Together is extracted from my daily meditations and is shared in the hopes that others will be encouraged to turn to the Psalms as a rich source of guidance for prayer and meditation.

John Nunnikhoven