

Monday, 12 March 2012 Psalm 132:1-5 A Song of Ascents. Remember, O LORD, in David's favor, all the hardships he endured, how he swore to the LORD and vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob, "I will not enter my house or get into my bed, I will not give sleep to my eyes or slumber to my eyelids, until I find a place for the LORD, a dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob."

Thank You, Lord, for the faith and testimony of David and all those who have gone before me. Their perseverance, their dedication to You; their longing to bring Your chosen people to a knowledge of You and an understanding of Your Law; all driving that great cloud of witnesses.

What a witness and example to me. Thank You, my Lord and Master.

Tuesday, 13 March 2012 Psalm 132:6-10 Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah; we found it in the fields of Jaar. "Let us go to his dwelling place; let us worship at his footstool!" Arise, O LORD, and go to your resting place, you and the ark of your might. Let your priests be clothed with righteousness, and let your saints shout for joy. For the sake of your servant David, do not turn away the face of your anointed one.

Now, that burden of witness is placed upon Your Church today. Individually and collectively, the responsibility of carrying Your Word to those that do not know You. To live and speak the Word, to be the Word without reservation or hesitation. Re-fire us with our first love, send us out with passion to carry the message of hope to those with out hope, that we would be true to our calling and commission.

Wednesday, 14 March 2012 Psalm 132:11-18 The LORD swore to David a sure oath from which he will not turn back: "One of the sons of your body I will set on your throne. If your sons keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them, their sons also forever shall sit on your throne." For the LORD has chosen Zion; he has desired it for his dwelling place: "This is my resting place forever; here I will dwell, for I have desired it. I will abundantly bless her provisions; I will satisfy her poor with bread. Her priests I will clothe with salvation, and her saints will shout for joy. There I will make a horn to sprout for David; I have prepared a lamp for my anointed. His enemies I will clothe with shame, but on

him his crown will shine."

You have fulfilled Your covenant; You have set a Son of David upon Your Throne to rule Your Creation with justice and with love. You, O LORD, are faithful; recognizing that Your people are failing and weak, You gave them the Perfect Sacrifice, Your Holy Lamb, God as Man, to deliver us from the snares of the Evil One. Make Your Church to shine as His Bride bringing the message of peace, salvation and transformation to all of mankind. Praise You, LORD God, the Almighty One.

Thursday, 15 March 2012 John 17:20-21

"I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

Is there anywhere in the Church today where true unity exists between the believers gathered in that locality? I know of no congregation whose primary characteristic is the oneness displayed by the Trinity; all have pockets of pride and gossip, petty backbiting, jealousy, and other aspects of the fallen nature. And then as I begin to consider the inter-congregation relationships within that geographical area ... ?

Yet You, in the final awful night of agony, prayed for us today that we would become one with You and the Father. That prayer cannot be denied! It must be granted! Even more, it absolutely must have been granted, there must be churches (in the 1st Century sense) that live today within the framework of this precious prayer. The question is not where are they but how does the Church of Chester exhibit that same call to unity? What is my calling in this task?

Friday, 16 March 2012 Psalm 133:1

A Song of Ascents. Of David. Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

Lord, I do not believe that I have ever experienced that unity that You are calling for in this Psalm. I can begin to imagine it. Dream about the pleasantness of dwelling in such a state. Hunger for the joy that would be exhibited but the goodness is beyond me until You complete the transformation of all of us.

Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Saturday, 17 March 2012 Psalm 133-2-3

It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

Yes, Lord, there was a time when Israel was in complete unity before You as Aaron was installed as the priest of the people. All rejoiced as that unity called for You to enter Your Tabernacle in confirmation. But how quickly did that unity dissipate as the people and even Aaron and Miriam began to grumble against Moses, Your appointed leader.

Lord, bring an unslakeable thirst to Your people, a thirst that drives us to come together as Your people, worshiping You in spirit and in truth.

Lord's Day, 18 March 2012 Psalm 119:1-8

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! You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently. Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes! 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, this stanza certainly ties together the conversation with a friend this morning. My prayer for both of us is that we pay heed to the instruction here; to keep Your precepts diligently, to learn to praise You with an upright heart and to learn Your righteous rules. Help us to see that it is the tiniest of details that provide an entry point for lust and desire; a lustful glance, a slightly off-color remark, a fleeting thought -- all lead to full-blown adultery of the mind. Help us, Lord, to become Your servants in all things, without tarnish or blemish, re-created in Your image. Thank You, Lord.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Psalms



March 12-18, 2012

Voices Together is extracted from my daily meditations and is shared in the hope that others will be encouraged to turn to the Psalms 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 by sending a request to:

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