

1 Peter 4:12-19

*Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. (15) But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.*

Lord, it seems that there are two tests I need to apply when faced with a trial of some nature.

1) Is this trial a result of some sin of mine? Have I been disobedient to Your Word and forsaken the guidance of Your Law? If so, I need to accept the consequences of my sin, repent, make appropriate restitution and seek restoration of my communion with You.

2) Is this a result of my faith or a test of it? If so, I am to glory that I have been found worthy to suffer for Your Names sake and continue to live according to Your righteous law.

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Tuesday, 14 August 2012

Psalm 11:1-3

*To the choirmaster. Of David. In the LORD I take refuge; how can you say to my soul, "Flee like a bird to your mountain, for behold, the wicked bend the bow; they have fitted their arrow to the string to shoot in the dark at the upright in heart; if the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?"*

You are my bulwark and a shield about me. What have I to fear? The foundation of Your Law cannot be destroyed, I

can neglect it or ignore it but it stands forever unchanged. The wicked can assault me, they fire their arrows towards me, but Your salvation stands before me to protect me from all harm. What have I to fear?

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Wednesday, 15 August 2012

Psalm 11:4-6

*The LORD is in his holy temple; the LORD's throne is in heaven; his eyes see, his eyelids test the children of man. The LORD tests the righteous, but his soul hates the wicked and the one who loves violence. Let him rain coals on the wicked; fire and sulfur and a scorching wind shall be the portion of their cup.*

Lord, protect those who love You and seek to honor Your name. Be with the faithful, stand between them and their persecutors, Yea, let the torments of separation from You be their lot for they despise Your people.

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Thursday, 16 August 2012

Psalm 11:7

*For the LORD is righteous; he loves righteous deeds; the upright shall behold his face.*

It is those righteous deeds that You prepared from before the beginning of time that I might have them as my way of life. You laid out a plan and a purpose for my life that it part of Your Master Plan for restoring the Creation to its pristine beauty. One corner that is my Personal Mission Field to hoe and till and reap. Lord, teach me to hoe and till and reap faithfully.

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Friday, 17 August 2012

Romans 12:3-4

*For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function,*

I need to make a sober, prayerful and through review of my gifts and limitations, seeking a complete understanding of where and how You want to use me to advance Your Kingdom. This must be preparatory to the development of my Rule; for the basic design of that Rule, so that it serves as a outline of Your regimen for my spiritual development.

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Saturday, 18 August 2012  
Psalm 12:1-2

*To the choirmaster: according to The Sheminith. A Psalm of David. Save, O LORD, for the godly one is gone; for the faithful have vanished from among the children of man. Everyone utters lies to his neighbor; with flattering lips and a double heart they speak.*

Yes, Lord, in a sense we have all vanished from the company of the children of men. We no longer are willing to reach out to family, friends and neighbors with the Good News. Rebuke Your church, bring us to our knees in repentance and contrition.

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Lord's Day, 19 August 2012  
Psalm 119:165

*Great peace have those who love your law; nothing can make them stumble.*

Problems? Yes. Overwhelming problems? No! Your peace, the great peace is mine to walk me through problems and challenges. Praise You, Lord, You are the complete Peace.

## VOICES TOGETHER

*Daily Meditations from the Psalms*



*August 13-19, 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](http://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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