

Monday, 29 October 2012

1 Corinthians 15:9-11

For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

I, with Paul, am unworthy to be called a pastor and minister to the Body of Christ, for I was born into sin and lived openly defiant of the grace and mercy of God. Yet, God, through His grace, sent His only son to accept the punishment for my sin, remove the stain and set my feet upon the King's Highway. He provided His Holy Spirit as my mentor and guide me into a life in the Kingdom. Praise You, the All-seeing God.

Tuesday, 30 October 2012

1 Corinthians 15:12-19

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

O, yes, Lord, without the hope of the resurrection, without the knowledge that there is new life, that I will be a new man in You, I am nothing but a bit of ephemera, flotsam and jetsam tossed about by every wind and wave of a purposeless storm. All of creation is without significance and consequence without the resurrection; entropy wins.

Wednesday, 31 October 2012

1 Corinthians 20-25

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

But there is purpose, there is hope; there is the knowledge that the resurrection is. You will come again for Your own and restore Shalom. Praise to You, Lord Jesus. King Jesus reigns.

Thursday, 1 November 2012

1 Peter 2:21-24

For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. (22) He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. (23) When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. (24) He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

How timely, Lord, after yesterday's accusations of carrying information wrongly to an inmate. You are the royal example, we am not to reply in kind, but to respond in love for our accuser, acknowledging the basis for her hurt, fear and terror of her oppressor.

Therefore LORD, we entrust our well-being and safety to You, fully aware that You are in control of all things and are working through this circumstance for our good and for the good of our brother in prison.

Friday, 2 November 2012

Psalm 22:1-2

To the choirmaster: according to The Doe of the Dawn. A Psalm of David. My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest.

There are times, Lord, when I do not hear Your gentle voice; when it seems that I am alone and abandoned. These are the times when my weak faith cries, "My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?" Times when I seem to be cast into a vast wasteland, bleak and devoid of any redeeming beauty, where there is no sweetness to life, but all is shame, guilt and failure.

Saturday, 3 November 2012

Psalm 22:3-5

Yet you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. (4) In you our fathers trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. (5) To you they cried and were rescued; in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

Yet if I open my eyes and take them off my despair, You in Your mercy, have given me that great cloud of witnesses to declare Your faithfulness and to provide evidence of Your love. All I need is to look to those who have gone before to see that You never, ever leave me nor forsake me.

Lord's Day, 4 November 2012

Psalm 119:80

May my heart be blameless in your statutes, that I may not be put to shame!

It is not shame in the usual sense, Lord, but the shame and disappointment that comes from the realization that my disobedience has come between me and the sheer enjoyment of living fully in the Kingdom, here and now, while I profit from the then and there. Help me, Lord, to bring this understanding more fully into my way of life.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Psalms



October 29 – November 4, 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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