Monday, 8 April 2013

# Psalm 39:12-13

"Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry; hold not your peace at my tears! For I am a sojourner with you, a guest, like all my fathers. Look away from me, that I may smile again, before I depart and am no more!"

> When I am in distress, Lord and cry out to You, I need to hear You, I need You and Your Comforter. I come to the point where I need to be restored and renewed, do not withhold Yourself from me.

# Tuesday, 9 April 2013

#### I John 4:1-3

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.

> Repeat after me: "Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God and every spirit that does not confess Jesus in not from God." And repeat and repeat and repeat and ... No ambiguity, no waffling, clear and understandable. Is Jesus Christ a man sent from God or not?

Wednesday, 10 April 2013 I John 4:4-6

Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

More guidance--does our audience take their instruction

from the Lord or from the world. A warning to me--seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. Look first to the Lord and the Word, then being properly armed and armored, I am prepared to evaluate the world's knowledge in the light of God's wisdom.

# Thursday, 11 April 2013 I John 4:7-12

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

> If I love (serve) others, I will see God in me for His love will be perfected in me. If I love (serve) others, they will see God in me for His love is perfected in me. If I love (serve) others I will see God (the *Imago Dei*) in them for His love is perfected in me. I believe (am committed to and trust in) these statements. I will see God when His love is perfected in me.

# Friday, 12 April 2013 I John 4:13-18

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.

You promised to send the Comforter to remind me of all You have said and to guide me into all truth. And You have fulfilled that promise. The Holy Spirit is always with me. But You continue to give me free will, to chose to obey or to be disobedient. This too is grace, You have not turned me into a robot but have given me a desire to live in obedience to You out of gratitude. I am a new man in You. Praise You, my Lord and my Master.

Saturday, 13 April 2013 I John 4:19

We love because he first loved us.

I cannot know true love, sacrificial love, until I experience Your love. God is love and proven by the Cross. Like the love of the Godhead, true sacrificial love must pour out from me to all whom I contact. Bless and guide Betty and I today as we seek to bring Your sacrificial love into a terrible situation, a marriage mired in hatred and about to bring disgrace to Your Name. Lord, that we will not take a single step today without the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Lord's Day, 14 April 2013 *Psalm 119:83* 

For I have become like a wineskin in the smoke, yet I have not forgotten your statutes.

This simile of a wineskin hanging in a flue, constantly surrounded by heat and sooty, gaseous fumes, subject to the deteriorating vapors, yet maintaining resiliency. How can that be; it should become brittle and lose its ability to contain the wine. Even so I, as I am buffeted by life, will lose my ability to respond in love and patience if I do not strive to keep your word written on my heart.

# VOICES COGECHER

Daily Meditations from the Psalms



April, 8-14 2013

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:

John Nunnikhoven voices@ailbe.org www.ailbe.org