

Monday, 7 October 2013

Revelation 4:9-11

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying, "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

Lord, what a magnificent scene that will be. To stand in the Throne Room of the Almighty and join in with the twenty-four elders and worshipping You. Worthy are You, my Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and are created.

There's those all things again—You created all things, Your will causes all things to exist and You continue to create all things. There is no thing that is not by You, of You and for You.

Tuesday, 8 October 2013

Psalm 65:1-3

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. A Song. Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed. O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come. When iniquities prevail against me, you atone for our transgressions.

Not just praise, but continuous praise and thanksgiving is due You for You and You alone have atoned for my transgressions. You are risen from the dead and I, Your redeemed one, must be in a never-ending state of praise, thanksgiving, gratitude, worship and service.

Wednesday, 9 October 2013

Psalm 65:4

Blessed is the one you choose and bring near, to dwell in your courts! We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, the holiness of your temple!

I am blessed that You reached down into the pool of sinful self-will that I dwelt in and lifted me up, cleansed me by the transforming power of Your Blood and set my feet upon the King's Highway to walk into the Kingdom of Heaven in the here and now. Praise You, my Lord and Master.

Thursday, 10 October 2013

Psalm 65:5-8

By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness, O God of our salvation, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas; the one who by his strength established the mountains, being girded with might; who stills the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples, so that those who dwell at the ends of the earth are in awe at your signs. You make the going out of the morning and the evening to shout for joy.

Thank You that You are not a watchmaker god, a god who created and then lets run as it may, but a God who both created, does create and will create. Your hand is continuously evident in everything—there is no thing which is not included in the 'all things' that as under your control. Not just being controlled by You but a continuous, ongoing process of creation. Your Word is, "Let there be.... and there is.... and You see what is created and declare it good"

Friday, 11 October 2013

Psalm 65:9-13

You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide their grain, for so you have prepared it. You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth. You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with abundance. The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

There is no where that man can look without seeing evidence of Your hand of love and mercy. Looking out this morning at a late winter/early spring landscape with the snow gone—it has nourished the land and fed the streams as it melted; the trees and undergrowth beginning to have that reddish tint that speaks of growth about to burst out; the return of the red-winged blackbirds—harbingers of the coming spring. All speaks to me of Your love for beauty and Your providential care for Your Creation.

Saturday, 12 October 2013

Hebrews 12:3-11

Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives." It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

It seems strange, Lord, to ask for discipline, yet that is what this passage is suggesting that I do. To seek Your discipline is to ask for a sign that You love me and want to draw me closer to You. And this is not in a spirit of self-flagellation, some perverse sense that I will gain favor from You by abasing myself, but a recognition You want to bring me into Your holiness and fully sanctify me.

Therefore, Lord, help me to see that all trials and tribulations will be used by You as essential parts of Your plan for me. It is part of that Jeremiah 29:11 promise.

Lord's Day, 13 October 2013

Psalms 119:105-106

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to keep your righteous rules.

This adherence to Your Word and to Your righteous rules must be an absolute with Betty and I as we fulfill our role as guardians to someone who can no longer care for themselves and who has been suffering from abuse from her adult children. Without Your Word to light the way, this work will quickly slip into tyranny.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Psalms



October 7-13, 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 or in a monthly printed version by sending a request to:

Pastor John Nunnikhoven
The Church at Prison, Inc.
PO Box 8318
Essex Junction, VT 05452