

Monday, 15 December 2014

Colossians 3:12-17

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Another passage where Paul draws a picture of the Christian demeanor and conduct. I suspect that the verses in the epistles outlining the characteristics of the Christian life far outweigh those stressing theology and evangelism. Yet our present day teachings, writings and activities reverse this emphasis. Are we missing something?

Tuesday, 16 December 2014

Colossians 3:18-25

Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged. Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for

men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ. For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality.

Wives, husbands, fathers, children, employees—
Whatever we do, work heartily as unto the Lord. We are serving the Lord Christ and NO ONE else.

Wednesday, 17 December 2014

Psalm 128:1

A Song of Ascents. Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways!

Is there an implied 'and' between the two phrases? Or an implied 'or'? It is an implied continuum. How can I fear the Lord and not walk in His ways? Impossible to be a God-fearer and not a Kingdom walker. Or vice versa! Is my life in perfect harmony with the Kingdom of God? What beautiful music when it is. And how painfully screeching when it is not.

Thursday, 18 December 2014

Psalm 128:2-4

You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table. Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the LORD.

The oil of gladness seeps, permeates, covers and penetrates every aspect of the life of a God-fearer. An aroma that soothes and calms the environment; an expression of Shalom. Against such things there is no law (Galatians 5:23).

Friday, 19 December 2014

Psalm 128:5-6a

The LORD bless you from Zion! May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life! May you see your children's children!

Yes, it is a blessing to see and enjoy my grandchildren but the greater blessing will be when I know they are walking with You. Bring them into Your Kingdom, Lord.

Saturday, 20 December 2014

Psalm 128:6b

Peace be upon Israel!

Shalom, that very essence of Kingdom life, be the hallmark of Your people. May Your Church live to spread the message of love, grace, mercy and transformation to all peoples, nations and tribes.

Lord's Day, 21 December 2014

Psalm 119:91

By your appointment they stand this day, for all things are your servants.

Here's that 'all things' again. Now it is all things that serve the LORD God Almighty, another confirmation that all things work for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose. And that I am one of those all things.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Psalms



December 15-21, 2014

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