

Monday, 19 January 2015

Romans 1:21

*For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.*

It is not too surprising that the world does not make any effort to give thanks to God, but His people?

1 Thessalonians 5:18 specifically instruct us to give thanks ***IN ALL*** (emphasis added) circumstances. Is it any wonder that our laxity results in futile thinking (worry and anxiety?) and hearts that are darkened (depressed and unjoyful?). As an indication of the importance of thanksgiving, 62 verses (ESV) instruct us to give thanks to God. And an often overlooked characteristic of our prayers is that they are to be offered with thanksgiving. (Philippians 4:6)

Maybe we need to drop all the 'gimmes' and spend our prayer time in giving thanks?????

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Tuesday, 20 January 2015

Romans 1:28-32

*And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.*

Disobedience leads to moral depravity and debasement. Always! Why cannot the world see the absolute correlation between the denial of Your Lordship and the deterioration of the culture? If anything, the tempo of denial has picked up in recent years. Lord, strengthen Your Church to stand in faithfulness to You.

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Wednesday, 21 January 2015

Psalm 135:1-4

*Praise the LORD! Praise the name of the LORD, give praise, O servants of the LORD, who stand in the house of the LORD, in the courts of the house of our God! Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; sing to his name, for it is pleasant! For the LORD has chosen Jacob for himself, Israel as his own possession.*

Praise the Lord! Extol the Lord! Exalt the Lord! Glorify the Lord! Thank the Lord! Acclaim the Lord! And I will find that I exult in His Presence for the Lord has chosen me for Himself and for His own possession. Incredible!

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Thursday, 22 January 2015

Psalm 135:5-7

*For I know that the LORD is great, and that our Lord is above all gods. Whatever the LORD pleases, he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps. He it is who makes the clouds rise at the end of the earth, who makes lightnings for the rain and brings forth the wind from his storehouses.*

“Whatever the LORD pleases” and He pleases to provide for my good. Trust Him! There's the rub, to trust Him and not to rely on my own faulty intuition and questionable wisdom. That big, booming, powerful Voice that makes clouds rise, lightnings for the rain and winds to stir the air, says, “TRUST ME” in Jeremiah 29:11. Yes, it is there. When the LORD says, “I know the plans I have for you.” 'Trust Me' is there.

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Friday, 23 January 2015

Psalm 135:8-12

*He it was who struck down the firstborn of Egypt, both of man and of beast; who in your midst, O Egypt, sent signs and wonders against Pharaoh and all his servants; who struck down many nations and killed mighty kings, Sihon, king of the Amorites, and Og, king of Bashan, and all the kingdoms of Canaan, and gave their land as a heritage, a heritage to his people Israel.*

As the LORD moved with signs and wonders and cleared the way for the Israelites to enter the Promised Land, so He walks with me through all manner of trials and temptations. He even permits me to make stupid mistakes by creating me with free will and then has the incredible grace to guide me through the consequences. What an awesome God I serve.

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Saturday, 24 January 2015

*Psalm 135:13-14*

*Your name, O LORD, endures forever, your renown, O LORD, throughout all ages. For the LORD will vindicate his people and have compassion on his servants.*

“The LORD will vindicate his people.” Vindicate: to acquit, to clear, to absolve, to exonerate, in short, to expunge my record. He has done this. I can stand before the Judgment Seat of the Almighty and point to the Cross. My debt has been paid, my rap sheet is clean. Hallelujah, what an awesome God I serve.

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Lord's Day, 25 January 2015

*Psalm 119:136*

*My eyes shed streams of tears, because people do not keep your law.*

It is those who claim to be Your people but do not obey You, not those who openly claim other gods; these are the disappointment. How can anyone claim to be a follower of Jesus Christ and yet not acknowledge His Lordship over their lives? How can anyone profess salvation from sin and continue to wallow in that sin? They just don't get it! You are Lord and in Your Word is life everlasting, to know You and God the Father. Praise Your Holy Name!

## VOICES TOGETHER

*Daily Meditations from the Psalms*



*January 19-25, 2015*

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 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