Monday, 23 February 2015

1 Peter 1:3-8

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,

> Lord, this passage provides perfect confidence that I am guarded and shepherded through trials of various kinds. It demonstrates that the purpose of these trials is to test the genuineness of my faith and, by implication, reveal and repair weaknesses therein. Thank You, Lord, that Your love is sufficient to bring me into a deeper, more perfect relationship with You.

Tuesday, 24 February 2015

Psalm 140:1-3

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. Deliver me, O LORD, from evil men; preserve me from violent men, who plan evil things in their heart and stir up wars continually. (3) They make their tongue sharp as a serpent's, and under their lips is the venom of asps. Selah.

> Lord, protect me from those who deliberately and maliciously seek to mis-interpret my motives and actions. Give me wisdom and willingness to respond in love and grace.

Wednesday, 25 February 2015 Psalm 140:4-5 Guard me, O LORD, from the hands of the wicked; preserve me from violent men, who have planned to trip up my feet. The arrogant have hidden a trap for me, and with cords they have spread a net; beside the way they have set snares for me. Selah.

> Lord, give me wisdom to recognize the traps and snares for many are deceptively packaged in avowals of friendship and mutual concern. Guard me, Lord, and show me the way that gives the praise and glory and honor to You.

Thursday, 26 February 2015 Psalm 140:6-8

I say to the LORD, You are my God; give ear to the voice of my pleas for mercy, O LORD! O LORD, my Lord, the strength of my salvation, you have covered my head in the day of battle. Grant not, O LORD, the desires of the wicked; do not further their evil plot, or they will be exalted! Selah.

> Lord, You are my shield, my protection, my source, my allin-all. My only task, my only call, my only responsibility is to trust and obey. I have nothing to fear.

Friday, 27 February 2015 Psalm 140:9-11

As for the head of those who surround me, let the mischief of their lips overwhelm them! Let burning coals fall upon them! Let them be cast into fire, into miry pits, no more to rise! Let not the slanderer be established in the land; let evil hunt down the violent man speedily!

> Lord, one failing is my tendency to plot revenge upon those who seek to harm me. Forgive me, Lord, help me to pray blessing upon them instead and fully trust in Your justice.

Saturday, 28 February 2015 Psalm 140:12-13

I know that the LORD will maintain the cause of the afflicted, and will execute justice for the needy. Surely the righteous shall give thanks to your name; the upright shall dwell in your presence. To You, Lord, is all the glory and praise. I must always acknowledge that You are in control of all things; that even those circumstances that distress me are used by You to advance Your Kingdom and to make me fit for citizenship. Praise You, Lord Jesus.

Lord's Day, 1 March 2015 *Psalm 119:2-3*

Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!

> The key here, this morning, is seeking You with a whole heart. Whole can mean entire and it can mean sound. My desire, Lord, is to walk in Your ways, searching after You with all my being and determined to do no wrong but to live in the fullness of Your Word. Help me, Lord.

VOICES COGECHER

Daily Meditations from the Psalms



February 23-March 1,2014

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