

Monday, 2 January 2017

*Psalms 119:66*

*I believe in Your commands; now teach me good judgment and knowledge.*

An interesting progression, LORD. I must believe in/trust in/commit to obey Your Word before I can be taught to have good judgment and knowledge. The opposite of the world's approach that is based on an expectation that good judgment and knowledge can be taught independently of the ethical and moral base of the student.

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Tuesday, 3 January 2017

*Psalms 125:1-2*

***A song for pilgrims ascending to Jerusalem. Those who trust in the LORD are as secure as Mount Zion; they will not be defeated but will endure forever. Just as the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds His people, both now and forever.***

What a picture of solidarity, permanence and endurance. I've never seen Mount Zion but I have spent a lot of time in the Rockies. I can still remember being awed as I saw those majestic peaks rising on the horizon as we crossed the plains of Kansas and eastern Colorado in 1946. The same thrill was there as I approached the Rockies 65 years later.

Just as the Rocky Mountains stand above those plains, so do the arms of the LORD, God, the Almighty surround and support those who trust in Him.

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Wednesday, 4 January 2017

*Psalms 135:15-18*

*The idols of the nations are merely things of silver and gold, shaped by human hands. They have mouths but cannot speak, and eyes but cannot see. They have ears but cannot hear, and noses but cannot smell. And those who make idols are just like them, as are all who trust in them.*

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What, who are my idols? What or who takes the place of the LORD, God, the Almighty in my life? Where do I turn in moments of stress and turmoil? Those created things, as a substitute for the Creator, shape my life and motives away from worshiping Him, the I AM and towards reliance upon the efforts of sin warped man.

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Thursday, 5 January 2017

*Psalms 143:8-10*

*Let me hear in the morning of your steadfast love, for in you I trust. Make me know the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul. Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD! I have fled to you for refuge. Teach me to do your will, for you are my God! Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!*

"Let me hear in the morning..." And how am I going to hear in the morning? Only by making my priority each morning to dive into the Word, to immerse myself in the Word of the LORD, God, the Almighty before the grime of a sinful world begins to pollute my soul. Then and only then can I rely on Isaiah 40:31 " *but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.*"

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Friday, 6 January 2017

*Psalms 146:3*

*Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.*

How tempting it is, as we wind down from a long, vituperative, rancorous and *ad hominem* driven political campaign, to put our trust in a selected prince of the political process and rely that he or she will be able to make a difference in our nation.

No, not one is worthy of our trust, for our trust in the LORD, God, the Almighty.

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Saturday, 7 January 2017

*Proverbs 3:5-8*

*Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.*

*"Trust in the LORD" vs "do not lean on your own understanding" "Do not be wise in your own eyes" vs "fear the LORD and turn away from evil"*

The majesty and permanence of Mount Zion vs the quicksand of my own understanding. Should be a no brainer. Is it?

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*Lord's Day, 8 January 2017*

*Psalm 119:93*

*I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have given me life.*

Life, daily, constant life in the Kingdom. Your precepts are my guide and my protection, my standard to go before me and shield me from all iniquity. There is life in Your word.

# *VOICES TOGETHER*

*Daily Meditations from the Scriptures*



*January 2-8, 2017*

I was dealing with a very difficult and perplexing problem in the spring of 1989 and tackling it by trying to learn everything I could on the subject. One evening, as I continued my studies, God told me very clearly that the root of the problem was that I did not know Him. I put down the book I was reading and picked up a Bible figuring that was where I was going to find Him. That began what has been an ongoing search to know, really know in a John 17:3 way, the LORD, God, the Almighty.

Voices Together has and continues to be, a very important part of that search. It is extracted from my daily meditations and is shared in the hope that others will be encouraged to turn to the Scriptures 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:

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The Fellowship of Ailbe, [voices@ailbe.org](mailto:voices@ailbe.org)  
Realizing the presence, promise and power  
of the Kingdom of God.

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\*LORD or LORD, God the Almighty always refers to the Trinitarian God.