Prayer of the week, based on Paul's prayer in:Romans 1:8-10

LORD, my prayer is that I would be more fully transformed to continuously praise You for the members of the (*Insert the name of the fellowship where you worship*).

To praise and thank You for the proclamation of the Kingdom of Heaven in the here and now that is taking place through the ministries of my brothers and sisters.

I pray that You will continue to provide for our needs, that Your Spirit will lead us into all truth and supply us with the words necessary to bring Your light into every corner of this village

When, by Your will, as we come together may we experience the joy of Your presence and of our mutual joy of being together. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Amen

Monday, 30 January 2017

Isaiah 32:15-18

until at last the Spirit is poured out on us from heaven. Then the wilderness will become a fertile field, and the fertile field will yield bountiful crops. Justice will rule in the wilderness and righteousness in the fertile field. And this righteousness will bring peace. Yes, it will bring quietness and confidence forever. My people will live in safety, quietly at home. They will be at rest.

What a picture of life to come in the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. To have a life of righteousness, peace and joy on every hand. Can you picture it? It is difficult to comprehend in this world that is consuming itself on the alter of hatred, jealousy and strife. But the LORD, God the Almighty promises that in this passage. The Spirit will be poured out on those who believe.

Tuesday, 31 January 2017 Isaiah 42:5b-8

And it is He who says, "I, the LORD, have called you to demonstrate My righteousness. I will take you by the hand and guard you, and I will give you to My people, Israel, as a symbol of My covenant with them. And you will be a light to guide the nations. You will open the eyes of the blind. You will free the captives from prison, releasing those who sit in dark dungeons. "I am the LORD; that is My name! I will not give My glory to anyone else, nor share My praise with carved idols.

While this passage begins with a reference to our Lord Jesus Christ, we know that the authority to demonstrate His righteousness have been bestowed upon us, His ambassadors of reconciliation, peacemakers to the kingdom of man. We are the city on a hilltop, the light which has not been hid under a bushel, the salt that savors and preserves. It is our calling to release those who sit in the dark dungeons of sin.

Wednesday, 1 February 2017 Isaiah 43:9-11

Gather the nations together! Assemble the peoples of the world! Which of their idols has ever foretold such things? Which can predict what will happen tomorrow? Where are the witnesses of such predictions? Who can verify that they spoke the truth? "But you are My witnesses, O Israel!" says the LORD. "You are My servant. You have been chosen to know Me, believe in Me, and understand that I alone am God. There is no other God —there never has been, and there never will be. I, yes I, am the LORD, and there is no other Savior.

We serve a risen Savior, we serve One whose birth, life, death and resurrection was prophesied in great detail. We know of Whom we witness and of Whom we serve. And we serve Him in joy and anticipation of His eminent return.

"There is no other God—there never has been, and there never will be. I, yes I, am the LORD, and there is no other Savior." Hallelujah! Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Thursday, 2 February 2017

Isaiah 50:10-11

Who among you fears the LORD and obeys His servant? If you are walking in darkness, without a ray of light, trust in the LORD and rely on your God. But watch out, you who live in your own light and warm yourselves by your own fires. This is the reward you will receive from Me: You will soon fall down in great torment.

Yea, even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for thou art with me, my Lord and Savior. Even though my daily path takes me through the darkness of this world, I must trust in the LORD to carry me through.

But if my heart provides the light and my mind directs my path, the end will be eternity in great torment.

Friday, 3 February 2017

Isaiah 53:1

Who has believed our message? To whom has the LORD revealed His powerful arm?

This is the beginning of a passage that is usually read to describe our Lord and Savior in His incarnation as a man. But it strikes me as being addressed to those who choose to believe the message and seek out understanding of the revelation of God as man. Once again, the emphasis is on belief. It is through belief that I gain understanding and grow in the knowledge of the LORD, God, the Almighty (Colossians 1:10)

Saturday, 4 February 2017

Jeremiah 3:10-13

But despite all this, her faithless sister Judah has never sincerely returned to Me. She has only pretended to be sorry. I, the LORD, have spoken!" Then the LORD said to me, "Even faithless Israel is less guilty than treacherous Judah! Therefore, go and give this message to Israel. This is what the LORD says: "O Israel, My faithless people, come home to Me again, for I am merciful. I will not be angry with you forever. Only acknowledge your guilt. Admit that you rebelled against the LORD your God and committed adultery against Him by worshiping idols under every green tree. Confess that you refused to listen to My voice. I, the LORD, have spoken!

Do we see the awful comparison between the pretended repentance of Judah and the call to a sincere plea for forgiveness on the part of Israel?

Judah is damned for her hypocrisy while Israel is given the opportunity to acknowledge their guilt, admit their rebelliousness and commitment of adultery. "*Confess your sin I will not be angry forever.*"

The merciful LORD, God the Almighty. But He despises a pretense confession.

Lord's Day, 5 February 2017

Psalm 119:115

Depart from me, you evildoers, that I may keep the commandments of my God.

Lord, that I would be able to resist the evildoers in the face of their deceit and continue to be faithful to You and Your Word. You are my hiding place, my strong bulwark against the wiles of the Evil One.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Scriptures



January 30-February 5, 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; 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

or at

The Fellowship of Ailbe, voices@ailbe.org Realizing the presence, promise and power of the Kingdom of God.

^{*}LORD or LORD, God the Almighty always refers to the Trinitarian God.