

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

Lord my prayer for the (*Insert the name of the fellowship where you worship*) is that we would be steadfast in our desire to lead others into the presence, promise and power of Your Kingdom.

Cause us to be unswerving in our proclamation of the life of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit that is only possible through commitment to You as Lord and Master.

I pray this in the power of Your Name, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Monday, 6 February 2017 Jeremiah 3:22-25

"Return, O faithless sons; I will heal your faithlessness." "Behold, we come to you, for you are the LORD our God. Truly the hills are a delusion, the orgies on the mountains. Truly in the LORD our God is the salvation of Israel. "But from our youth the shameful thing has devoured all for which our fathers labored, their flocks and their herds, their sons and their daughters. Let us lie down in our shame, and let our dishonor cover us. For we have sinned against the LORD our God, we and our fathers, from our youth even to this day, and we have not obeyed the voice of the LORD our God."

I have been writing extensively about what it means to believe/trust/commit/obey; what does the LORD, God the Almighty mean when He tells us to have faith in Him. It is time to take a look at the consequences of disobedience.

It is my conviction that the Christian Church in the United States of America is the present day faithless Israel. And will continue to be regarded so by the LORD, God, the Almighty until we reject our tacit approval and/or participation in the sin of Molech. Our silence regarding the pro-choice stance of the world around us is grieving our LORD and He is withholding His favor from us until we repent.

This is not the only way that the church has deliberately disobeyed but it is the among the sins which are specified as causing the LORD to replace the Canaanites with Israel. (Deut. 20:17-18)

Tuesday, 7 February 2017 Jeremiah 7:30-31

"For the sons of Judah have done evil in my sight, declares the LORD. They have set their detestable things in the house that is called by my name, to defile it. And they have built the high places of Topheth, which is in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire, which I did not command, nor did it come into my mind.

60,000,000+ murders in the mother's womb, often with the consent of the father, and the church has been silent. Bonhoeffer said that to be silent in the face of evil is to condone the evil. He

was referring to the murder of approximately 11,000,000 Jews and other undesirables.

And the church assembles on the Lord's Day and sings "Amazing Grace." Hypocrisy of the first order!

Wednesday, 8 February 2017 Jeremiah 7:3-10

Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Amend your ways and your deeds, and I will let you dwell in this place. Do not trust in these deceptive words: 'This is the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD.' "For if you truly amend your ways and your deeds, if you truly execute justice one with another, if you do not oppress the sojourner, the fatherless, or the widow, or shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not go after other gods to your own harm, then I will let you dwell in this place, in the land that I gave of old to your fathers forever. "Behold, you trust in deceptive words to no avail. Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, make offerings to Baal, and go after other gods that you have not known, and then come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, 'We are delivered!'—only to go on doing all these abominations?

How can we condone murder and offerings to Baal (Choice) and come to the house of the LORD and claim that we have been delivered from sin? Why are are pulpits not ringing with condemnation and the congregations on their faces on the floor crying for forgiveness and repenting of their hard hearts?

Thursday, 9 February 2017 Jeremiah 7:3-10

Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Amend your ways and your deeds, and I will let you dwell in this place. Do not trust in these deceptive words: 'This is the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD.' "For if you truly amend your ways and your deeds, if you truly execute justice one with another, if you do not oppress the sojourner, the fatherless, or the widow, or shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not go after other gods to your own harm, then I will let you dwell in this place, in the land that I gave of old to your fathers forever. "Behold, you trust in deceptive words to no avail. Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, make offerings to Baal, and go after other gods that you have not known, and then come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, 'We are delivered!'—only to go on doing all these abominations?

Our voices must be raised against the evil that is Roe v Wade. Our voices, our hearts, our wallets, our strength must go out to support the young woman who is struggling with pressure from boyfriend and family to abort.

To love the LORD, God, the Almighty with all my soul, heart, mind

and strength must be demonstrated by my love for my neighbor as for myself. It's where the rubber of my faith meets the road being walked by my neighbor.

Friday, 10 February 2017 Jeremiah 9:13-16

And the LORD says: "Because they have forsaken my law that I set before them, and have not obeyed my voice or walked in accord with it, but have stubbornly followed their own hearts and have gone after the Baals, as their fathers taught them. Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Behold, I will feed this people with bitter food, and give them poisonous water to drink. I will scatter them among the nations whom neither they nor their fathers have known, and I will send the sword after them, until I have consumed them."

As Israel suffered from their disobedience, so does the American Christian Church. Our voices are not being heard, our congregations are aging and shrinking, our young people are deserting the faith in droves.

Our country suffers likewise with high incarceration rates, drug addictions, post-abortive women with severe rates of addictions, depression, and suicide, etc.

Are these the bitter foods and poisonous waters?

Saturday, 11 February 2017 Jeremiah 11:7-9

For I solemnly warned your fathers when I brought them up out of the land of Egypt, warning them persistently, even to this day, saying, Obey my voice. Yet they did not obey or incline their ear, but everyone walked in the stubbornness of his evil heart. Therefore I brought upon them all the words of this covenant, which I commanded them to do, but they did not." Again the LORD said to me, "A conspiracy exists among the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

Is there a conspiracy of silence within the American Christian Church? I believe there is. It is called "don't rock the boat." Called, "not my problem." Called, "just a clump of cells, not really life." But it really is the disease which should be called, "I want to be as the nations around me." Human nature was on display when Israel called for a king so they could be like other nations; it has not changed.

Lord's Day, 12 February 2017 Psalm 119:126

It is time for the LORD to act, for your law has been broken.

Yes, Your law has been broken in many ways, especially in my self-will. Many times, in the past, I have proceeded in my own wisdom and strength rather than seeking Your guidance first. Forgive me, LORD, for I have sinned against You and You alone.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Scriptures



February 6-12, 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.