Monday, 21 October 2019 Psalm 72:1-5

Of Solomon. Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son! May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice! Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness! May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor! May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!

What a picture, Lord, of Your Kingdom in completion. Justice, righteousness, prosperity, deliverance, all are coming through Your hand to Your people. And the result will be generation upon generation of God-fearing peoples.

Tuesday, 22 October 2019 Psalm 72:6-11

May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth! In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more! May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth! May desert tribes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust! May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts! May all kings fall down before him, all nations serve him!

The picture continues, a moving panorama of Your glory. All creation in obeisance before You, all peoples rendering homage and tribute. Not a tribute of gold and silver or the returning of the cattle on a thousand hills to you, but a tribute of service and obedience.

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For he delivers the needy when he calls, the poor and him who has no helper. He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy. From oppression and violence he redeems their life, and precious is their blood in his sight.

Even now, in the yet, while we await the not yet, we see Your grace and mercy at work in the lives of Your people. You lift us up, shower us with creature comforts as needed, ransoming our lives from the bondage of the evil one, and holding us in the palm of Your hand. Thank You, Lord, for the redemption that brings meaning and purpose to my life

Thursday, 24 October 2019 Psalm 72:15-16

Long may he live; may gold of Sheba be given to him! May prayer be made for him continually, and blessings invoked for him all the day! May there be abundance of grain in the land; on the tops of the mountains may it wave; may its fruit be like Lebanon; and may people blossom in the cities like the grass of the field!

Lord, may praise of You be continuously in our mouths and in our heart, may obedience to Your Word be the watchword of our day, may we be faithful servants wherever You place us. This will bring an abundance of Your grain and a flourishing of Your people. This is the gold of Sheba that You desire.

Friday, 25 October 2019 Psalm 72: 17-20

May his name endure forever, his fame continue as long as the sun! May people be blessed in him, all nations call him blessed! Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. Blessed be his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and Amen! The prayers of David, the son of Jesse, are ended.

It's coming, Lord.

The Day that Your glory fills all the earth. The very mountains will leap for joy; the waves of the oceans will rise up in applause, the hosannas of Your people will ring as mighty peals of thunder. What a Day that will be.

It's coming, Lord.

He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Saturday, 26 October 2019 Psalm 119:89-91 Forever, O LORD, Your word is firmly fixed in the heavens. Your faithfulness endures to all generations; You have established the earth, and it stands fast. By Your appointment they stand this day, for all things are Your servants.

The one constancy, LORD, is Your Word. It is the Peg upon which the North Star hangs, the established Path of the stars in the sky, the Driving Force that governs the atoms and quarks of energy and matter. Your Word is displayed for all to see and to blaze Your Glory before all mankind. Your Faithfulness is the *tertium quid* by which all other affections are measured; it never fails.

Praise You, my LORD, God Almighty.

Lord's Day, 27 October 2019 Exodus 20:1-2, 17 And God spoke all these words, saying, "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ... You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's." Matthew 6:25 "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

Time to remind ourselves, Lord, that covetousness is dissatisfaction with Your provision coupled with self. It is always a matter of our wanting what You gave our neighbor because we are more deserving than he. If we are wholly and genuinely thankful for the way You have met our needs, it is impossible to be covetous.

Voices Together is available as two annual volumes of meditations based on Psalm 1 through 75 and Psalm 76 through 150. A companion book, *The Love Story*, is a 22 week series of meditations based on Psalm 119. The are available through the Fellowship of Ailbe book store at www.ailbe.org/bookstore/christian-discipline

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Scriptures



October 21-27, 2019 Prayer of the week, based on Paul's prayer in:Philippians 4:23 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

LORD, may Your grace be the salt which flavors and enhances all our conversations and interactions with those in our Personal Mission Field. Our witness without grace is as food without salt, flat and lifeless. With the infusion of grace, our spirits become vibrant and life giving, fully empowered to lead others into the righteousness, peace and joy that is life in the Kingdom with You.

May it be so with each member of the [Congregation] this week and in the weeks to come. Amen

To fear or not to fear, that is the question.

The fear of the Lord, an expression that occurs many times in Scripture, 142 in the ESV in various forms, is not well understood in the Church today. For many, the phrase represents a weak and flabby description of an overly saccharine spiritual being of some sort. It certainly does not include the concept of the LORD, God the Almighty who spoke all things into being and who controls all things.

Join with me in examining the fear of the LORD and seeking an understanding of life in the Kingdom of Heaven in the here and now as guided by that fear.

Voices Together 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. All Scripture is from the ESV unless otherwise noted. These messages can also be received as daily emails or in a monthly printed version by sending a request to:

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