

Monday, 7 October 2019 Psalm 69:22-28

Let their own table before them become a snare; and when they are at peace, let it become a trap. Let their eyes be darkened, so that they cannot see, and make their loins tremble continually. Pour out your indignation upon them, and let your burning anger overtake them. May their camp be a desolation; let no one dwell in their tents. For they persecute him whom you have struck down, and they recount the pain of those you have wounded. Add to them punishment upon punishment; may they have no acquittal from you. Let them be blotted out of the book of the living; let them not be enrolled among the righteous.

Lord, I know that the Evil One sends many of his minions in a wide variety of forms. Sometimes a person, sometimes a tormenting spirit, sometimes a physical affliction, and sometimes a temptation to succumb to the wants and desires of the old man, but always something where You will stand between me and the temptation to yield to sin. Let Your praises ever be in my mouth and a two-edged sword in my hand.

Tuesday, 8 October 2019 Psalm 69:29-36

But I am afflicted and in pain; let your salvation, O God, set me on high! I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving. This will please the LORD more than an ox or a bull with horns and hoofs. When the humble see it they will be glad; you who seek God, let your hearts revive. For the LORD hears the needy and does not despise his own people who are prisoners. Let heaven and earth praise him, the seas and everything that moves in them. For God will save Zion and build up the cities of Judah, and people shall dwell there and possess it; the offspring of his servants shall inherit it, and those who love his name shall dwell in it.

Praise You, my Lord and my Master, for You are at my side through all trials and tribulations. I can come to You with thanksgiving and praise to make my prayers know to You, and You will not only provide the guidance needed, but You will fill my heart and mind with Your peace.

Wednesday, 9 October 2019 Psalm 70:1-3 To the choirmaster.

Of David, for the memorial offering.

Make haste, O God, to deliver me! O LORD, make haste to help me! Let them be put to shame and confusion who seek my life! Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor who delight in my hurt! Let them turn back because of their shame who say, "Aha, Aha!"

Lord, I can come to You, day or night, health or sickness, joy or sorrow, and You are there to comfort me and provide solace and solution when needed or to share in my elation and rejoice in my joy. You are my Savior and my Brother. Praise You, Lord.

Thursday, 10 October 2019 Psalm 70:4

May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you! May those who love your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

You are indeed great, my God and Father, Your salvation is complete and without limit or measure. You excite and incite love in my soul, love for You, for Your creation and for all those who name You as Lord and Savior. I am overwhelmed by the sheer beauty of Your salvation and by Your great grace and mercy to me. May my paeans of joy reach to the very furthest parts of the universe.

Friday, 11 October 2019 Psalm 70:5

But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay!

You do hasten to my need; You cover me in my most desperate hours with love and grace. You fill me with Your joy and with Your peace. You hold back the evil one from besetting me and attempting to rob me of my communion with You. You are the God of all compassion and love.

Praise you, LORD.

Saturday, 12 October 2019 Psalm 119:84-85

How long must your servant endure? When will you judge those who persecute me? The insolent have dug pitfalls for me; they do not live according to your law.

Lord, I am the insolent who digs pitfalls for myself, I persecute me with falsehoods, I am the one who seeks to tear me from your warm embrace. And I am the one crying for comfort.

Lord, I need that Kingdom perspective to live in obedience to You in all things. Change my heart, oh God,/ make it ever true./ May I be like you.

Lord's Day, 13 October 2019, Exodus 20:1-2, 15

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 steal."

How many ways do I steal and not recognize it as theft? How about the times that I boast that I know a certain individual, that he is a good friend in the hope that a little of his notoriety will rub off on me? How many times do I shade and color a story to make me appear more benevolent than I am? Countless schemes to improve John's standing in the community. Forgive me, Lord, and send Your Holy Spirit to excise that pride and self-adulation.

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. They are available through the Fellowship of Ailbe book store at www.ailbe.org/bookstore/christian-discipline

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Scriptures



October 7-13, 2019

Prayer of the week, based on Paul's prayer in: *Philippians 1:9-11*

And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

Another one of Paul's prayers that is a pristine jewel and complete as it stands. LORD, may I use this prayer as the basis for my prayers for my brothers and sisters this week.

May the love of the [Congregation] abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that we may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

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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