

Devotion for Lent 2

Psalm 22:19-31

**But you, O Lord, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid!
Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog!**

Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!

**I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
You who fear the Lord praise Him!**

All you offspring of Jacob, glorify Him, and stand in awe of Him, all you offspring of Israel!
For He has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted and has not hidden His face from him,
but has heard when he cried to Him.

**From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear Him.
The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek Him shall praise the Lord!
May your hearts live forever!**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship
before you. For Kingship belongs to the Lord and He rules over the nations.

**All the prosperous of the earth shall eat and worship; before Him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
even the one who could not keep Himself alive. Posterity shall serve Him;
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation.**

They shall come and proclaim His righteousness to a people yet unborn, that He has done it.

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen*

Romans 5:1-21

Death in Adam, Life in Christ

- 1) What is the basis of our peace with God?
- 2) What is the source of our joy even in suffering?
- 3) What is the free gift we receive in Christ?

Mark 8:1-38

Jesus shows He is the Christ

- 1) What does the feeding of the 4,000 show us about Jesus?
- 2) Why did people refuse to believe and demand more signs?
- 3) Why did Jesus not want them to tell others He is the Christ?

Peace with God through Christ

Reconciliation, justification, faith and peace are important words in scripture, particularly in St. Paul's letters. Reconciliation means to be brought back into a good relationship with another person. It presumes something has happened to divide people, turned them from friends to foes and replaced loved and friendship with hostility and ill will. When Adam sinned, he shattered the good relationship human beings had with God at creation. To be reconciled to God means to be restored to a good relationship with Him.

Justification in the strict legal sense, means to be declared not guilty of wrong doing. In Christian use it means to be declared not guilty of sin. We are justified, forgiven, declared not guilty of sin for the sake Jesus. His perfect obedience to the law and sacrificial death, covers our sins in forgiveness. In Christ we are reconciled to the Father, declared not guilty of sin, no longer deserving of eternal death and hell, for the sake of His blood and righteousness.

Faith is the means by which we receive reconciliation with God and His verdict of 'not guilty' for the sake of Jesus. The end result of being justified by faith and receiving reconciliation with God is peace; the peace of a good conscience in time, the peace of life in His presence in eternity. Peace is knowing that despite the continuing presence of sin in our lives that God loves us, forgives us and does not count sin against us.

Peace is knowing that God loves us and works in and through all things in our lives, for our eternal good. God works in all things, even bad things, that our faith would deepen, mature and be preserved through all the trials of time. God works in our lives so that when time comes to an end, we would receive the fullness of reconciliation in our share of Christ's resurrection to everlasting life. We have peace with God through our Saviour Jesus and so in all things, we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

The Old Rugged Cross CCLI #453681

**On a hill far away, stood an old rugged cross, the emblem of suffering and shame;
And I love that old cross, where the dearest and best, for a world of lost sinners was slain.**

Chorus

**So I'll cherish the old rugged cross. Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.**

**O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world, has a wondrous attraction for me;
For the dear Lamb of God, left his glory above, to bear it to dark Calvary.**

**In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine, A wondrous beauty I see;
for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died, to pardon and sanctify me.**

**To the old rugged cross, I will ever be true. It's shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then he'll call me some day to my home far away, where his glory forever I'll share.**

Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, you care for all our needs in body and of spirit. We thank you for food and clothing, warmth and shelter, the blessing of family and friends and memories of loved ones, who continue to live in our hearts. We thank you for the sacrifice of your cross and the peace we have with the Father through the forgiveness of sins. Bless us to know that you work in our lives for our eternal blessing and benefit and that because of you, we always have reason to rejoice. In your Name. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven. Hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, Forever and ever. Amen

The Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Benediction Matthew 5:3

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Bible Knowledge Quiz

- 1) According to the book of Proverbs what is the beginning of wisdom?
- 2) According to the Psalmist why is God feared?
- 3) What was the name of King David's firstborn son?

Answers to last week's Quiz

- 1) Ravens 1 Kings 17:4
- 2) The Angel of the Lord (1 Kings 19:4-7)
- 3) Angels (Matthew 4:11)