

Tuesday, March 31

Scripture reading: Psalms 77

As I read verses 1 through 9, I can't help but reflect on the meaning behind the words - the utter desolation and hopelessness of the psalmist. Is that how Jesus was feeling as he prayed in Gethsemane on the eve of his crucifixion? And how many of us have had the same feelings of loneliness and betrayal because of things that have interrupted our lives?

Jesus knew that his answers lay in following the will of His Father; but we, so often, try to go through our crises alone, feeling faith is not enough, feeling we have been deserted by God also. Yet, like the psalmist in his remaining verses, 10 through 20, by prayer and meditation on the mercies of God, His promises and the wonders He has performed, we can once again focus on the blessings we have not lost and the many blessings yet to come, and know that we are not alone.

In preparing ourselves for this Easter season, we need to be open to the sufferings of our neighbors, family and friends who might also be feeling rejected, and perhaps we can help them see a brighter day, much the same as God provided for His people at the time of Jesus' Resurrection. As we go through our Lenten journey this year, I pray that we will do a lot of soul-searching and dedicate ourselves to being more observant of the spiritual and physical needs of others, for as it states in Matthew 25:40, "...Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me."

Prayer: We thank you, our Father, for the sacrifice of your Son and the gift of His coming glory, so that we might all share in His Resurrection. Amen

Written by Jan Evans