

Subject: Daily Prayer 14th April 2020, with reflection by Canon Simon Stephens

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Dear everyone

As always let us still our bodies and minds and spend a few moments in silence before we start.....

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1: 3

Lord, in your presence I do not concern myself with great matters, or with things that are too hard for me to understand. But I become still....and calm...like a child on it's mothers breast; my God you hold me close to you like a mother , so that my soul is quietened within me. AMEN (based on Psalm 131:1-2)

Anselm - Archbishop of Canterbury and Teacher. AD1109

Romans 5:1-11

Results of Justification

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Reflection by Canon Simon Stephens

Heading towards the trenches on the Western Front many young soldiers carried in their breast pocket a copy of the New Testament provided by the Simeon Trust in the UK. Of the few who returned safely from World War I, the most thumbed section of the New Testament was the Epistle to the Romans written to Christians 'under fire'! And so it is with many people today, exposed to so much bad news and to so many uncertainties, many people feel 'under fire'. If you are one of those people, then may I suggest that before the end of the month, you read the Epistle to the Romans. It is a short letter of only sixteen chapters - but it is written with you in mind! So please make time this week to read one chapter a day. And always read the chapter twice, and make time to let God to speak to you.

Apart from reminding his readers ' that they are called to be Saints'. Peter writes, " And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance, perseverance, character and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit'.

Prayer

Let us pray
Lord, have mercy
All Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy

God our Father, you gave us your Son, Jesus Christ, to share our life on earth, to grow in wisdom, to toil with his hands, and to make known the ways of your kingdom

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life, and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us in all assaults of our enemies, that we, surely trusting in your protection, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The grace

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

Blessings

Vicky