

Subject: Daily Prayer 25th August 2020
From: Vicky Pacey <vickyreadersapp@gmail.com>
Date: 25/08/2020, 08:00
To: Vicky Pacey <vickyreadersapp@gmail.com>
BCC: kjgreenall@gmail.com

Good morning

Let's take a few moments to be still and quiet before we begin.....

Father, help us to seek the values
that will bring us enduring joy in this changing world.
In our desire for what You promise
make us one in mind and heart.
In Jesus name we pray. AMEN

Psalm 98

Praise the Judge of the World

A Psalm.

O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have gained him victory.
The LORD has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.
Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.
Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy
at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming
to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

Matthew 23:23-26

'Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint, dill, and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. It is these you ought to have practised without neglecting the others. You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel!

'Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. You blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup, so that the outside also may become clean.

Reflection

'Woe to you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites' - Said by Jesus twice in just 4 verses of Matthew's Gospel!

On the outside, the behaviour of the Pharisees and Scribes is impeccable but inside there is a lack of a true Gospel spirit. Inside they are "full of greed and self-indulgence". The true gospel spirit is one of love, integrity, compassion and a sense of justice for all. Can we identify with any of this today in our own lives and attitudes. What are we like on the outside and on the inside?

Living in times when image is so important, we too are often tempted to give more importance to the outside of the cup than to the inside. In the presence of Jesus, we look at our relationships, in our family and in our work, in our Christian community, and ask for the grace of being ever more transparent, to God, to ourselves and to others.

And let's end with an extra prayer

Lord, please clean the inside of my cup, so that my heart may be filled with your love and your grace. As I pray, make me aware of the subtle ways in which I can spoil what you are trying to do through me. At the end of my life may I be able to say, not that 'I did it my way' but that I did it your way. 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 of our Lord Jesus Christ, 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
In the name of Christ. AMEN

Blessings and love
Vicky xx