

Sunday Mar 29, 2020

Another week has passed, and our county seems to be much spared of any Corona suffering. I believe there are people here who have it, but I know of none personally and our congregation is healthy. You have been calling and checking in on each other. I have heard different ones saying how encouraging this is. Please do it. Make yourself friendly and call someone. See if they are ok and check to see how the Lord has been encouraging them this week. Maybe you can pray with them too.

Today we will **read from Psalm 10**. Find your bibles, gather your family around for a couple of hours on Sunday morning, and spend some time praying together before you listen to the Scripture reading and devotion. Please take time to pray for the people of our congregation this morning, that they too would be edified and built up in our time in the Word today.

Ask the Lord to help you have concentration, and humble yourself to be taught, corrected and encouraged. God's living Word is an amazing gift and it is powerful for building faith and for strengthening His people, and for converting the lost. Ask God to equip you by it and His Spirit. After each section of the service, take a couple of notes. This will help you engage your mind and heart with things you have heard. It will be a helpful tool for you.

The **devotional** today will come from Revelation 18 and 19. As some wonder about trials and sickness that is world-wide, we have to realize that God is active in every affair of men. Of course God's hand is in this plague that kills in every nation. The question is will men humble themselves and pray and be warned that God will bring everything to end at some point? Will men repent of their sins, and seek God's forgiveness? Job said some poignant words;

Job 2:1–10 NKJV 1 Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the LORD. 2 And the LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it." 3 Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil? And still he holds fast to his integrity, although you incited Me against him, to destroy him without cause." 4 So Satan answered the LORD and said, "Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for

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his life. 5 But stretch out Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will surely curse You to Your face!" 6 And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, he is in your hand, but spare his life." 7 So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD, and struck Job with painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. 8 And he took for himself a potsherd with which to scrape himself while he sat in the midst of the ashes. 9 Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die!" 10 But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

If any of us suffer, let us pray that we would humbly receive it from God's hand. Christians need to harness thoughtless thoughts and words, and subject themselves to faith in God's purposes. Pray and read your bibles and practice your faith in God's control and goodness. I found a great sermon from 1860-65 and I hope you will read it or listen to it. I plan on reading it and posting it at Sermon Audio tomorrow afternoon or Monday morning. "The Finger of God".

As always, I am available for you to call if you need some help with something or if you would like to pray together. I hope you will purpose yourself to walk with the Lord this week, love the brethren of the congregation, and prayerfully bring requests, intercessions and praises to our Lord. Practice your faith.

In Christ, Mike