

DEVOTION FOR THE SIXTH WEDNESDAY OF EASTER

PSALM 108

My heart is steadfast, O God! I will sing and make melody with all my being.

Awake, O harp and lyre! I will awake the dawn.

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to you among the nations.

For your steadfast love is great above the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth!

That your beloved ones may be delivered, give salvation by your right hand and answer me!

God has promised in His holiness: With exultation I will divide up Shechem and portion out the valley of Succoth.

Gilead is mine; Manasseh is mine; Ephraim is my helmet, Judah my scepter.

Moab is my washbasin; upon Edom I cast my shoe; over Philistia I shout in triumph.

Who will bring me to the fortified city? Who will lead me to Edom?

Have you not rejected us, O God? You do not go out, O God, with our armies.

O grant us help against the foe, for vain is the salvation of man!

With God we shall do valiantly; it is He who will tread down our foes.

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

Old Testament Reading: Numbers 9:1-23 *Passover and the Cloud of Presence*

New Testament Reading: Hebrews 6:1-20 *Warning against falling away*

“A SURE & STEADFAST ANCHOR”

What’s holding you down? A foundation holds a building in place, so that it withstands onslaughts of wind and rain. An anchor holds a ship in place, so that it is not swept along by the wind, the tide and ocean currents. What holds us in place in terms of our faith in God? The author of Hebrews reminds us that as believers, our sure and steadfast anchor is God’s promise; spoken first to Abraham, confirmed eternally in Christ Jesus. It is because of God’s promise, which is certain and unshakeable, that we have hope in all things.

A skeptic asked, ‘Why he should worship the Christian God and not one of the gods of the Greek, Roman or Norse Pantheons?’ Why worship the Christian God? Because He kept His promises and won the battle with the gods of Egypt, Rome, Greece and even Scandinavia. The promise He made to Abraham of a nation was fulfilled in Israel. The promise of blessing to all nations was fulfilled in Jesus, through whom blessings of forgiveness and life come to all nations. God’s promise of blessing given to Abraham was fulfilled in Christ’s death and guaranteed to all nations through His resurrection. We know this because God has given us His word on it!

God’s word is our sure and steadfast anchor against every wind of false teaching that would lead us away from Christ. God’s word is our sure and steadfast anchor against every tide of the world and current of life that would draw us away from the certainty of His love and ship wreck our faith in Christ. The author of Hebrews warns us against falling away and being led astray. He reminds us of God’s compassion and urges always to remember His promise spoken in His word and made more certain in the resurrection of Jesus. His word is our sure and steadfast anchor!

“MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS”

**My hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus’ Name.**

Refrain

On Christ, the solid rock I stand. All other ground is sinking sand.

**When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. Refrain**

**His oath, His covenant and blood, support me in the raging flood;
when every earthly prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay. Refrain**

**When He shall come with trumpet sound, oh may I then in Him be found,
clothed in His righteousness alone, redeemed to stand before His throne! Refrain**

PRAYER

Holy God, we thank you for the sure and certain promises of forgiveness, peace with you and eternal life in your presence; spoken in your word, fulfilled in the death of Christ and guaranteed through His resurrection. Bless us always to be in your word, so that our faith may be anchored in your promises and held fast, until it receives its fullness at the return of Christ and our share in His resurrection. In His Name we pray. 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

Psalm 93:4-5

“Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the Lord on high is mighty! Your decrees are very trustworthy; holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore.”