



5/18/23

Do you ever write prayers to the Lord? One thing I like to do is take a psalm and use each verse to write my own prayer to the Lord. Each verse becomes a springboard for me to tell Him where my heart is. I find that He meets me there in those prayers. He meets us in ALL of our prayers. But there's something about praying His word. There's no formula to follow, no do this in 4 easy steps and your life will be different forever campaign. It's building relationship with Him one moment at a time...until we can't even imagine a moment without Him in our lives, and wouldn't want to.

Blessings,
Jonna

Psalm 125 ~

Vs. 1 ~ "Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever."

O Lord, Mt. Zion is so precious to You. It's spoken of 152 times in the Old Testament and 7 in the New Testament. It's the mountain where Jerusalem sits. It represents Your presence. You have said that Mt. Zion will be the place where You rule forever. And here You say that my faith in You gives me unshakable life in You forever. Rather than focusing on all the things I "should" do to please You...sometimes it seems more like I'm trying to appease You in order to avoid punishment...instead, help me to focus on YOU...growing in my faith in YOU.

Vs. 2 ~ "As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people, from this time forth and forevermore."

Jerusalem (Mt. Zion) has taller mountains than itself surrounding its city from every direction. These mountains help keep the city secure. To stand at the Temple Mount, I can look in any direction and see the mountains all around me. Let me not forget that picture as I remember You. You Yourself surround me today and always. I am safe because of You.

Vs. 3 ~ "For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous, lest the righteous stretch out their hands to do wrong."

O Lord, I don't begin to call myself righteous except for the righteousness Jesus gave me when He died on the cross. You see me as having the same righteousness as Jesus. You do not look on me with shame because You don't look on Him with shame, and I am one with Him. Praise Your name!

Because I belong to You, no act of wickedness can destroy my soul or my heritage with You. At the time of this writing, the Israelites didn't have the Holy Spirit dwelling in them and sealing them with the guarantee of salvation. As Your child now, I am so thankful that I will never face Your wrath. Please help me to keep my eyes on You and walk by the power of Your Spirit within me so that "the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart will be pleasing in Your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer" (Psalm 19:14).

Vs. 4 ~ "Do good, O Lord, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in their hearts!"

O Lord, the good You do to me is that You make me good...transforming me so that I'm like Jesus. I am upright in heart because of Him.

I struggle because I want so much to never fail You, but I am beginning to realize that even my failure is an opportunity to grow closer to You. My struggles remind me that I can't stand without You holding me up. My failures teach me to never rely on myself. Frank Sinatra sang, "I did it MY way." O Lord, it sounds good, but it's wrong! I pray that I will do it YOUR way...and the only way that happens is if I keep my eyes on You. Let that be the good You do in me...to teach me to keep my eyes on You.

Vs. 5 ~ "But those who turn aside to their crooked ways the Lord will lead away with evildoers! Peace be upon Israel!"

O Lord, help me to give You the honor You deserve and see You as the Ruler and King You are. You have all authority. Anyone who stands against You will find that out the hard way. Let that truth encourage me when I feel overwhelmed by the enemy of my soul, and let it motivate my worship...because Jesus took my wrath so that I will never be led away with the evil.

O Lord, peace be upon all Your people. You are the God of peace. That is what I experience when I put my whole trust in You.

"Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it." ~ 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 ESV