

February 7, 2021

Greetings, I trust you are well. Thank you to those who helped last Sunday morning and evening! I appreciate both your service and faithfulness.

Your singing in the Loft makes a significant difference in our services. Choir, we really need your help in the Loft for each service. You singing with me is much better than me singing alone—in our auditorium, on our livestreaming, and on the Baptist Temple Hour. On Sunday morning, we will load the Loft five minutes before each service—9:25 & 10:45.

Choir, on Sunday afternoon, please load the loft at any time. We will run through a Choir song at 5:45, and sing it this Sunday evening. You will find a copy of the music on the red library cart in the center of the Choir room.

Orchestra, we will rehearse on Sunday afternoon at 5:30. We will look at music for this evening and the next couple of weeks. Thank you for your faithful service each time we meet!

This week, several of our people celebrate birthdays. Send them card, email, text, or give them a call and sing “Happy Birthday.”

Edward Prendergast (bass) – Tue, Feb 9
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Robin Anderson (sop1) – Tue, Feb 9
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Recently, I read Isaiah 57:10, which begins, “Thou art wearied in the greatness of thy way...” Believing that God speaks to me through His Word, I replied, “Lord, how did you know?” The wording of the translation I was reading actually read, “You were wearied with the length of your way...” The definition of weary is, exhausted in strength, endurance, vigor, or freshness; having one’s patience, tolerance, or pleasure exhausted. Yes, I am weary with the length of this Covid thing, as I am sure you are as well.

However, the verse doesn’t stop there. “Yet saidst thou not, There is no hope:” or “but you did not say, “It is hopeless.” Good news, ours is not a hopeless situation, there is hope!

When I was a child, one year for Christmas my parents received the latest Elvis Presley record that had the Thomas A. Dorsey song, “Peace in the Valley.” I remember the first line, “Oh well, I’m tired and so weary.” Perhaps the immense popularity of the song had something to do with so many people identifying with weariness, but also having hope that one day there will be peace from the many cares of this life.

A good number of our enduring hymns and gospel songs have touched on the idea of weariness. “And though my heart grows weary, I never will despair.” “Come as a rest to the weary;” “Come every one who is weary and sad.” “For I am weak and weary,” “He restoreth my soul when I’m weary;” “Jesus is calling the weary to rest,” “Let us not grow weary in the work of love;” “Though my weary steps may falter,” “Walked Christ my Savior, weary and worn;” “Wounded and weary, help me, I pray.” “You who are weary, come home.”

The next phrase of the verse fixes responsibility for surviving weariness. “Thou hast found the life of thine hand;” or “you found new life for your strength,” So, it doesn’t come in a box from Amazon. It’s not something you eat or drink. It’s not on Netflix, YouTube, Hallmark, or Fox. Nobody can do it for us. We find it for ourselves. We find it in the basics of the Christian life—the same place it has always been; Bible reading, Bible study, prayer, service, and fellowship with other believers in Christ.

Final phrase, "therefore thou wast not grieved." Or "and so you were not faint." Don't faint! "We faint not" 2 Cor. 4:1, "Wherefore I desire that ye faint not..." Eph. 3:13, "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Gal. 6:9, "For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day." 2 Cor. 4:16

Evidently, weariness is a part of the human condition. We get weary. However, in our weariness we must find comfort, hope, and strength for each day. I trust you are and continue doing so.

Thank you for your faithful service to the Lord in the ministry we share.

On the journey of 2021, trust God, serve faithfully, live with joy, and grow together in grace!

I look forward to seeing you on the Lord's Day. It is a great joy serving as your minister of music. blessings!