

**Wednesday, June 3, 2020**

**Devotional Thoughts from Pastor Jim Murr...**

**"In the Lord I take refuge; how can you say to my soul,  
'Flee like a bird to your mountain, for behold, the wicked bend the bow;  
they have fitted their arrow to the string to shoot in the dark at the upright in heart;  
if the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?'  
The Lord is in his holy temple; the Lord's throne is in heaven;  
his eyes see, his eyelids test the children of man."**

*Psalm 11: 1-4*

How good it is to know that God is in His holy temple; that His throne is in heaven! The fact that God's throne is in heaven means that it is not questioned. God cannot be removed from His throne. He is reigning, and will continue to reign forever and ever. In this Psalm, David mentions "fleeing like a bird to God's mountain." David was very skilled at using God as his refuge.

David had a lot of enemies – real enemies – who wanted to take his life. There were many who wanted to remove David from his own throne as King over Israel. But David's throne was secure because God's throne is secure. David was King because God anointed him to be king. What God ordains cannot be thwarted.

We are living in a very restless time in our nation – actually in our world. It's hard to say what people are looking for. Actually, maybe it's not so hard to say. People want to be their own gods. The Bible says, "For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things." This describes a world where Jesus is not allowed to reign. It is the ultimate form of Anarchy. "Anarchy" means "no rule." It means that no one submits to any authority. The Book of Judges ends with these words: "In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes."

When human beings do "what is right in their own eyes," we will get it wrong most of the time. We need a King. We need a Ruler. And your Ruler, and my Ruler, is Jesus Christ – the Savior from heaven Who came into the world to pay for the sins of the world. All sins have been paid for ... without exception! But this gift becomes yours and mine through faith in Jesus Christ.

We know that God is reigning. He cannot do otherwise. He is Lord and Creator. But as we live in this world, we see another "ruler." He is reigning for now. His name is Satan. He has been vanquished. His reign is coming to an end. Anarchy is coming to an end. God will continue His reign in heaven, and all who have believed in Jesus as Lord and Savior will reign with Him.

So, for now, we learn how to "flee like a bird to His mountain." We come to His Word, and we fall on our knees in prayer, and we find our peace in His promises, which are coming to fulfillment. Every time we open the pages of His Holy Word, we are fleeing like a bird to His mountain where we find our safety and our hope. He reminds us that we are His, and that He will never leave us or forsake us.

God's peace!  
Pastor Jim