

March 25, 2020

Dear Ones,

During this time of quarantine, it is so important for us to be in touch with each other. We are not allowed to come together as a congregation, but this should not stop us from communicating with each other. For this reason, I wanted to send this devotional thought from Psalm 40:1-5. It follows several Psalms that cry out for help due to very difficult circumstances. It reads:

40 I waited patiently for the Lord;
And He inclined to me and heard my cry.
² He brought me up out of the pit of destruction, out of the miry clay,
And He set my feet upon a rock making my footsteps firm.
³ He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God;
Many will see and fear
And will trust in the Lord.

⁴ How blessed is the man who has made the Lord his trust,
And has not turned to the proud, nor to those who lapse into falsehood.
⁵ Many, O Lord my God, are the wonders which You have done,
And Your thoughts toward us;
There is none to compare with You.
If I would declare and speak of them,
They would be too numerous to count.

The first thing to note is that the Hebrew literally says "I waited-waited." This doubling intensifies the thought and is meant to communicate that he 'really waited'! He prayed, he sought the Lord, he cried to the Lord!

Which brings us to the second thing to note: that the Lord heard his cry and set his feet upon rock, firm and sure. And God put a new song in his mouth, and song of praise to our God. Verses 3-5 expound on all the wonders of God and how the one is blessed who trusts in the Lord.

These are good verses to ponder when we are hurting or discouraged. The Lord is our Keeper. He is our Provider. In Him we trust.

In Him,

Paul