

Daily Devotional, March 18, 2021 His Mercies Are New Every Morning

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore, I will wait for him." The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; Lamentations 3:22-25 (NIV)

The first chapter of Lamentations introduces the devastated city of Jerusalem. The second chapter speaks of God's anger at the people who rebelled against Him and that brought down His anger on the city. Many were taken captive and taken to Babylon. Seventy years later God's anger had been satisfied as Israel began remembering the loving kindness of their Lord.

As the people begin to bring God's punishment back to mind in verse 20, they bowed to God and accepted that their punishment was just. Then a very familiar passage is found next.

That God's mercies to His people are new every morning. He is faithful and hope once again arises.

Regardless of whether or not we have a good day or a bad day. The Lord sees us in our trouble. God loves His children. As Christians, we Gentiles were grafted into the faith. The promises given by Jesus were made available to us as well. If that is not mercy, I don't know what is.

His mercies are new every morning. We should not forget them. We should cherish them with thankful prayers. This verse says *every morning*. If your day doesn't start until evening God will hear your gratefulness and be honored and blessed. Many of us struggle to make ends meet. Some do not make ends meet. This reminds me of the people who both stayed behind at Jerusalem and those who were taken captive. Eventually their hope was rekindled.

In some ways, I see the hope of the church in America being reignited. The flame burns again. In the midst of our many churches shutting down due to Covid, the people of faith around the world are finding their hearts awakened and are finding their voices. Many of us seek God first in every crisis. It is up to all of us to make Him the first priority and all the other pieces will fall into place as we continue to trust Him.

Look back at the times He has supported you and blessed you in times of discomfort and trial. Take heart that He is still there for you, and for your family and friends. Although there may at times feel that there is no way out, stand up and follow the narrow way. For though the way may be narrow, it beats any other alternative that is out there, for those who continue to trust in God will find that God is still their portion, for nothing else could ever fill that gap. May your trust always be with Him. His compassion never fails!

Lord Jesus, even as we stumble to our feet or help others to stand, we are either relearning our trust in You, or are reminding others of your mercy, grace and kindness. We bless You Lord and thank you for Your faithfulness even when we are not faithful, or are distracted by the world around us. Give us hope and strength for the journey. Reach us with Your irresistible call to follow You. In Christ's name, Amen!