

## Malcolm's Monday Musings : 9 November 2020

Greetings.

This is your weekly 'Musings' email from me.

You may wish to note that the attached Word document comprises a concise set of notes on the important subject of 'The Holy Trinity' (reprinted, with permission, from 'Behold your God', Volume 1, published by Precious Seed Publications, in 2011.)

You may find it helpful to file the document away for future reference.

Yours in our Lord Jesus,

Malcolm

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### (i) Scripture.

It is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and praise is beautiful ... He heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds. He counts the number of the stars; He calls them all by name. Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite. The Lord lifts up the humble; He casts the wicked down to the ground. Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving.

Psalm 147. 1-7 (New King James Version)

### (ii) Food for thought.

#### ***'I will praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made' (Psalm 139. 14).***

'If you lined up all the blood vessels in the body, they would stretch over 62,000 miles (almost 100,000 kilometres), more than twice the distance around Earth. Your lungs have the same surface area as a tennis court. Experts say there are 40-50 trillion cells in your body, composed of 7 octillion atoms. If all the DNA strands in your body were uncoiled, the total length could make round trips from Earth to the moon 150,000 times. And your brain has approximately 86 billion nerve cells joined by about 100 trillion synapses, more than the number of stars in our galaxy.

'Yet more wonderful than all this, believer, your body (i) was redeemed by the blood of Christ, (ii) is now indwelt by God the Holy Spirit, and (iii) someday will be reconstituted to be indestructible, eternal, and like the glorified body of the Lord Jesus Himself. Let's use this amazing equipment to bring praise to Him today, as the psalmist says'.

(J. B. Nicholson, Jr., '*Petition Mission: November 1*').

See the attached 'Psalm 139. 14' picture.

#### ***Seven actions of Satan.***

- (i) *Tempts* (Gen. 3. 1-5; Matt. 4. 3; 1 Thess. 3. 5).
- (ii) *Lies and deceives* (John 8. 44; 2 Cor. 11. 3; 1 Tim. 2. 14; Rev. 12. 9).
- (iii) *Masquerades* (2 Cor. 11. 14).
- (iv) *Buffets* (2 Cor. 12. 7).
- (v) *Hinders* (1 Thess. 2. 18).
- (vi) *Persecutes* (1 Pet. 5. 8-9).
- (vii) *Accuses* (Rev. 12. 10; cf. Job 1. 6; Zech. 3. 1).

#### ***Seven possessions that the unbeliever is without:***

- (i) Spiritual *life* (Eph. 2. 1, 5).
- (ii) *Righteousness* before God (Rom. 3. 10).
- (iii) *Strength* to save himself (Rom. 5. 6).
- (iv) *Christ* (Eph. 2. 12)
- (v) *Hope* (Eph. 2. 12; 1 Thess. 4. 13).
- (vi) *God* (Eph. 2. 12).
- (vii) *The Holy Spirit* (Rom. 8. 9; Jude 19).

#### ***Wonders in heaven.***

'When I get to heaven, I shall see three wonders there. The first wonder will be to see many there whom I did not expect to see; the second wonder will be to miss many people who I did expect to see; and the third and greatest of all will be to find myself there'.

(Source uncertain; often attributed with slight variation to John Newton and Isaac Watts.)

**God is no respecter of persons.**

- (i) In death: (2 Sam. 14. 14).
- (ii) In salvation: (Acts 10. 34).
- (iii) In social status: (Eph. 6. 9; Col. 3. 25).
- (iv) In judgment: (Rom. 2. 11; 1 Pet. 1. 17).

**The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him (Gen. 49. 23).**

‘I was a stricken deer, that left the herd  
Long since; with many an arrow deep infix’d  
My panting side was charged, when I withdrew  
To seek a tranquil death in distant shades.  
There was I found by one who had Himself  
Been hurt by the archers. In His side He bore,  
And in His hands and feet, the cruel scars.  
With gentle force soliciting the darts,  
He drew them forth, and healed, and bade me live’.

(William Cowper, ‘*The Task: Book III – The Garden*’, lines 108-116.)

**‘In everything give thanks’ (1 Thess. 5. 18).**

Matthew Henry, on being robbed of his wallet, recorded, ‘Let me be thankful, first, because he never robbed me before; second, because although he took my purse, he did not take my life; third, because although he took all I possessed, it was not much; and fourth, because it was I who was robbed, not I who robbed’.

(Archie Naismith, ‘*2400 Outlines, Notes, Quotes and Anecdotes for Sermons*’, number 1063.)

**The Christian’s Hope.**

‘Hope is the handkerchief that God puts into His people’s hands, to wipe the tears from their eyes, which their present troubles ... draw from them’.

(William Gurnall, ‘*The Christian in Complete Armour*’, page 530.)

**‘One thing’.**

- (i) Desired: communion with God (Psa. 27. 4).
- (ii) Shared in common: physical death (Eccl. 3. 19).
- (iii) Lacking: conversion (Mark 10. 21).
- (iv) Needful: a listening ear (Luke 10. 39, 42).
- (v) Known: personal testimony and assurance (John 9. 25).
- (vi) Pursued: a focus on spiritual progress (Phil. 3. 13).

**‘The earth quaked, and the rocks were rent, and the graves were opened’ (Matt. 27. 51-52).**

‘The frame of nature solemnized the death of its Author; heaven and earth were mourners; the sun was clad in black; and if the inhabitants of the earth were unmoved, the earth itself trembled under the awful load.

‘There were few to pay the Jewish compliment of rending their garments; but the rocks were not so insensible, they rent their bowels.

‘He had not a grave of His own; but other men’s graves opened to Him. Death and the grave might be proud of such a tenant in their territories; but He came not there as a subject, but as an invader, a conqueror.

‘It was then the king of terrors lost his sting; and on the third day the Prince of life triumphed over him, spoiling death and the grave’.

(John Maclaurin, ‘*Glorying in the Cross of Christ*’, in ‘*The Works of John Maclaurin*’, pages 420-422.)

**Evidences of the deity of Christ in John chapters 1 to 3.**

- (i) His omnipotence: ‘all things were made through Him’ (John 1. 3).
- (ii) His omniscience: ‘He knew all men ... He knew what was in man’ (John 2. 24-25).
- (iii) His omnipresence: ‘the Son of man who is in heaven’ (John 3. 13).

**‘Before Abraham was, I am’ (John 8. 58).**

‘He does not contrast Abraham’s previous existence with His eternity of existence, but Abraham’s coming into existence with His eternal being. There is a contrast between Abraham as a created being and our Lord as uncreated, the self-existent, eternal God’.

(Kenneth S. Wuest, *Bibliotheca Sacra*, July 1962, page 221; quoted from Note 25 of the attached Word document.)

**Detailed notes.** [See the attached Word document, ‘The Holy Trinity’.](#)

(iii) Go on, smile.

1. 'It was a women's meeting and a prominent authoress rose and went to the mike. As she began, she was aware of hissing from the wings. A man in overalls, obviously an engineer, stood there with a screwdriver.

The lady chairman went to investigate. She returned, rather flustered.

Brushing past the speaker, she announced: "Before we continue I have a very unhappy piece of news to communicate. Word has been given to me from the wings that *there is a screw loose in our speaker*".'

(From the 'Illustrated Weekly of India'.)

2. Mrs Smith: 'I'm glad to say that, in all our married life, my husband hasn't once remembered our wedding anniversary, which falls in the middle of July'.

Mrs. Jones: 'I'm sorry, but I don't understand. Why are you glad about that?'

Mrs. Smith: 'Well, I remind him about it in January and then again in July. *That way, I get two nice presents*'.



## Psalm 139

"I praise you because I am  
fearfully and wonderfully  
made"