

Friday, January 5

Scripture Reading: Psalm 33

Text for Today: Psalm 33:16-22 *No king is saved by the size of his army; no warrior escapes by his great strength. A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all its great strength it cannot save. But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love, to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine. We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in you.*

Our world seems to be hope deficient. We are depleting resources at an alarming rate. The race for financial wealth belches toxins in our atmosphere, warming our planet to new levels. War, poverty and starvation leave many without basic needs including their loved ones. It's no wonder many turn to violence, anger and aggression to meet their needs; for many it is all they know.

As Psalm 33 reminds us, salvation does not come in armies, personal fortitude, or the strength of allies. Salvation comes from our faith in Jesus Christ. Hope derives from a faithful ability to look beyond the secular shortcomings of this world to a life in the light of God. Life by definition in this world will have strife and end in death. What do we have if not hope?

Prayer: Dear Lord. Thank you for giving us hope each and every day. With all the adversity Lord, we need to rely on your strength and the promise of your never ending love for comfort. Help us to be more like you; to love unconditionally and bring hope to so many in need. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

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