

In Loving Memory - Gerald Gibour

M: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who said, *“Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”* Let us pray:

Lord Jesus, you wept at the grave of your friend Lazarus, and you consoled Mary and Martha in your distress. Draw near to us who mourn for Jerry and dry the tears of all who weep. Calm our troubled hearts, dispel our doubts and fears.

Strengthen us with your Word, and lead us through this earthly life until at last we are united with you and all the saints in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

PSALM 90

(selected verses)

A Prayer of Moses, the man of God.

¹Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

²Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

³You return man to dust and say, “Return, O children of man!

⁴For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.

⁵You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning;

⁶in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

⁸You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.

⁹For all our days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

¹² So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. Have pity on your servants!

¹⁴ Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

¹⁶ Let your work be shown to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.

¹⁷ Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!

Lesson

I Corinthians 15

¹⁵ Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. ² By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

³ For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance^[a]: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas,^[b] and then to the Twelve. ⁶ After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, ⁸ and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

⁹ For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. ¹¹ Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

⁶ You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

while we were
STILL SINNERS,
Christ died
for us: 
ROMANS 5:8

Prayer

Gracious Father, help us remember that sin causes the dark difficulties of life in this world. Bring us to the image of the cross and the forgiveness of sins earned by your Son's death. Comfort our grieving hearts and minds with the healing of your compassion. By the power of the Spirit, lead us each day to find the comfort of the gospel, the insights that end confusion, the confidence to pray, and the certain hope of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen

Blessing

May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.

Let us go in peace.

Amen

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