

mar 27

"through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness." lam 3:22-23

i just felt like i was supposed to open with that statement today. it is indeed the mercy of the Lord that sustains our being. the holiness of God is such an awesome thing. the frailty of our human existence cannot comprehend it. we can only look to the mercy and amazing grace He extends to us. He loves us that much.

i often wonder, "how much do we love Him back"? not nearly as we should i fear. yes fear. there's is one thing i fear. it is the fear of the Lord. i do not mean the reverence some teachers would have you believe "the fear of the Lord" means. i mean genuine fear of coming into His presence with all the sin and guilt of knowing what has taken place in one's life.

there is nothing that will be hidden. all the secret thoughts we nurtured and the greed and jealousy that too often took command. even the most righteous of us falls so short of His holiness. so what is the answer. we walk in grace, "looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith". heb 12:2 we look to the atonement He made for us by his own blood. "He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." 2 cor 5:21

we "do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may

prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." rom 12:2 i had a preacher once who taught from this scripture saying it was not three wills of God. it was one will. it was good and perfect and was the only thing that was acceptable.

i thank God for His mercy. i thank God for His grace. mercy is God not giving us what we do deserve; grace is God giving us something we do not deserve. how can i value one over the other? He not only lifts us up from the miry pits He found us in, He has "made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus". eph 2:6

i think of how the nations of the world will one day stand in judgment. i pray for mercy for my nation, once so full of light and goodness exported to the world. now, in like manner, it is perversion and lawlessness we influence others in. i weep when i think of a heathen nation claiming more righteousness than a supposed christian nation.

these recent years have had me praying for our parent nation, the united kingdom. the nation who once gave us the king james bible translation has also descended into darkened places. i hear so many stories of christian restriction and persecution.

there used to be a minister there i loved and followed. it was david pawson who as recently went home to the Lord, even as many prominent leaders have. i worried they were left alone in that darkness but God always has a people.

recently i have become aware of another teacher from england. it is pastor stuart spagatner. i love the gentle way he opens up the scriptures and melds them together, usually in an off the beaten path setting. i invite you to one of his youtube videos and challenge you to seek others. one may be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LESx262zcuk&t=297s>

until next time, may we remember each other in prayer and strive for the unity of the body. make time for the Lord this day. God bless us all!

linda