

WEEKLY PRAYER GUIDE – PRAYING THE NAMES OF JESUS

Jesus: Lord

Week 19 – April 3, 2011

Prayer Focus: Deep Torment

For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore, ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

Malachi 3:6

Consumed. Have you ever felt consumed? By life's circumstances, by a loss, by a change you did not want. According to Webster, consume is a verb that means to *use up, spend wastefully, expend, destroy, to perish*. Sometimes challenges in life can be so overwhelming that we think we shall be consumed by these experiences. Indeed life does challenge us; some seasons are grinding for our emotions and faith. But the Scripture above gives to us a promise. The Lord does not change. Because He is the same we will not be consumed.

The Lord is an abiding presence; the unchangeable One in power and truth. Taking that reality into a spirit is to be supernaturally carried by the Spirit of the Lord, even when matters are harrowing and unwanted. His position—immoveable—is what enables yours and mine to be endured. Although life will try us, it will not consume us. Jesus promises.

This week our prayer focus is on those in deep torment. It may be you. It may be a family member, friend or co-worker. It may be for someone you have never met but have read about his or her walk and you feel compassion for this person. Consider the Christ of Calvary who suffered on the cross in an excruciating death yet lived beyond it. Lived to full glory. Lived so that you and I could live. Remember that as we face life's pains and struggles, we do not face them alone. Jesus is with us. He carries us through. And even though it seems as though we will not be able to manage, the promise above assures us that He will manage it all, and that indeed we will come out on the other side by His hope.

As we live in a disposable culture with everything from food to relationships deemed temporary and easily obtained, therefore, easily discarded, Christian faith instructs us far differently than the culture around us. All we have in relationship, in faith, in provision, comes from a holy and loving God. May the Lord's view and purpose in all be foremost in your mind so that by His Spirit you will continue to recognize His heart of plenty and reason in everything you experience in His world.

Unchanging Lord, we lift to You our prayers and thanksgiving for the bounty of life You give to us, and restore in us as needed. Lord, You know fully the challenges we face in this culture. But Your Word stands and, therefore, Your people can stand. You are the Lord who changes not. We will not be destroyed. Thank You for the confidence and comfort of this truth All blessing and honor are Yours. For You love abounds. In Thee, Amen.

Weekly Faith Challenge: This week surrender your personal matter that is consuming you to the great and unchanging God of Israel, to the Christ of Time. Be active and thoughtful in a desire to pray and meditate on His promises so that you recognize His peace coming over you. Be exact and thoughtful in Your prayer time as You give praise, honor, and glory to this unchanging God. May His peace overflow and this Scripture become more real than ever. As you do this, be assured, dear one, that the Lord will use you at some point in time to be a witness to someone else to whom you can direct to this Scripture for their assurance.

Chris Ann Waters

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Jersey Shore Will Graham Celebration – May 20-22, 2011, Ocean Grove, NJ