

August 9, 2015

TIME OF REFLECTION

“Joy, which was the small publicity of the pagan, is the gigantic secret of the Christian.”

- G.K. Chesterton (1874-1936), English writer and Christian apologist

“I have read that during the process of canonization the Catholic Church demands proof of joy in the candidate, and although I have not been able to track down chapter and verse I like the suggestion that dourness is not a sacred attribute.”

-Phyllis McGinley (1905-1978), American author and poet

“It would be simply awful to find that as we grew in Christ we became dull, that as we developed in discipleship we became like Anthony Trollope’s Miss Thorne, whose ‘virtues were too numerous to describe, and not sufficiently interesting to deserve description.’”

-Eugene Peterson (1932-), pastor and translator of *The Message*

“From the halls of power to the fortress tower,
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
ev’ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
There are tables spread, ev’ry mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn.”

- *The Canticle of the Turning*

Worship through the Word

SERMON – “Shout for Joy” – *Kevin Schwartz*

SERMON PASSAGE – *Psalm 132 (ESV)*

¹ Remember, O LORD, in David's favor,
all the hardships he endured,
² how he swore to the LORD
and vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob,
³ “I will not enter my house
or get into my bed,
⁴ I will not give sleep to my eyes
or slumber to my eyelids,
⁵ until I find a place for the LORD,
a dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob.”
⁶ Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah;
we found it in the fields of Jaar.
⁷ “Let us go to his dwelling place;
let us worship at his footstool!”
⁸ Arise, O LORD, and go to your resting place,
you and the ark of your might.
⁹ Let your priests be clothed with righteousness,
and let your saints shout for joy.
¹⁰ For the sake of your servant David,
do not turn away the face of your anointed one.

¹¹ The LORD swore to David a sure oath
from which he will not turn back:
“One of the sons of your body
I will set on your throne.
¹² If your sons keep my covenant
and my testimonies that I shall teach them,
their sons also forever
shall sit on your throne.”
¹³ For the LORD has chosen Zion;
he has desired it for his dwelling place:
¹⁴ “This is my resting place forever;
here I will dwell, for I have desired it.
¹⁵ I will abundantly bless her provisions;
I will satisfy her poor with bread.
¹⁶ Her priests I will clothe with salvation,
and her saints will shout for joy.
¹⁷ There I will make a horn to sprout for David;
I have prepared a lamp for my anointed.
¹⁸ His enemies I will clothe with shame,
but on him his crown will shine.”