



Monday, 12/5/16

PERFECT PEACE

READING: Isaiah 26:1-4

In today's scripture reading, we see a song of praise that will be sung in the land of Judah. There is a lot of singing recorded in the Bible. During the Christmas season, we hear of angels singing "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests." The song we read in Isaiah today gives us important insight into how we can live in today's world where we face innumerable stressors daily, and still have peace. Health, finances, politics and immorality surround us, and constant demands on our time can wear us down and defeat us. During the Christmas season, we have even more demands on us. We need this perfect peace that the scriptures speak of but how do we reach it? I think that perfect peace has to do with where our minds are. Are we thinking about God, what he has done for us, his love for us, his presence with us, and his desire to have a relationship with us? Are we thinking of his many attributes? How about the promises he has given us? Are our minds "steadfast" and "stayed on thee?" We need to train our minds to keep going back to God whenever we are distracted by life and its stress. I propose that one way to keep our minds "stayed on thee," is to do as this scripture says and sing. Sing to the Lord of his faithfulness and love. Sing to the Lord of his mercy and grace. Sing to the Lord of his almighty power. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. As you sing, your trust in God will grow and so will your peace. So, whenever you are discouraged, take a step of faith and open your mouth in praise to God. It won't be easy but if you do it, I think you will find that it will be like someone will have turned on the lights in your dark world and it will not be so dark anymore. Peace enters in with that light! Keep on singing and it will get even brighter. I know because I have done it myself. We can sing today and every day and thereby keep our minds steadfast in trust and have perfect peace.

-Karenn Voorhees