

PRAYER BULLETIN #49, 17Oct2020

RIVERS IN THE DESERT

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Isaiah 43:19

REFLECTION

In the midst of the many changes during the current pandemic, some of the stable institutions, comfortable jobs, and other things we never imagined would change have been shaken. Many securities we have invested in have become uncertain, with no end in sight. Through it all, deep in our hearts, there is a need for stability. To have things always changing taxes our minds, bodies and spirit. Yet in this environment which demands agility and flexibility, we wonder how then should we come to see God and the promises of His Word? What is God doing now?

There are three truths from Isaiah 43 that grant us hope: First, God's promises do not change. Second, God's character does not change. Lastly, God's way of revealing His direction and provision for our problems can surprise us.

In Isaiah 43:19, the God whose love and mercy for His people is unchanging and brings about a new thing. In the wilderness where direction and destination seem to be lost, God provides a way. In the desert of lifelessness and dryness, God springs up rivers of water. Not just one river, but multiple streams. And God granted his people the grace to witness His work first-hand.

By faith, I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters in Christ, to open your eyes to these two things. Where is God leading you today in the 'wilderness' of 2020? What rivers of grace has God sprung up on you during this season of difficulty? We face the 'impossible' problems of our lives together with the God who makes all things possible. God's love and faithfulness are never changing and never failing; may God's Spirit enable us to marvel at the wonder of what God is doing now as he shows the world whom He loves His glory and His grace in a refreshing way.

PRAYER

Our Everlasting Father, we ask that you may help us to behold the wonder of your work of love and grace in our lives today. As we pause, grant us the grace to witness your divine direction for us in the wilderness of our lives today, and also the grace to receive the rivers of fresh water in the desert situations in our families, in our work, and in our community. Build in us a hope by resting in your unchanging love and faithfulness for us. In Jesus' Most precious Name we pray, Amen.

SUPPLICATION

- Father God, we commit to you members of your family who struggle with financial security in this difficult time. Father grant us open eyes to see where we may build channels of your grace, open hearts to be filled with your compassion, and open hands that can release your blessing that there may not be poor among us.
- Forgive us when we have trusted more in our own hoarded resources and we have missed out on what you are doing even in this difficult time. Grant us new perspectives in putting our full trust in you as you give us our daily bread.
- Provide within us a hunger for your righteousness as we follow you through this COVID season. May we be satisfied when we bring about acts of love, mercy, and justice to the most vulnerable neighbours you have put within our reach. Stir within the heart of your church a passion to feed the hungry, heal the sick, clothe the naked, and visit those who are trapped and enslaved by sin.
- We lift up the many international students in Oldham Hall who have been kept away from their families for a prolonged season. May you visit these young ones with your love and presence through your church.

"God will make a way where there seems to be no way. He works in ways we cannot see, he will make a way for me. He will be my guide, hold me closely to his side. With love and strength for each new day, He will make a way. He will make a way."

- Don Moen God Will Make A Way

If you need any prayer or pastoral care support, kindly contact the pastoral care team via:

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