

Scripture for 21 April 2024

PSALM 104: selected verses

Bless the LORD, O my soul.

O LORD my God, you are very great.
You are clothed with honor and majesty,
wrapped in light as with a garment.
You stretch out the heavens like a tent;
you set the beams of your chambers on the waters;
You make the clouds your chariot;
you ride on the wings of the wind;
You make the winds your messengers,
fire and flame your ministers.

You cover the earth with the deep as with a garment;
The waters rose up to the mountains, ran down to the valleys
to the place that you appointed for them.

You make springs gush forth in the valleys;
they flow between the hills,
giving drink to every wild animal...
By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation;
they sing among the branches.
From your lofty abode you water the mountains;
the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.

You cause the grass to grow for the cattle
and plants for people to cultivate,
to bring forth food from the earth
and wine to gladden the human heart,
oil to make the face shine
and bread to strengthen the human heart.

O LORD, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.

Bless the LORD, O my soul.
Praise the LORD!

John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the crowd.

Jesus came and stood among them and said, “**Peace be with you.**” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

Jesus said to them again, “**Peace be with you.** As God has sent me, so I send you.”

When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “**Peace be with you.**”

Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.”

Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”