

Blessed are they who have learned to Praise you, O Lord Mid Week Reflection # 54, July 1, 2009

“Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you, who walk in the light of your presence, O Lord, They rejoice in your name all day long. they exult in your righteousness, For you are their glory and strength.” Psalm 89:15-16 NIV

This beautiful Psalm fragment keeps returning to my mind and heart. and I have prayed it over and over for the past few weeks

Let me share a few different translations of these verses with you this week:

I In Eugene Peterson's The Message it reads “Blessed are the people who know the passwords of praise, who shout on parade in the bright presence of God, Delighted, they dance all day long; they know who you are, what you do ~ they can't keep it quiet!

Your vibrant beauty has gotten inside us ~ you've been so good to us! We're walking on air! All we are and have we owe to God, Holy God of Israel, our King.” The Message: The Bible In Contemporary Language, NavPress, 2002, page 1924

II In Nan Merrill's Psalms For Praying it reads: “Blessed are those who know your Love, who walk in the Light of your countenance! Blessed are those who call upon your Name and extol truth and justice! For you are the glory of their strength; You give wise counsel. Our very lives belong to you, O Loving Companion Presence! You have made yourself known to the faith-filled; You set them on the path to peace. The Gift you sent to bring redemption invites us to eternal life! Through the Heart of all hearts, You opened the way to Life. Your steadfast Love came among us giving us strength. Fear shall not overcome us, we will not give in to doubt, For your Love casts out our fear.”

Psalms For Praying An Invitation to Wholeness, Nan C. Merrill, Continuum, New York, London, 2005, page 184

Both of the above volumes are wonderful sources for refreshing translations of the psalms that bring them to life in new ways and help us to use them for worship. If you don't currently have access to them I would suggest you get copies to enhance your private praying of the psalms.

Have a praise filled week and enjoy God's “Loving Companion Presence”

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Under God's Mercy,

Howie