

Lessons from Abroad

Psalm 77:1-15 (NIV)

- ¹ I cried out to God for help; I cried out to God to hear me.
- ² When I was in distress, I sought the Lord; at night I stretched out untiring hands and my soul refused to be comforted.
- ³ I remembered you, O God, and I groaned; I mused, and my spirit grew faint. Selah
- ⁴ You kept my eyes from closing; I was too troubled to speak.
- ⁵ I thought about the former days, the years of long ago;
- ⁶ I remembered my songs in the night. My heart mused and my spirit inquired:
- ⁷ "Will the Lord reject forever? Will he never show his favor again?
- ⁸ Has his unfailing love vanished forever? Has his promise failed for all time?
- ⁹ Has God forgotten to be merciful? Has he in anger withheld his compassion?" Selah
- ¹⁰ **Then I thought,** "To this I will appeal: the years of the right hand of the Most High."
- ¹¹ **I will remember the deeds of the LORD; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago.**
- ¹² I will meditate on all your works and consider all your mighty deeds.
- ¹³ Your ways, O God, are holy. What god is so great as our God?
- ¹⁴ You are the God who performs miracles; you display your power among the peoples.
- ¹⁵ With your mighty arm you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph. Selah

Psalm 78:1-8 (NIV)

- ¹ O my people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth.
- ² I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter hidden things, things from of old--
- ³ what we have heard and known, what our fathers have told us.
- ⁴ We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done.
- ⁵ He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children,
- ⁶ so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children.
- ⁷ Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands.
- ⁸ They would not be like their forefathers-- a stubborn and rebellious generation, whose hearts were not loyal to God, whose spirits were not faithful to him.

Psalm 2:1-4 (NASB77)

- ¹ Why are the nations in an uproar, And the peoples devising a vain thing?
- ² The kings of the earth take their stand, And the rulers take counsel together Against the LORD and against His Anointed:
- ³ "Let us tear their fetters apart, And cast away their cords from us!"
- ⁴ He who sits in the heavens laughs, The Lord scoffs at them.

Luke 12:48 (NIV)

- ⁴⁸ From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.

2 Peter 3:3-7 (NIV)

³ First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires.

⁴ They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation."

⁵ But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water.

⁶ By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed.

⁷ By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for your grace and mercy. You have filled my life with abundance. Your word is within my reach. Your Spirit is present to enlighten my path. My life is filled with expressions of your abundance. Open my heart to see the fullness of your kindness to me. Silence those who mock you. Bring down those who choose wickedness and encourage others to turn from you. Almighty God, my hope is in you, you alone are my strength and my redeemer. Amen.