

Wednesday Word Meditation Material (March 25, 2020)

Praise → Prayer → Scripture → Understanding Scripture → Sharing → Prayer → Lord's Prayer

- ❖ **Praise** – If possible, Hymns 434 & 442 are to be sung. If not, please sing any good Christian song
- ❖ **Prayer** – One of the family members or Individual
- ❖ **Scripture Reading** – Psalm 46:1~11
- ❖ **Meditation on Scripture**
 1. In this psalm, we can see that the writer's confession of God as "the refuge of His people" because this psalm has 3 times of the same expression "God" and "refuge" in the parallel relationship between the two.
 2. From verses 1~3, we can see that God is refuge for His people in the days of natural disasters.
 3. Especially, verses 2~3 detail the natural disasters. The writer of this psalm confesses that he would not fear for them. One of the natural disasters is to be COVID-19, which is unexpected but so powerful for destruction that we can compare that to the nuclear weapons.
 4. From verses 4~7, we can see that God is refuge for His people in the political difficulties, which are composed of difficult relationship between nations in the world.
 5. From verses 8~11, we can see that God is refuge for His people by controlling the world history in His own will.
 6. Among the verses, especially, verses 1, 7, and 11 are the personal confession of the writer on God. In these various, complicated, difficult, fearful situations in our life context, the writer clearly confesses his faith in God by calling Him "refuge." In that sense, the writer confesses God as his Creator, Savior, and Shepherd.
 7. By the way, in these confessions, we should not miss one thing. That is about the explanation on God by God Himself in verse 10a, "Be still, and know that I am God!" Here, God proclaims His pledge that He will do more than the writer expected in the days of storms as stated in the text. As the writer confesses, so reveal Himself before him. But, more than that, God will reveal Himself as God. In other words, God would proclaim that "God of the writer *is* God."
 8. Without this God's presence, the confession of the writer of this psalm is nothing, and our all expectation and hope are useless. In that sense, the most significant part of this psalm is verse 10; the proclamation of God on "God *is* God."
- ❖ **Meditation on Grace**
 1. Do I or we have the confession on "our God *is* God"?
 2. When we confess "our God is God," can I or we also confess "God is my Refuge"?
 3. In this difficult situation due to COVID-19, do you believe that the only one Solver is God? If so, how could you respond to God for this current issue related to COVID-19?
 4. We are able to hand over COVID-19 as well as our urgent life challenges to God "as the response to God" by praying in the name of Jesus Christ.
- ❖ **Prayer** – Praying with the meditation and finishing with the Lord's Prayer.