

## Wednesday Word Meditation Material #25 (September 16, 2020)

OrderPrayer → Praise → Scripture → Understanding Scripture → Meditation on Grace → Prayer → Lord's Prayer

- ❖ **Prayer** – One of the family members or Individual
- ❖ **Praise** – If possible, Hymns 360 & 349 are to be sung. If not, please sing any good Christian song
- ❖ **Scripture Reading** – Psalm 88:1~18
  
- ❖ **Understanding Scripture (*Discard*)**
  1. This psalm was written by sons of Korah, dealing with a very unique content. That's because this psalm heavily tells the fact that his fallen relationship with God and all the wrath and punishment of God on him make him miserable, meaningless, and needy.
  2. The writer calls God as “God of salvation” and prays Him day and night(v.1). But, his life is filled with “troubles” and very near to death(v.3), “counted among those who go down to the pit” and was like strengthless(v.4), “like one set loose among the dead” and “like those whom you remember no more, for they are cut off from your hand”(v.5). Also, he expresses his dark situation by saying “You have put me in the depths of the pit, in the regions dark and deep”(v.6). God's wrath oppresses him heavily upon him and God “overwhelms me with all your waves”(v.7). Because of God's wrath, he became a horror to his acquainted (v.8). On account of sorrow, his eyes grow dim(v.9). In spite of these miserable situations, as he did in verse 1, so did he ask God's help (v.9). He cried out that if he dies because of the difficulties, then God's grace afterward seems meaningless because he could not see that (vv. 10~12). That means that he was in a deadly situation. Once again, in that situation, he requested God to help him out (v.13) as he did in verses 1 and 9. He said “my prayer comes before You” with faith that God definitely listen to his prayer(v.14). The true darkness here is that he has been in these difficulties since his youth. He was in troubles like the above throughout his life (vv.15~18). In a nutshell, the writer of this psalm is in a deadly hard situation where even God seems to discard him and punish him even though he prays God for help.
  3. However, the one verse that we passed, the verse 14 imply two things. First, the writer of the psalm was discarded because of God's wrath and punishment. Second, Jesus Christ who died on the cross and saved all God's people was in the same painful place. “Why do you cast my soul away?”(v.14) was repeated by Jesus Christ on the cross. We can feel the suffering of Jesus' for us with this expression. **That was “discard” itself. The discard was from people but the more miserable is from God. By being discarded by God, Jesus saved us who were discarded by God.** The darkness in this psalm is all about our previous situation outside Christ. God gave us the new life by His grace through Jesus Christ. So, we are supposed to rely on Jesus who is sincerely with us forever in order to take care of our life matters.
  
- ❖ **Meditation on Grace**
  1. Do you feel the discard found in this text in your life? Let's consider the miserableness of discard and isolation from the people! After thinking, let's share together!
  2. With Jesus, we are saved from “God's discard.” But we believe in Jesus Christ so that we were saved. What meaning does this fact give us? Lets share that together!
  3. Why don't we pour out our all darkness in our life to Christ Jesus who was discarded for us?
  
- ❖ **Prayer** – Praying with the meditation and finishing with the Lord's Prayer.