

**Wednesday Word Meditation Material #21-05 (February 3, 2021)**

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

- ❖ **Prayer** – One of the family members or Individual
- ❖ **Praise** – If possible, Hymns 307 & 410 are to be sung. If not, please sing any good Christian song
- ❖ **Scripture Reading** – Psalm 106:1~48/ You may just read 4~5.
- ❖ **Understanding Scripture** (*The Gigantic Appreciation*)
  1. In Korea, there is a proverb, “When my cousin buys the land, my stomach hurts.” In English, we can find the similar expression, “she is green with envy.” **Today’s text premises this kind of situation and gives the solution from God.**
  2. In a nutshell, this text is composed of two parts. The first one comprises three things: proclamation, appreciation, and prayer that Israel should praise, worship, thank, and rely on God in verses 1~5 and verses 47~48. The second one comprises Israeli history. **The Israeli history** is formed from the Israeli first step of Exodus (v.7) to their last step of Return from Babylon (v.44). Within that history, we can smell the faithfulness, mercy, and righteousness of God for them.
  3. When we look into the text, we can see very unique portion, which is verses 4~5. **That is to be expressed like: “when my cousin buys the land, I can rejoice it.”** Definitely, the verses 6~46 deal with how God chose, protected, and led. So, Israel might be able to be thankful for what He did for Israel. But, if anyone among the Israelites acquires unexpected profit such as a lottery, then we may begin to consider ourselves. If we consider ourselves better than the one on great profit or we cannot find anything big different from us, then we can feel that our stomach hurts. Even where we confess thankfulness in faith, we are easy to make that mistake. In the church, we can also experience this bitterness very easily and very often.
  4. **God knew this bitterness in human beings even in His people, so I think that He put this unique word in Psalm 106:4~5.** These verses are the small content, with which we can make our appreciation gigantic in this metanarrative (or grand discourse). When we hear this metanarrative of God’s salvation, we can be discouraged and be hurt in stomach. Then, 1) we should calculate God’s redemptive grace that we already have, and 2) we should rejoice God’s existence and His works which are embedded in the plentifulness of both other church members and the church. With this perspective, we are able to give thanks to God for the great profit of people around us (especially, believers and church members). Then, because all the development and plentifulness of theirs are to be our own reason for thanksgiving, this must be the foundation that makes this thanksgiving gigantic.
  5. **Jesus died on the cross in order to make us, the people of God, plentiful (2Co 8:9). Jesus took the cross in order to rejoice our “delight of salvation” together.**
- ❖ **Meditation on Grace**
  1. What kind of stomach hurt do you have? After deep meditating, please share.
  2. It is not from our own effort but from our remembrance of Jesus’ cross which was for enjoying our plentifulness together that we can consider plentiful people around us not as the reason for stomach hurt but as the reason for thanksgiving.
  3. The people around me and I are saved in Christ through the grace of God and rejoice the grace now. That fact testifies plentiful God. With that confession, in order for us to realize the gigantic appreciation, let us rely on Jesus Christ once again with prayer!
- ❖ **Prayer** – Praying with the meditation and finishing with the Lord’s Prayer.