

Another's Devotional #4

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This devotional from *The One Year Book of Bible Prayers* provides us with an early introduction to our upcoming series on ENCOURAGEMENT. Given many are discouraged today, it's wise to highlight Bible passages & themes which provide needed comfort in our day. Enjoy. Be edified.

A Prayer From The Discouraged [The devotional for March 9]

I lie in the dust, completely discouraged; revive me by your word. I told you my plans, and you answered. Now teach me your principles. Help me understand the meaning of your commandments, and I will meditate on your wonderful miracles. I weep with grief; encourage me by your word. Keep me from lying to myself; give me the privilege of knowing your law. Psalm 119:25-29 [NLT]

When you're completely discouraged, where do you turn? The psalmist turned to God's laws and commandments. They revived him, even though circumstances had left him lying in the dust. He wanted to know more about God and truly *understand* God's ways, and he meditated on God's amazing miracles. He reminded himself that it was a privilege to know God and his laws. After all, God's law kept him from lying to himself. It liberated him from the quicksand of self-deceit and placed him firmly on the solid ground of God's law.

In the secular and self-absorbed climate of our times, despair is common. Even in your deepest discouragement, ask God to help you to understand his truth.

Lord, I weep with grief. Encourage me by your word ...

Taken from *The One Year Book of Bible Prayers* by The Livingstone Corporation ; 2000

This Psalm – Ps. 119 – goes on to demonstrate God's answer to the prayer! It's precious. It even includes yet another prayer – yes, one found in the very same psalm: “Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.” (Ps. 119:18 ; ESV) Our loving God cares for His needy sheep. One clear expression of His care is this: He has graced us with His awesome Counsel to meet all of life's encounters, *end-time tribulation and | or discouragement* included. May we respond by expressing praise to His holy name. In **His Counsel** we find amazing transforming power (Is. 55:8-11 & Heb. 4:12) to shape our puny perspectives toward thriving in these awesome *end of days*. We simply need to take the time to seek **it**. Blessings to those who do so.

For helpful encouragement during these more challenging days, please visit

www.TheRaptureGathering.com www.TruthFoundations.org

www.TruthFoundations.org/cb3b26.pdf www.TruthFoundations.org/db9a24.pdf