



Readings and Prayers

Let Me be Your Mercy Lord

Psalm 103:6-18 The Message Bible

GOD makes everything come out right;
he puts victims back on their feet.
He showed Moses how he went about his work,
opened up his plans to all Israel.
GOD is sheer mercy and grace;
not easily angered, he's rich in love.
He doesn't endlessly nag and scold,
nor hold grudges forever.
He doesn't treat us as our sins deserve,
nor pay us back in full for our wrongs.
As high as heaven is over the earth,
so strong is his love to those who fear him.
And as far as sunrise is from sunset,
he has separated us from our sins.
As parents feel for their children,
GOD feels for those who fear him.
He knows us inside and out,
keeps in mind that we're made of mud.
Men and women don't live very long;
like wildflowers they spring up and blossom,
But a storm snuffs them out just as quickly,
leaving nothing to show they were here.
GOD's love, though, is ever and always,
eternally present to all who fear him,
Making everything right for them and their children
as they follow his Covenant ways
and remember to do whatever he said.

A Reflection, paraphrased from Anthony De Mello SJ

I saw a child ...

cold, hungry, with no home, living on the streets, in a war zone, in a refugee camp, in the midst of a natural disaster, without access to medical care or education.

And I asked God why He didn't do something.

There was no reply.

And then late in the night a reply did come...

and He said I did do something, I created you!

Prayer

Let me be your Mercy Lord

Lord, help me to be your mercy in this broken world.

Where children have been orphaned, let me be parent.

Where homes have been lost, let me be builder.

Where there is sickness, let me be physician.

Where parents feel hopeless, let me be light.

Where people are frightened, let me be consoler.

Where the natural world is wounded, help me to speak out on its behalf and bring reconciliation.

Help me to use the little that I am to bring comfort, relief and joy to those who have lost everything.

Let me be your mercy Lord.

Amen

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