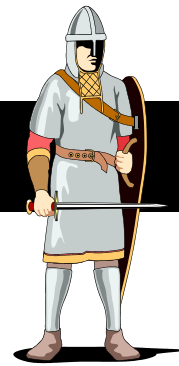


Wall of Prayer



July 17, 2017

Dear Faithful Prayer Warrior,

I come from a large family. Mealtime was especially lively as we all gathered to fellowship and... well...eat! My siblings and I ate quickly, thinking we might miss out on seconds with so many competing for the good food—some elbowing and grabbing was involved! There was always room for a friend or two and somehow, there was enough to go around every time. Church potlucks were a thing to behold in the little country churches we attended. There was laughing and sharing and food beyond measure, it seemed. Every cook had her signature dish with most of the ingredients coming right off the farm. Meals enhanced wedding celebrations. Funeral meals brought comfort. To this day, holidays bring extended family and guests to a bountiful table of seasonal dishes that add to the festivities.

Mealtime, whether at home or shared with the church family, is something we anticipate with great delight. We are sustained from one meal to the next by the tastes and smells, the nutrition provided, as well as the emotional and spiritual strength we gain each time we hear, “Come to the table, it’s time to eat!”

Jesus reminds us that “man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”¹ He tells us that He is knocking at the door of our hearts, wanting us to sit down and eat with Him for a bit.² The prophet Isaiah writes of being awakened morning by morning to be instructed; given words to sustain the weary and strength to endure suffering.³ The Psalmist encourages us to, “Taste and see that the Lord is good...” that we are blessed when we take refuge in Him.⁴ By constantly eating the solid food of the Word, we learn to distinguish good from evil.⁵ During the darkest times, in the Valley of the Shadow of Death, in the presence of the enemy, God serves us His richest feast.⁶

Jesus told His disciples that He had food that they didn’t know anything about and further, that His food was to do the will of the Father.⁷ When we take in God’s word, we’re not only grabbing food for ourselves, but we grab for others in order that they may be strengthened and sustained during times of trial and suffering. Knowing that God satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things,⁸ we ask Him to bring our students to His bountiful table, drawing them by the sights and aroma surrounding those who frequently accept the Father’s bidding to “come and eat.”

We don’t miss many meals in this country. Most of you reading this have three a day. So, I ask, do we run to the table—to His Word—when our Father calls, “Come to My table, it’s time to eat!” Do we open the door to our closest Friend when He knocks? Are we not only taking food for ourselves, but are we consistently reaching for food to sustain others? God is so rich and His table so full, there is plenty for everyone! Come...come...eat!

In Him,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Susan".

Susan Admire

¹Matthew 4:4, ²Rev. 3:20, ³Isaiah 50:4ff, ⁴Psalms 34, ⁵Hebrews 5:14, ⁶Psalms 23:4-5, ⁷John 4, ⁸Psalms 107:9

“Lord, there is no one besides Thee to help in the battle between the powerful and those who have no strength; so help us, O Lord our God, for we trust in Thee, and in Thy name have come against this multitude. O Lord, Thou art our God; let not man prevail against Thee.” 2 Chr. 14:11