Wall of Prayer

July 25, 2023

Dear Faithful Prayer Warrior,



We opened the Dallas Morning News recently and were surprised when we got to "Peanuts" in the comic section. Charlie Brown was complaining about the "bad weather." Linus replied, "Where were you when He laid the foundation of the earth? Who laid its cornerstone when its morning stars sang together? Who can number the clouds by wisdom? Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens? Is the wild ox willing to serve you? Do you give the horse its might? Is it by your wisdom that the hawk soars, and spreads his wings toward the south? Don't criticize the world, Charlie Brown."

God's Word is indeed alive and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, and it penetrated my heart and soul that morning. I turned to find Linus' words – and many more – in the last chapters of Job. These rich passages describe in detail God's sovereignty and care for us all—man and beast, fish and bird. David put it this way, "The earth is the Lord's and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein." (Psalm 24:1)

THIS, this is the wise and capable God to whom we pray. Linus' and David's words urge us to trust in the Lord with our whole heart and not to lean on our own understanding, and not to be wise in our own eyes, but to fear the Lord and depart from evil, for it will bring health and strength to us. (paraphrase, Proverbs 3:5-8) We pray God's Words through the power of His Spirit and in the name of His Son. As we pray for our students, the enemy would love to turn our eyes away from these truths, to focus on our own understanding, which is confined to time and space, and to our limited perspective and abilities.

Earlier this summer, I had the privilege of listening to a 9-year-old pray before he went to bed. He prayed humbly, but with the confidence he had when approaching his earthly father. He praised God and thanked Him for many things, he asked that God keep various loved-ones safe. And then, he prayed that God would cause the "bad guys" to want Him in their hearts. What? Did I hear this young boy correctly? The next evening, he included that same petition, as well as asking God to help those in the "10/40 window" to have enough to eat and to become Christians. He had learned in Vacation Bible School of these geographic longitude and latitude coordinates that hold the most physically and spiritually impoverished people groups in the world—a true stronghold of the enemy.

Out of the mouths of babes...or a comic strip character...God ordains praise and truth. I was overwhelmed with the absolute trust of a child who, confident in the mighty power and the grace of His heavenly Father, ask that sinners be converted. He didn't ask that God get rid of the "bad guys," but that He would basically change the "bad guys" into guys who love Jesus and others. He knew God could do it, he just needed to ask Him. Jesus' disciples saw Him transform "bad guys-and girls" when He caused a wild demoniac to sit in his right mind at Jesus' feet, and when a Samaritan woman who had had many husbands embraced the mercy offered her and ran to tell the whole town about "the Christ," the one who knew everything about her. A thieving tax collector came down from a tree, served Jesus a meal and was converted, along with his entire family. Another tax collector became Jesus' disciple and penned a book of the Bible.

Our Father is mighty to save. Come to Him full of faith, expecting huge things. Come as a child. Come with confidence as His child. Trust Him to woo the child for whom you pray, to become His child!

In Him,

Susan