

Joyful in Hope – 53 – May 18, 2020
(thoughts and ideas to encourage and challenge)

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”
Romans 12:12

Happy Monday Heritage Family,

Many of the Psalms that are not attributed to David were probably written much later, although we're not sure exactly when. At least some of them were written after Israel had returned from exile in Babylon, and after Jerusalem and the temple had been rebuilt, and worship had been restored. For me, it's encouraging to know that God's people acknowledged his goodness, and worshiped him with thanksgiving, especially after they had gone through a particularly rough period in their history. Verse 8, from Psalm 147 seems especially appropriate today.

Psalm 147: 1-9

¹ Praise the Lord. How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him! ² The Lord builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the exiles of Israel. ³ He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. ⁴ He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name. ⁵ Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit. ⁶ The Lord sustains the humble but casts the wicked to the ground. ⁷ Sing to the Lord with grateful praise; make music to our God on the harp. ⁸ **He covers the sky with clouds; he supplies the earth with rain and makes grass grow on the hills.** ⁹ He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call.

Thanks to everyone who joined the Zoom Meeting yesterday, as we talked and prayed about the possibilities and projected plans for reopening. There certainly is a lot to consider, and several have offered additional insights and thoughts since the meeting. The elders welcome your input. We will continue to research and discuss. Please commit to praying through this entire process, until we can safely meet again.

Prayers, please:

Kim reports that she had a better day of therapy today. Pray for continued strength, and for answers.

Garry Welch, Dorothy's husband was taken to the hospital by ambulance yesterday. He has a kidney and urinary tract infection, as well as a large kidney stone, which they have not been able to remove. He is improving, but has a long way to go. Also, Dorothy's brother, Rick, is still in the hospital.

Tim is doing better, but still having considerable difficulty.

Please pray for Phuong as she undergoes treatment for cancer.

Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge him.
As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains,
like the spring rains that water the earth.”
Hosea 6:3