

Thought for the Week – Don Brennan

Sometimes a Thought needs thinking

In reading my daily notes the verse I've chosen for today was almost a throwaway observation commenting on Jacob dreaming about God and the stairway to heaven.

Yet it made me think - meditate - realise and pray about - what is contained in the verse and how relevant it is to today despite being a promise from God thousands of years ago.

Fear - the one thing that has driven the last few months and our going forward now. Fear. No matter how you wrap it up, it's all about fear. Fear of uncontrolled contagion, fear of death, fear of isolation, fear of getting resources, fear of losing employment, fear of keeping afloat financially, fear of taking the next step. Don't kid yourself - even as a Christian you are not immune to fear but you can confidently rely on God's track record - "I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears." Psalm 34:4 NIVUK.

Redeemed - a reminder to us as Christians. This is our status, our situation, our reality. We are redeemed - bought and freed by God, the price and consequence paid. The price being Jesus' death on a cross for our sin - the thing that would otherwise separate us from a Holy and Just God. Remember "In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace" Ephesians 1:7 NIVUK

Summoned by name - personal. God knows you by name. You are not lost in the crowd. There may be billions of Christians over the centuries and into the future but you are not lost in the crowd. God knows you personally, intimately, warts and all. Enjoy! "even the very hairs of your head are all numbered." Matthew 10:30 NIVUK

You are mine - we are God's, His family, under His protection. Mind blowing but true. "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" 1 John 3:1 NIVUK

A throwaway comment in a daily reading or God reminding us, as we plough our way through this crisis, just how important each of us is to Him?

Verse for Today - "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine." Isaiah 43:1 NIVUK