

BEREAN PAGE

A monthly newsletter of the Berean Protestant Reformed Church



MARCH 2022

MEDITATION

By Pastor Ibe

March 1, 2022

“It is of the LORD’s mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness” [Lamentations 3:22-23].

The book [of Lamentations] speaks for itself. The present situation and spiritual condition in and of Israel is *lamentable*, i.e., appalling, dreadful, terrible!

God commissioned Jeremiah to speak forth the word of the LORD to Israel to warn them of the impending judgment against her due to her great sin of idolatry and thus apostasy! *“And I will utter my judgments against them touching all their wickedness, who have forsaken me, and have burned incense to other gods, and worshipped the works of their own hands”* [Jer. 1:16, 17-19; 2:13].

The whole nation was guilty: *“ye all have transgressed against me, saith the LORD”* [Jer. 2:29b].

Israel, Jehovah’s beloved wife, committed adultery; Judah her sister followed suit. None seeks after God. None speaks the truth in love and with delight anymore. They had become worse than their idolatrous neighbors and were eaten up with their proud and rebellious heart! None would listen, for their ears were *“uncircumcised.”* All of them, *“from the least of them unto the greatest of them everyone is given to covetousness.”* All of them, *“are wise to do evil, but to do good they have no knowledge”* [Jer. 3:8; 4:22; 5:1,23; 6:10,13].

Jeremiah knew that God would accomplish His word, *“for I will hasten my word to perform it”* [Jer. 1:12]. And the word of the Lord is to *“bring evil [upon Israel and Judah] from the north, and a great destruction”* [Jer. 4:6].

God is too holy and righteous to behold iniquity without judging it! This stands out in the book of Lamentations: *“The LORD is righteous”* [Lam. 1:18].

God has afflicted Israel and Judah *“for the multitude of her transgressions: her children are gone into captivity before the enemy; all people...my virgins and my young men are gone into captivity”* [Lam. 1:5b; 18b]. Jeremiah sat upon dust and ashes weeping [*“behold my sorrow”* 1:18] as he witnessed the horrible but righteous hand of God against His people!

Jeremiah knew that the Babylonians were just instrument in God’s hand to execute His righteous indignation against the sins and sinners in His Vineyard for *“the LORD hath purposed to destroy the wall of the daughter of Zion: he hath stretched out a line, he hath not withdrawn his hand from destroying...”* [Lam. 2:8]. *God did it!*

How? We might say, *how* terrible God must have been against His own people. By nature, we will complain and view our troubles as if we did not know why it is such so unbearable! We sit all day, tears flowing from our eyes, weary and sorrowful for what had happened and yet wondering *why* God brought us thus far into such misery.

Are we going to question God if He will use Russia to send her resolute soldiers to bomb us all day? Is there none left in Israel to sense that this is what we deserve?

The horrible description of the nation Israel's devastation and the massacre of her kings, princes, elders, priests, prophets, and the citizens [2:6, 9; 4:20; 1:6; 2:2, 9; 4:7-8; 5:12; 1:19; 2:10-12; 4:16; 2:20; 4:6]; The starving mothers who turned to cannibalism [2:20; 4:10] was *too hard* to take it all in but do they not deserve it all?

This was shocking to Jeremiah, and it is to us, and by nature man will *complain* and almost certainly he will ask *why*? By reason of man's depravity, he cannot sense the gravity of God's holiness and therefore His wrath against sinners! For us and to us, however, like Jeremiah, the proper response ought not to be a question of why, for *he* knew, and *we* know better: "*wherefore doth a living man complain, a man for the punishment of his sins?*" [3:39]. Rather, "*let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the LORD. Let us lift up our heart with our hands unto God in the heavens*" [3:40-41].

Jeremiah took it all into himself, as if by him that Jehovah's wrath was kindled against Israel: "*The LORD is righteous; for I have rebelled against his commandment...*" [1:18]. "*We have transgressed and have rebelled...the LORD has not pardoned*" [3:42] and Israel deserve it!

And thus, he turned not to everyone else and said, you deserve it! But he prayed to God, "*turn thou us unto thee, O LORD, and we shall be turned; renew our days as of old. But thou hast utterly rejected us; thou art very wrath against us*" [Lam. 5:21-22].

This attitude of Jeremiah is lacking in our day or to be more specific, in the churches today! Most of us will reason perhaps, that, yes, Israel was deserving to receive such terrible judgment concerning their sins but on the contrary, we count ourselves out because we think, we did well, i.e., we listen to the warning; we obey the commandments of God; we are faithful in our attendance; and so on. This is by nature, the default setting of man and even those who are called by God's name! We think, they think, I think, God has done a great work in excluding Noah and his family in His fury and thus saved them in the flood. But the truth, we understand, is exactly the opposite, none should live and survive God's wrath [including Noah and his family]! Precisely so, for all of us are miserable wretched sinners thus we deserve nothing but hell!

What is *more* astounding therefore, is the word of Jeremiah expressed in Lamentations 3:22-23 "*It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.*"

Right in the middle of this dumbfounding view of dead bodies [men and women, including children] all around Jerusalem and Judah, comes these words of hope in a hopeless, desolate land!

It was clear to Jeremiah that they deserved or merited the just condemnation of God which they had experienced. What was harder for him to see and understand, however, was that God did not wipe them all out from His sight!

And this is where it ought to be the question "why" should be asked! What possible explanation and answer can we give that the righteous, holy, Almighty God spared some of them from being massacred by the Babylonians, even though none of them deserve to live anymore?

The same question covers all the people, then, today, and tomorrow whom God spared and will spare from His eternal wrath against sin and sinners, like you and me!

Beloved, there is no other reason, or there is only one answer to this so difficult, unfathomable question and that is: Jehovah's eternal, unchanging, abiding, unconditional, distinguishing sovereign love upon His people in Christ alone and for His glory and honor and for Jesus' sake alone!

We are saved and spared and being kept alive and thus preserved in our salvation *not because of us* but only by *God's mercies and unfailing love!*

God took pity on Jeremiah and the small band of remnants in Israel onto exile to Babylon. His people are covered with the precious blood of the Lamb, and none can lay hands against them for they are forever His in Christ.

God's love is unfailing, i.e., so secure and sure that His people will never run out dry of His love but always new every morning. During the most pressing time in our lives, nothing can refresh us more but God's love upon us in Christ.

This is so, not because we are faithful. No! None of us are and none of us will be! But because God's love is *firm* and founded upon the Rock of our redemption in Jesus Christ, the firm foundation of the Church! This is what "*faithfulness*" means in relation to God's mercies and love to and upon us in Christ. God will always refresh and shower us with His mercies and love not only every morning but daily and continually for Jehovah God is a *Faithful Covenant Keeping* God! His promises stand secure and sure for He cannot deny Himself!

God's love and mercy is demonstrated in the fact that, "*while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us*" [Rom. 5:8].

This was true of Jeremiah and of us today! While God's people were lurking in sin, God's longsuffering was graciously displayed in their midst for He took their curse and laid it upon Jesus [the Christ of the Living God]; their sins were imputed on Him though He had no sin, but He became sin for us that we [they] sinners might be reconciled to God. Our sins were laid upon Him and His righteousness, God imputed upon us that we might be justified on account of Christ's finished work on the Cross at Calvary ALONE!

Furthermore, it is likewise by the same power of the Cross that God delivered us from the *pollution* of sin which the Holy Spirit works in us that we may take heed to God's solemn warning to turn and thus we are turned by the mercies and unfailing [efficacious] love of God in Christ. Jeremiah knew that it was both due to God's mercies that he was able to live through the most difficult time of the church because of God's judgment; just as it was by the same mercies of God, that he was able to continue pressing on in *godliness* amid the ungodly world [in gratitude to God] and hoping for the redemption of Israel!

With the above truths thus mentioned, it is clear that God has no other purpose, but for us to confess the same truth with Him [and with Jeremiah] that, "*truly in the LORD our God is the salvation of Israel*" [Jer. 3:23b]!

God in His sovereign power and infinite wisdom used even this flabbergasting event in the history of the church in the OT that we might know and understand that He alone is God! "*Therefore, behold, I will this once cause them to know, I will cause them to know mine hand and my might; and they shall know that my name is The LORD*" [Jer. 16:21].

With all the troubles and pressing issues in our days, we should not question the goodness of God and even His wisdom for all these but rather, stand in awe of His enduring mercies and abiding love not only to refresh us but also and specially to remind us that indeed, "*blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is*" [Jer. 17:7].

Indeed, in the coming judgment of God against the sin of all humanity, we must not forget, it is only because “*of the LORD’s mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not...*” But understand that it will be so for us, not because of us or by us but because God is Faithful in all His promises to us in Christ! Amen.

VRI

Birthdays

7 - David Birse

10 - Violy Espiritu

17 - Mark Pigueroa

(AGPRF)

18 - Marilou Prosia

28 - Alann Penaverde

30 - Junno Caponga

31 - Luis Maverick Lopez

Wedding Anniversary

8 - Rudy & Jenny San Juan

8 - Reden & Marilen Zuniega

WELCOME TO THE BEREAN FAMILY

We welcome to our church family Bro. David and Sis. Nida Birse. They started attending our church early last year and are now attending the Pre- confession class in Essentials of the Reformed Doctrine, in view of joining our church as confessing members. Bro. David beautifully penned their testimony of God's sovereignty in their lives and so I encouraged you to read on.

~ The Sovereign Hand of God~

Greetings! It is a pleasure to relate to the brethren at BPRC our spiritual journey. We are David & Nida (Batayan) Birse, candidates for membership at BPRC.

Nida is a native of Apayao, the eldest of nine children. She remained there in the far North Phil until she decided to move to the NCR for work. Hers was a difficult childhood, being brought up in great poverty. Yet, the Lord sustained Nida and her family. Nida attended various churches in a heart quest to seek the Lord more earnestly.

Nida worked a few jobs as a domestic worker for missionaries in Manila, then the Lord led her to a challenging but rewarding ministry at Christian Compassion Ministries as a House Mother for 17 years before retiring five years ago. God is the perfect Matchmaker, assigning abilities to individuals, then employing them in a utilitarian sense that works for their good and His Glory. Children loved Ate Nida and flocked to her whenever they saw her at church. Many children from the orphanage even attended our wedding!

My precious wife is nurturing, selfless and kind. These are qualities displaying God's magnificent grace fleshed out in the soul of one of His elect. I am so blessed the Lord led us to one another.

This segues nicely into my mini biography. Only The Creator of The Universe could orchestrate two people from literally opposite ends of His earth to converge in a given place at a given time under divinely arranged circumstances, then arrange that they would marry both after years of singleness!

For myself, I am the grandson Of Scottish immigrants (who came over on the boat in 1914, I think).

My paternal grandfather was one of 15 children, born in 1888. My father (born 1917) was a World War II as well As a Korean War veteran. My dear mother was from Massachusetts. My dad and mom were married in 1953. I was born in Boston, raised in Littleton, Massachusetts in the northeastern USA, where we enjoy four distinct seasons including abundant snowfall as part of the very long winters. I loved to snowshoe.

I was raised as a strict Roman Catholic, my mom's influence on us four kids. Dad was Congregationalist as were his parents, both in Scotland and in Somerville, Mass. Ever the loner who was quiet and reflective, I was drawn to religion and thoughts of God, seeing life as pointless because death would snatch us all. No escape. In high school I recall reading my Catholic New Testament, fearful of judgments. I viewed God as austere, heavy handed and angry all the time. I was coerced to attend RCC catechism classes.

Forty years ago this May, I graduated Eastern Nazarene College. I had exposure to non-Catholic teachings via television and radio. I preferred Protestant Churches to the formalism and vain rituals of Rome. I hated the RCC and its stained- glass corruptions. I knew it was bad, not of God, and that I must not look for salvation within its walls or under its aegis. I was single all my life, preferring solitude, quiet times of Bible reading and running. I was a marathoner, even winning many races from one mile to 50 kilometers. It was my refuge.

I had always sensed the hand of God on and over me. I may have set a record for the most churches visited in my life. I would always make it a point wherever I was to attend a different place to worship each Lord's Day. I wanted to compare. I knew nothing of Reformed theology, and nowhere near as much Bible as I thought I knew. I preached for the first time in 1982, the autumn after May's graduation. I read my sermon in retrospect. I knew so little and thought too highly of self. Old age teaches us we know nothing in our youth. Nothing.

The years piled up but I still had a connection with the Lord, fascinated by Jesus, His divinity, Perfection, Holy attributes (Matt 1:23). God incarnate never ceases to amaze me! It was on the radio I got most of my theology, for better or worse (mostly the latter). The teaching of John MacArthur gripped me. He was serious and challenging, causing me to look deeper and cause me to self-examine. I see now how it is only God Who guides His elect and patiently shepherds all lost, lonely and wandering lambs -like myself- back to Himself.

In the 1990's I began hearing Harold Camping and Family Radio. Here is where I first learned of Reformation Theology. American media is largely dispensational, decisionistic, superficial and man-centered. Calvin as we all know is universally hated. I thought God had to be awfully mean to choose Whom He would save. I rejected election for the longest time. Double predestination may be the last doctrine we swallow. Like most others, I preferred to have both God and the world; the result was confusion, anger, heartache.

Wherever I lived, I chose quiet apartments, (never had or desired a roommate) relishing solitude, ever seeking for deeper knowledge of God, of a purpose in life beyond myself and existentialism, and how I might live out in an impactful manner a life that would make a profound difference in some way. I thought it was all about me. I became the product of what I learned in churches, dwelled on in my innermost thoughts, and absorbed by USA media, adopting perspectives that were far from theocentric.

Gradually the Lord turned me from an Arminian viewpoint (in all its deception, narcissism, and misery) to one that recognized my true state before God, how wretchedly sinful I was. I feel it now. And saw God as the Thrice holy Creator He was/is who was worthy of all worship and service. Rev.4:8,11. Now only the true and living God could ever lead someone to such truth, reality and consciousness. I find it all comes into focus more and more as I look back to where I was, and where I am now.

It is not about me. Not at all. I am a chosen partaker of His grace, born from above only because in His sovereignty, chose me to do so by His mercy and grace (Titus 3, Ephesians 2). This can only humble me, or anyone, as it did Isaiah or Nebuchadnezzar, The Publican in Luke 18. When at last we grasp salvation is fully monergistic (not synergistic), we can only stay silent, marvel, worship and serve out of gratitude and love. None of this was present before. Now these things are daily in my thoughts.

Nida and I met when I was commissioned a missionary from a Reformed Baptist church back home. This was in Massachusetts, which I heard about on the radio. Very strong Reformed preaching. There is so little of it in New England (either in the pulpit or on the airwaves). I loved the depth of the Christ-centered exposition. I committed to being a missionary in September of 2014. I had always desired this and felt a deep inner calling to do so.

Even since youth, this had been a yearning. God made it happen.

In May of 2015 I arrived in the Philippines. The culture shock which I had been warned about in bible college was a reality. No myth. I should mention that after my parents passed away (2003 and 2007 respectively), I was very much alone, sad and troubled in spirit. I knew I needed to commit the balance of my years to His service. I only wished I had done so earlier. So I graduated from Tennessee Bible College in 2013. I was the oldest student.

I think we are never too old to learn. Last year I took a few courses in a modular setting and online.

I seriously committed to my studies and applied myself in a way I never did before, with good results, making Presidents List each term, and drawing on 3 years of Latin I took in high school (1973-76) to ace 3 semesters of Greek, which was hard but I grew to love it. God gave me much grace in all subjects. I also developed my preaching in

Homiletics. I invested my all to theology. From 2013 to 2015 I had the opportunity to preach in different venues in various churches.

I had applied to a number of small congregations who were seeking a pastor. I did have a few offers.

How different life would have been from what it is now! Of course it is much harder here. So I would classify those first three months here as the most difficult in my life. It was painful. I wanted only to go home, counting down the weeks until my December flight back home. The circumstances were brutal. But, God changed me..

I had the chance to minister in the slums, teach Sunday school, conduct devotionals and lead Bible studies. I also attended Grace Ministerial Academy (as did Pastor Ibe) for one semester at Cubao Reformed Baptist Church. The turning point was a 3- week trip to Cagayan Valley and Ilocos Norte, and other provinces in the rural north Philippines. How radically different it was from Manila. The tribal, agrarian rural nature appealed to me. I was able to bring the Gospel to many. I saw two different Philippines. The NCR is so very westernized. That's bad.

Small churches, residential studies and recipients of the Three P's program for the poor were the target audiences. I loved it. I sensed purpose. We have also made 15 trips to Ilocos Sur from 2015-2020, where a reformed mission church is, and many more times where God opened the door to bring Christ-centered messages I labored on; this is why I felt I had been born: Bringing the True Gospel of Christ to souls He placed in my path. This was the turning point. God had changed my heart attitude. (Ezek 36:26).

How the Lord brought Nida and I together was miraculous. A friend and I visited "Ate Nida" –a woman who was a devout Christian and committed house mother at CCM (ibid). She conducted a Bible Study for children faithfully every Saturday, with a fair number of attendees. An adult study which I led was held at a neighbor next door for a woman who is partially paralyzed. But early December came, and it was time to bid adieu to the Philippines. Good experience but no way I'd ever go back. I wanted only to go home!

Thrilled to return to American soil, I sought pastoral vacancies once again. In South Grafton, Massachusetts. I was one of eight selected to candidate for the opening. The minister had just retired. It went well. Then I was invited back 2 months later to preach. It came down to myself and a man with 2 masters degrees. It was a close call. But I was the runner-up. I was heartbroken. But it told me God had given me this gift of preaching which I was late to discover! But The Lord's hand again then opened the door for another trip to the Philippines.

Nida had written me when I was back. To my surprise. Had she not emailed, I doubt I ever would have continued communication. I was not wild about returning to the poverty, hardship, traffic, pollution, heat, overpopulation, climate challenges, bad economy, and uncertainties that were part of the package deal. It was easier by far to live in comfort and ease in the States. Here again we see we do not control our own destinies or desires. Almighty God brought His plan to fruition, not mine.

Had that other man never applied for that ministerial pulpit opening back home, I'd be there now, and this letter never would have been penned. I really wanted that. It was life altering. So in the summer of 2016, off I went back to Manila. Nida and I were married in CRBC in a traditional Pinoy wedding. It was lovely. Neither of us had been married before. Nida is 4 ½ years my senior. God led me to a Proverbs 31 woman. I find that true every day and it has been now nigh unto 5 ½ years since our betrothal.

We live a simple life. Prior to the pandemic we were active missionaries, with all those trips to Ilocos Sur and 12-hour bus rides. I loved teaching Sunday school at GPBC in Tondo as well as guest preaching elsewhere when invited at 3 area churches in Montalban; attending classes both in person and online at William Carey School of Theology; and day

to day living here in our crowded subdivision. But the past 2 years have been health, economic and other challenges. Mainly Nida's bout with cancer from which God delivered her.

Our ministry is stunted and stalled, and this weighs heavily upon us. But we look not at the circumstances, but God's purpose in it all. Nida and I are very close. We are very compatible, and enjoy our devotionals together, social time and of course Lord's Day worship. I have taught/preached only once in the past 2 years. For me, this is extremely difficult as this was the reason I came to The Philippines.

Now it appears I may be retiring, so I have applied to the US SSA for my meager federal pension. It by grace should be enough to meet our needs. Nida and I both agree it is the Lord's will we want not our own. Our desire is to be faithful unto the end. Daily we can easily see God's guidance and provision. The word Sovereignty cannot be overused. Again, we experience this in how The Lord led us to Berean Protestant Reformed Church.

The last time we attended our church services (God's Provident Baptist Church in Tondo, Manila) was early March 2020. Though it was only 2 years ago, it feels like two decades. Shut out from personal attendance via corporate worship, we were forced to go virtual. But it was the first Lord's Day of 2021, when we first saw a service of the PRCA. It was Rev. Smit. We loved the exposition, serious approach, orderliness, regulative form of worship and the Psalter singing. They are serious here, I thought. No games. No folly. That is what we crave.

So we visited Provident as well as Berean, and were blessed to hear in subsequent weeks the adept preaching of Rev. Kleyne as well as Pastor Ibe. Of course 2021 brought several interruptions of corporate worship. We became very pleased with the Christ-centered nature of the PRCA. That is so hard to find in such days of unbridled apostasy. We had no desire to change our church affiliation when this began. But The Sovereign Lord of the universe worked in our hearts.

We seek purity in worship, a sober attitude and to live God-glorifying, holy lives to match. Relinquishing preaching of the Word, teaching Sunday School, and bringing the communion devotional to our brethren in Tondo is very painfully difficult. It is what I do and love to do. There is nothing that has given me greater satisfaction than ministry. Our desire as a couple is to utilize our abilities to bring Glory to God.

But we must yield to what God desires. His will not ours. So we are confident after much prayer and contemplation that the right decision at this time of our lives-entering the early twilight years-is to shorten our commute, transfer our membership to Berean from Tondo, be the salt and light we are called to be, and contributing members, to be assets and not liabilities, to reflect the light of our beloved Lord Jesus in our lives. We yearn to finish our race strong. Just like Paul. As a runner for almost 50 years, I can relate.

Life in all honesty has been a difficult road for both Nida and myself. But to be among His elect sheep, to be loved and forgiven of our sins by the Lamb of God, Who is also The Great Shepherd is reason enough to be blissful even in the most trying of tribulations. Life here is very tough, but His grace is not only amazing but sufficient to sustain us until that day when He takes us home. My most painful thought is being apart from my dearest "asawa". May He surround me with mercy at that time. My wife is my ministry. I love her dearly.

God Himself led us to the narrow road on which we find ourselves now. We wish only to please the Lord, live a life that honors Him, love the brethren, and serve in whatever capacity He deems fit.

We are very flawed, and yet the Lord is tender, compassionate and gentle with all His little ones. So it is that we begin our formal association as prospective members of Berean Protestant Reformed Church. We thank God For His love. May He sanctify us in any way that makes us conform more to the image of Christ. Soli Deo Gloria!

Sincerely, In Christ,
David & Nida Birse
(Montalban)

Ang Diyos ay Mahabagin

Jeremy Lawrence “Jelo” Lising

Sa ating buhay ay may mga pagkakataong tayo’y nagigipit sa mga pagsubok na dumarating. Minsan ay hindi natin alam kung paano magsisimula, at kung paano ito masosolusyunan. Ngunit ang Diyos ay mahabagin. Paano ko nalaman na ang Diyos ay mahabagin? Minsan ako’y nangarap ng magagandang grado para sa ikauunlad ng aking sarili. Nanalangin ako at humingi ng patnubay at gabay upang makamit ko ang layunin, humiling din ako ng malawak na kaisipan upang maintindihan ang mga bagay na hirap akong intindihin. Ano ang naging resulta? Ang tanging masasabi ko lamang ay nabiyayaan ako ng sobra-sobra, ito’y higit pa sa aking inaasahan. Hindi lang ako biniyayaan ng magagandang grado, nakapasok pa ako sa mga estudyanteng may karangalan.

Biniyayaan din ako ng lakas pang pisikal, emosyonal, mental, at higit sa lahat ispirituwal. Ang kaalaman na ako ay makasalanan ngunit sa biyaya at habag ng Diyos ako’y ipinawalang sala at itinuring Niyang anak. Ito’y nagdulot sa akin ng kapanatagan sa lahat ng pagkakataon. Nariyan Siya upang gumabay sa atin. Hindi Niya tayo pababayaang kailanman. Tayo’y magtiwala at manalig sa Kanya. Tandaan natin na ang pananalangin o pakikipag ugnayan sa Panginoon ay ating ugaliin, sapagkat ito’y gawa ng Diyos sa atin, para tayo ay ilapit sa Kanya at patuloy na maranasan ang habag at biyaya Niya sa atin kay Cristo. Dahil dito, may kapanatagan, ano mang pagsubok ang dumating sa ating buhay, sapagkat ang Diyos ang nagpanukala nito ayon sa Kanyang mayamang biyaya at habag sa atin kay Cristo, para sa Kanyang kaluwalhatian!

WORD PUZZLE

Luke 10: 30-36

T N Z H Q N R M N N T X Q C J
P J N I Q C E A C O S H M M D
O I O I X R T S Z I A C Q F Y
R W Y U C I R M U S E C S A T
P Y H I R W A Z B S B M P B N
H P F A I N E C E A E E Z S U
V U M N M N E H K P R J R O A
L A E U Y I Y Y M M S W E K O
S P D N U O W A Y O J Z T B I
H X Q R U Y N F W C S O Z D L
W R J P W M E O A W R O D X S
H A J J D O G U T E C V D N M
U G C J E P N K C P S M X J H
M A H X K C B Q J X Y C S W G
U M L S I N N E R S C A R E S

beast
God
journey
repay
wine

care
inn
Merciful
Samaritan
wound

Compassion
Jesus
oil
sinners

*Thank you to the following for answering the kids' page last month:
Antionelle, Isla, Paul, Robert, James, Eunice, Axcel, Azaleia, MJ, LJ, VJ, Azi, Jethro, and Trixie.*

COLORING PAGE



Luke 10:33

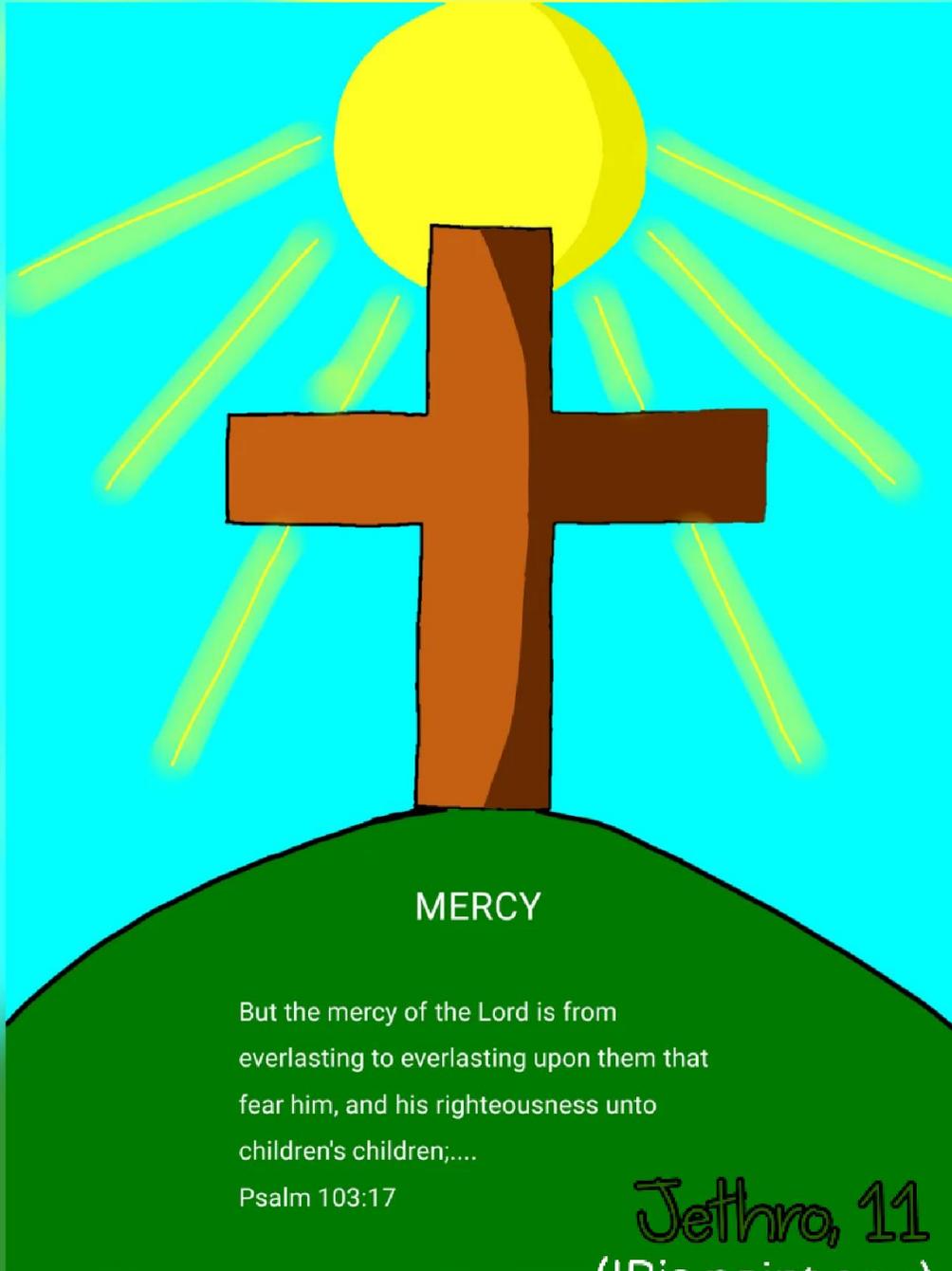
But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him.

COLORING PAGE



Luke 10:33

But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him.



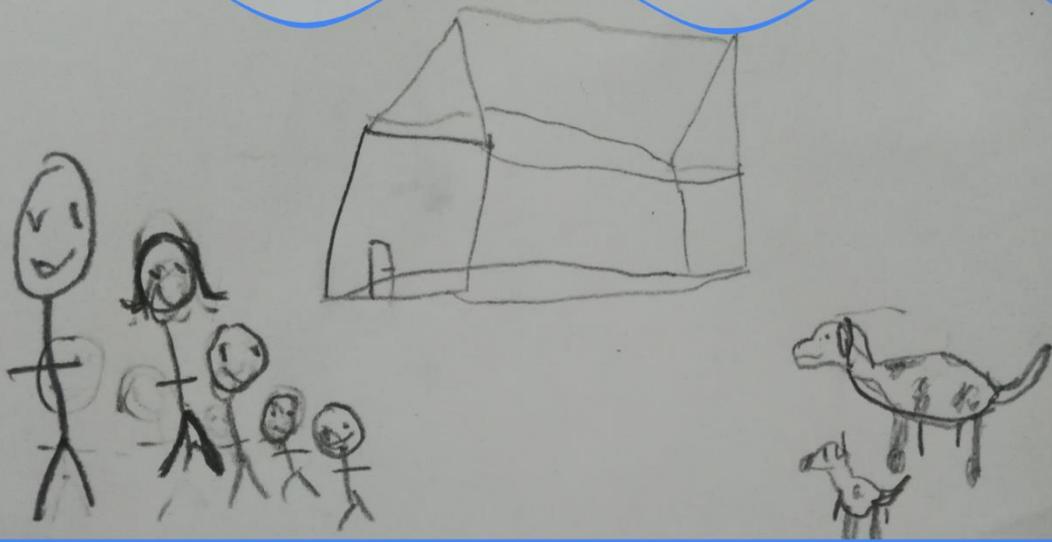
MERCY

But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;....

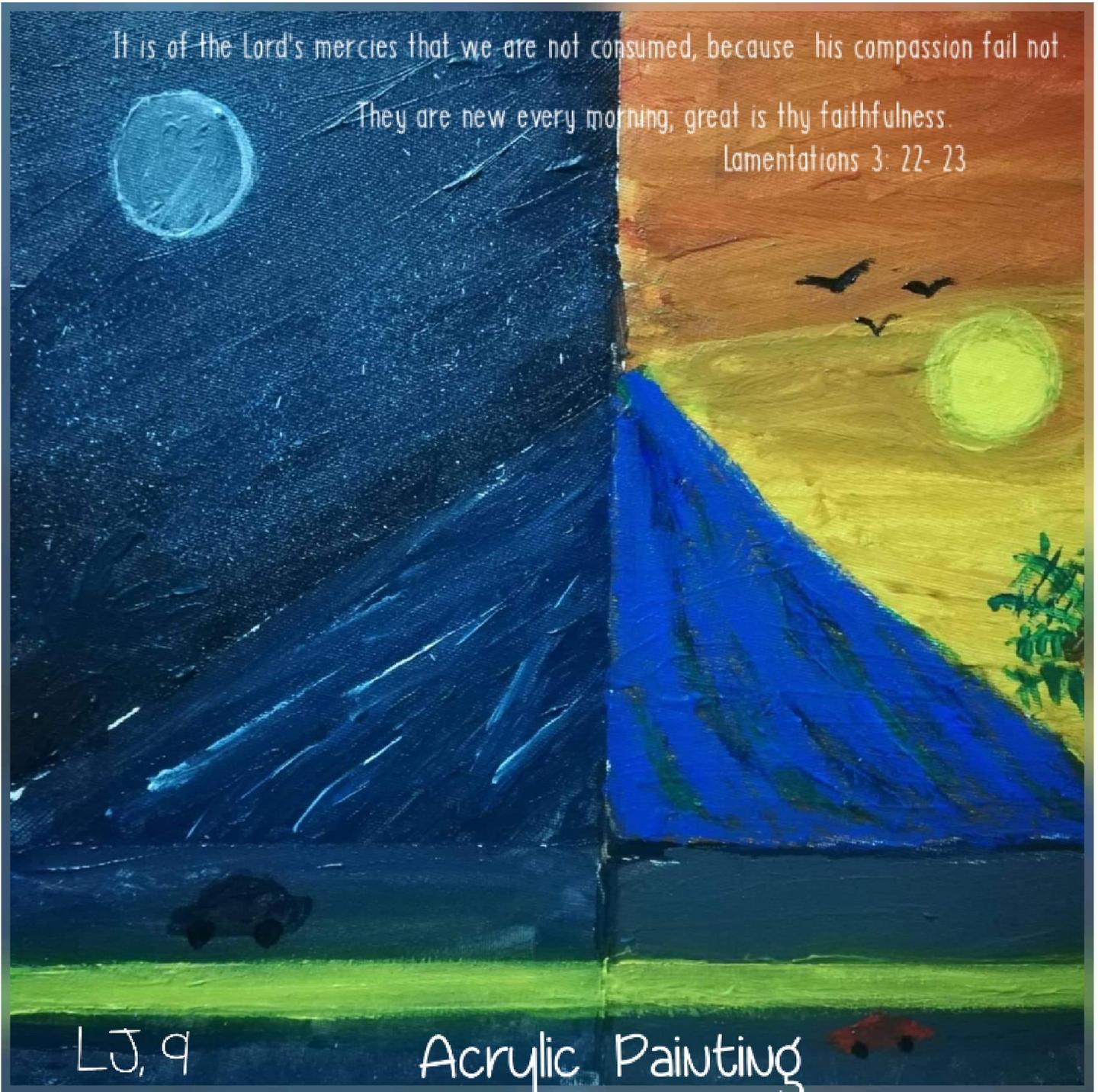
Psalm 103:17

Jethro, 11
(IBis paint app)

Hello my name is Vernon Bien M. Ibe,
You can call me VJ, I'm 6 years old
I'm the youngest of 3 brothers,
I'm in first grade, My favorite
Psalter is number 151, Because
it speaks of God's mercy and
care upon me



It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassion fail not.
They are new every morning, great is thy faithfulness.
Lamentations 3: 22- 23



LJ, 9

Acrylic Painting

MERCY

M.O.M.I.

M-erciful is our God and Father in Christ Jesus.

E-very day His mercies are new and they fail not.

R-emember this always, beloved.

C-hrist's complete work on the cross assures us that

Y-ou and I are not consumed and forever will dwell with Him in heaven.

Such is God's **MERCY** for wretched sinners like us!

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Pre- Confession Class in Essentials of Reformed Doctrine has started on February 20, 2022 with 9 attendees but it was open for the whole congregation.



MARCH DAILY SCRIPTURE VERSE

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 EXO. 15:30	2 MATT. 5: 7	3 NUM. 14:18	4 LUKE 1:50	5 1 CHRO. 16:34
6 ROM. 9: 15	7 EZRA 3: 11	8 2 JOHN 1: 3	9 NEH. 1:5	10 HOSEA 6: 6	11 PSALM 5: 7	12 LUKE 1: 78
13 PSALM 13: 5	14 JUDE 1: 21	15 PRO. 3: 3	16 I PETER 1: 3	17 DANIEL 9: 4	18 JAMES 5: 11	19 PSALM 32: 10
20 JAMES 3: 17	21 PSALM 25: 7	22 HEB. 4: 16	23 PSALM 36: 5	24 TITUS 3: 5	25 MICAH 6: 8	26 1 TIM. 1: 16
27 PSALM 145: 8	28 EPH. 2: 4	29 ISA. 30: 18	30 2 COR. 4: 11	31 PSALM 23: 6		

* M E R C Y *

*All the paths of
the Lord are
mercy and truth
unto such as keep
his covenant and
his testimonies.*

PSALM 25: 10

ANNOUNCEMENT

*We continue to encourage everyone, young and old, to contribute to our monthly newsletter. Our theme for the month of April is Death and Resurrection of Christ. Please send them by March 20.

*For the catechumens who would like to write a letter to the catechumens of Hudsonville Church, please submit it not later than March 20.

*Catechism for Beginners- every Friday at 7pm via Zoom

*Catechism for Juniors- every Friday at 8pm via Zoom

*Pre- Confession class in Essentials of Reformed Doctrine- every 2, 3rd, and 4th Sunday at 1pm.

*Church Order and Canons of Dort Online Class- every 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sunday at 7pm via Zoom.

*God's Everlasting Covenant of Grace Online Class- every 2nd and 4th Sunday at 7pm via Zoom.

* Everyone is encouraged to attend the Online Classes and even in the Pre- Confession Class.

PULPIT SUPPLY:

6- Rev. Smit

13- Rev. Ibe (Preparatory)

20- Rev. Ibe (Lord's Supper; Applicatory)

27- Rev. Ibe