

*REFLECTIONS..... on the spiritual side of life*

January 21, 2021 "WHY PRAY?"

*Greetings* in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. By the time you read this the inauguration of the 46<sup>th</sup> President of the "United States of America, will have taken place. Because of the events of the previous week, I have been compelled to do the **one thing that I can do**, and that thing is **PRAY**.

My purpose in writing that which I am this week, is not to pass on to you my opinion of, or on any of those things/actions which have transpired. My position as a minister of the Lord Jesus Christ.....is laced with my hope that between those events and the inauguration, you too (who are people of faith and believe in the effectiveness of this one thing) *have done* that one thing also, and that one thing is PRAYED.

Emotions literally for years now have run on high, along with strife, anger, loss of friends and family due to our political differences, along with COVID. We as Christians like anyone else, are entitled to OUR OPINIONS as such, but in response to these, we are to respond as Christ would. This is the biggest challenge we have in our lives as his disciples. To do and be as he would have us do and be.

Here are several verses that give us distinct guidelines for doing so.

Philippians 4:6 "Do not worry about *anything*; instead, PRAY about *everything*. Tell God what you *need* and *thank him* for all he has done. Then, *you will experience God's peace* when you present your requests to God." But we cannot expect a return on our prayers if we do not believe they have been heard, so faith is indeed an important factor.

A major mistake we all too often make is running with our emotions, instead of being LED by our faith, and the truths given to us in The Word, that we hold close in our hearts and minds.

My desire in writing on PRAYER is that we can see it as a real and practical reality in our everyday lives for *everything*. It is spiritual in essence, yes, but it is often also practical in outcome and vital to our lives, and the lives or events of what we are praying for.... even for such a thing as a peaceful transition of power and even if we do or do not adhere to the outcome. Even more so, we are told to PRAY "for kings and those who are in authority, so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity."

Times of change without a doubt we are currently living in, but perhaps even deeper changes are coming upon us and I HOPE and PRAY, that we will not neglect to use one of our most powerful tools in our spiritual toolbox. PRAYER!

This I know.... God ultimately has the best for us, as we can read in Romans 8:28 “And we know that to those that love God, all things work together for good, to those that are called according to his purpose.” *Amen*