

MORNING MEDITATION

All Saints Day

Success demands singleness of purpose.

Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14

The Author of this book tries to encourage the Christians who suffered persecution. He says, before the great tribulation happens, the faithful are to be marked with the seal of the “living God”. The angel has the seal of the living God, as distinct from the “dead gods” of the pagans. Only in the living God can one find fulfillment.

Psalm 24

**The Lord's is the earth and its fullness
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm.**

1 John 3:1-2

The author of this letter tells us that we are God's very dear and beloved children. It also tells how excited and amazed we should be about our status as God's beloved children who are not recognized by the world. The world, that does not recognize Jesus, does not recognize God's children either.

Rejoice! Be happy! You are God's very dear and beloved children! And be grateful and be faithful to this calling!

Mathew 5:1-12

In the Beatitudes, we have the essence of Christ's message. Mathew says, Jesus “opened his mouth” and began to teach. This simply means that he opened his heart and poured out his spirit. This means that it is intimate and personal teaching of Jesus.

“Blessed” is a special word in Greek. It describes the joy that has its secret within itself, the joy/bliss, which is serene, self-contained - the joy which shines through pain, sorrow, disappointment, loss, etc. This is inherent, pure joy.

Jesus articulated for his followers certain attitudes they must cultivate if they are to live as a kingdom people.... certain disposition toward themselves and the world around

them. We have come to know them and love them as the “Beatitudes”. We are called to cultivate these attitudes.....they are to shape our character....the quality of our presence must become “Be-Attitudes”!

Noble people must have noble attitudes.... God’s people must have godly attitudes...The Beatitudes are for people who have their hearts set on the reign of God, the kingdom of God.....They are not doctrines.....not policies of a Church.....not rules legislated by an authority.....they are for those who want to live noble lives, for those who want their lives to be a blessing for themselves and for the world around them.....they are for kingdom people and we are a kingdom people.....

Take a moment.... prayerfully reflect on which of the beatitudes you can identify with and what they mean to you personally. Which of them is most inspiring, challenging and calling forth response from you? And how do you respond?

Saint of the day, November 1 - Celebrate All Saints Day

On All Saints Day, we remember all Saints and Martyrs. Saints are people who live in God’s presence forever. Martyrs are people who voluntarily suffer death as the punishment for witnessing to faith in Jesus and refusing to renounce Jesus.

Every day, we remember one or more saints. On All Saints Day, on November 1 every year, we remember all who live in God’s presence forever. Saints were ordinary people just like us. But they dedicated their lives to God, loved and died for God. They give us examples of how people dedicate their lives to God.

Saints of God come in every age, in all size, shape, color and age. Abraham was 175 years old when he died; Moses died at the age of 120; Jesus was 30 when he was crucified; Agnes and Maria Goretti were only 12 years old when they were martyred; Antony of the desert died at the age of 105.

All Saints Day is a celebration of the communion of saints and we are part of this communion! We are all called to be saints and we can all become saints! All we have to do is to dedicate our lives to God, love and serve Him!

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