**R820 - Rumination for October 18 , 2020 by K.C. Ung**

The **T**heme: **Fear thou not**[berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com/)

The **T**ext: *Fear thou not; for I am with thee.* **Isa. 41:10**

The **T**hots:

*Fear thou not; for* *I am with thee:* *be not dismayed; for I am thy God:* *I will strengthen thee;*

*yea,* *I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of My righteousness.*  Cf. Psa. 27:14

1. **Because of God’s Person – Who He Is:** *for* ***I am*** *with thee* **Isa. 41:10a**
2. God is the I AM Exo. 3:14

*God said…I AM THAT I AM…Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.*

1. He is their **S**aviour – *For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour:* Isa. 43:3
2. He is their **S**trength – *But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength;*

*they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary;*

*and they shall walk, and not faint.* Isa. 40:31

1. He is their **S**uccour (*Help*) – Isa. 41:13-14

*For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.*

*Fear not…I will help thee, saith the LORD, and thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.*

1. Jesus is the I AM.
2. *Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was,* ***I Am.*** Jn. 8:58
3. *Jesus…said unto them, Whom seek ye? They answered Him, Jesus of Nazareth.*  Jn. 18:4-5

*Jesus saith unto them,* ***I Am*** *(He).*

1. *I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that* ***I Am*** *(He)* Jn. 8:24
2. Jesus is the only I AM.
3. His Name **S**aves.
4. *They said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.* Acts 16:31
5. *Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.* Acts 4:12
6. *Jesus saith…****I am*** *the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.* Jn. 14:6
7. His Name **S**ustains. Jn. 6:35

*Jesus said unto them,* ***I am*** *the bread of life: he that cometh to Me shall never hunger;*

*and he that believeth on Me shall never thirst.*

1. His Name is **S**overeign – Phil. 2:9-11

*God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name:*

*That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth,*

*and things under the earth And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,*

*to the glory of God the Father.*

Note: That God/Jesus is the ***I AM*** suggests that He is **E**ver **E**ternal and He is **E**ver there for us, **P**ast, **P**resent or in the **P**rospective Future. He is **P**resent to **P**rotect, **P**reserve and **P**rovide for us whenever we are in need. He is *the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever*. [***Fear thou not!***] Heb. 13:8

1. **Because of God’s Promises - What He has promised: Isa. 41:10b**

*For all the promises of God in Him are yea, and in Him Amen, unto the glory of God…* II Cor. 1:20

1. His **P**resence - *I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God:*

 Cf. *Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.* Mt. 28:20

1. His **P**ower - *I will strengthen thee.*

Cf. *They that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up*

*with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.* Isa. 40:31

1. His **P**rovision – *yea*, *I will help thee,*

Cf. *My help cometh from the LORD…* Psa. 121:2

1. His **P**reservation – *I will uphold thee with the right hand of My righteousness*.

 Cf. *He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.* Psa. 23:1

Note: His Promises are **S**ure and **S**teadfast Confirmed by His Word and Oath. Heb. 6:17-18

*Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath: That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie,*

*we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:*

Therefore, **Fear thou not!**

*God will take care of you long as you live, Granting you blessings no other can give;*

*He will take care of you when time is past, Safe to His kingdom will bring you at last.*

*God will take care of you still to the end; Oh, what a Father, Redeemer, and Friend!*

*Jesus will answer whenever you call; He will take care of you, trust Him for all.* Fanny Crosby

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK. R.820**

1. The last week was a fearful week for many citizens in the local scene in the face of widespread infections of the COVID-19 Coronavirus Pandemic. When there was optimistic hope that the chain would soon be severed after good days of decreasing numbers in infections and increasing numbers in recoveries, suddenly there was a hike and spike of the figures exponentially to the extent that almost all states in Malaysia saw numerous new cases springing up in just days. The whole State of Sabah had to be “conditionally locked-down” and many states in the peninsula came under the Targeted Conditional Movement Control Order. This calamity arose chiefly from the movement of voters in the recent Sabah State election returning to their home states in the peninsula.

As new Covid-19 clusters and cases were announced, people began to be fearful again as they saw the numbers rising by three figures each day to beat even those figures in the first wave. Yes, people are now fearful. Public places are closed including church gatherings. Malls and markets are shut down except where essential goods are sold; schools and institutions of learning are forbidden to open; certain commercial shops and restaurants are allowed to open subject to strict observation of the SOP’s laid down by the authorities, etc. etc. Consequently, many lost their jobs, and those who loaned money to fund their projects are now hard-pressed to pay back their loan; worse, some lose their jobs and cannot find new openings because of their age, ability to cope with new technological challenges, etc. All these are affecting the economy of the country and the livelihoods of many. It is not surprising therefore to find many fearful as they face an uncertain future.

More and more people will lose their jobs in days to come. More charitable organisations will lose their funding, transport and tourism will lose their customers as borders are closed and travellers refrain from flying, cruising, etc. They are fearful that when they travel out, they cannot travel in later. Yes, people are fearful.

Christians are also fearful. It is in times like these that they are wondering if the end times are drawing nigh. It is at this time that they should renew their faith in God, and in their Lord.

They need to go back to the Scriptures, establish their faith in God – His Person, His Presence, His Power and His Promises to Protect, Preserve and to Provide for them in this time of need. Read again the body of the Rumination above and have faith in Him.

**FEAR THOU NOT**! Can you do this? **REFLECT**.

1. *The LORD said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto Me?*

 *Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go* ***forward****:* Exo. 14:15

The Lord told Moses to lead His people **forward** though there might be the Red Sea to cross ahead. This part would be His responsibility. Moses just needed to do what He was told. No point crying. *Do not be…a very* ***froward*** *generation, children in whom is no faith*. (Deut. 32:20) Note: ***froward*** is an old English word in KJV whose equivalent today is perverse, a condition of obstinate opposition.

Have **F**aith in God; just Go **F**orward! Do not be **F**roward.

Every day, with each new day dawning, go Forward with God;

Have Faith in Him to lead you on.

*Trust and obey, For there’s no other way*

 *To be happy in Jesus, But to trust and obey.* John H. Sammis

**Points To Ponder:** Are you **F**earful of the **F**uture? **F**aith in God drives out **F**ear!

**Appendix:**

Just 70 years ago on **17th September, 1950**, the Lord took me over and saved me from my lost idolatrous sinful condition. Then on **22nd October, 1950**, just a month later, I publicly professed Him as my Saviour and Lord in the waters of baptism at Burnah Road Gospel Hall. A few were critical of the elders for accepting me so soon after my profession of faith – just a month later and at so young an age (13 years). [Note: in the Early Church, as soon as a person believed, he was baptised – Acts 2:41; 8:12; 18:8). It could not be real to be true. I would give up when I matured into adulthood, so they opined.

However, I just trusted the Lord and moved **forward**. After 38 years of serving Him in my teaching vocation, and a few more years of preparation after retirement, the Lord called me into His commissioned service which my home assembly, Burmah Road Gospel Hall, confirmed. They then publicly commended and sent me out into a teaching ministry for the Lord on **16th October, 1996**. Since then, I have been to many countries in South-east Asia to teach the Word to the saints in the assemblies, trusting Him and His promises only for my direction, provision and opening and shutting of doors for my ministry for Him.

All these 70 years of knowing and serving Him, inclusive of 24 years of public teaching ministry have proved to me the Isaiah text is indeed very personally true - Isa. 41:10

*Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed;*

*for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee;*

*yea, I will help thee;*

*yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of My righteousness.*

His Person as the I AM is verily true as He relates

His Presence, Power and Provision to me;

and His Promises to strengthen, help and uphold me

to Provide for me when I am in need.

I could not last out as a Christian? (The skeptics earlier said.)

He is the I AM, yesterday, today and Tomorrow.

He is the same – Past, Present and **F**uture.

I cannot last out just living by **F**aith in Him?

 His Promises are yea and Amen, and He never **F**ails.

On this 70th year as a Born-again Christian and 24 years in His Commended service

I can heartily proclaim:

To Him be all Glory,

Honour and Majesty –

He is the I AM Who never Fails –

**FEAR THOU NOT!**

**Photos Taken on the 20th Anniversary (4 years ago) at Burmah Road Gospel Hall.**

