

Psalm 46
11

From Remembering To Rebuilding

Sep.11,

Lamentations 3:19-26
Anniversary)

(10th

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult...”Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.” The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.” (Psalm 46)

Remembering the tenth anniversary of 9/11, we all are saddened for the loss of more than 3,000 people – innocent people, fallen firefighters and policemen – caused by the terrorists’ attack on Twin Tower in New York. It was a horrible day that brought into tragic loss. I pray that those all family members of the victims would be comforted by the Lord on this special day – a national remembrance day.

What do we need to remember on this day? What does God tell us through His Word? One of widows of the victims shared her life after losing her husband on that day; her husband and she had two children – 5 and 2 years old. It was the first day of their son’s kindergarten. Her husband went to work to the World Trade Center and later she heard that the twin towers were hit by the airplanes high-jacked by the terrorists. She went through her difficult times during her loss and grief. In her midst, she wanted to help her children to remember their dad so she filed all kinds of materials –pictures, letters, memories - and wrote a book entitled *Where You Left Me*. A few years later, she came to date a new man and was proposed by that man. Before the man proposed her, he visited the victim’s parents and received a blessing. Both of them rebuilt their new life blessed by others.

The people of Israel experienced their national tragedy in which they had to see the fall of Jerusalem (586 B.C). Their country was invaded by the Babylon and their city was destroyed by them. People were grieving by the loss of many people. In the midst of their loss and grief, the prophet Jeremiah delivered God’s Word through the book of Lamentations as an eye-witness of destruction of the city and county.

From Remembrance to Rebuilding/ From Despair to Hope.

“I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. Yet I call to mind and therefore I have hope. Because of the LORD’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness; I say to myself, “The LORD is my portion; therefore I will wait for him. The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD” (19-26).

The Bible reminds us, first, “God is our strength.” Second, we live daily by relying on God’s mercy: “Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand has provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, un-to me! (Hymnal No.140). Third, our hope is

God; put your hope in God: “The Lord is my portion, says my soul, therefore, I will hope in him” (Lamentations 3:24).

Have a hope in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our strength, mercies, and hope.

May you might be sustained by His mercy and strengthened by His hope. Amen.