



January 4, 2011 - Psalm 143:1

Hello all you memorizers out there, just so you know, as of today, there are 207 of us around the world setting our hearts and minds to memorize Psalm 143... awesome! Yesterday morning I received this from Victoria who is memorizing with us, *"Just started this morning and the Lord ministered to me in a powerful way! Amazing how meditating and praying that one verse ministered to me so profoundly. God is faithful!!"*

I am sure as you memorize, God is going to speak to you and minister to you too. So if you haven't started yet, do so right away. In addition to what you glean on your own with the Lord, I will be sending some brief thoughts each week. So... here goes...

Two things struck me as I began Psalm 143:1 a few days ago. I am memorizing in the NASB which reads:

**"Hear my prayer, O LORD, give ear to my supplications!
Answer me in Thy faithfulness, in Thy righteousness."**

First of all I saw the emphasis upon the word **"my"**. Although I appreciate friends and family praying for me, as I begin this New Year, it needs to be with me personally crying out to the Lord. It is so easy to talk about praying and read books about praying, but how about starting 2011 actually doing it! I need to start this New Year with prayer crying out to the Lord about my future... **"Hear my prayer O LORD"** and trusting in His mercy... **"Give ear to my supplications"** as I consider the mistakes of 2010 and the times I may fail in the months to come.

Secondly I was struck with a confidence in my God. While I may be the one uttering the prayers, it is definitely God who will answer. Notice the emphasis upon the word **"Thy."** What a great thing to move into this New Year knowing that God will answer me, because He is faithful, because He is righteous. In 2010, a theme in my life was that God is faithful. I said it more times that I can count and it is written all throughout my journal. I can know that God will answer me because He is faithful... **"Answer me in Thy faithfulness"** and as I move into 2011, I believe He is going to be doing a work of righteousness in my life... **"Answer me in Thy righteousness."** In short, I can know He will answer me because He is faithful and righteous.

What great reminders the Lord has given us as we begin this passage... let's cry out to our faithful and righteous God with all our hearts in these early days of 2011, confident that He will answer. Don't let anything distract you from seeking Him for you have His Word within you to remind you of who He is!

Blessings,

Sharon Thomas

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