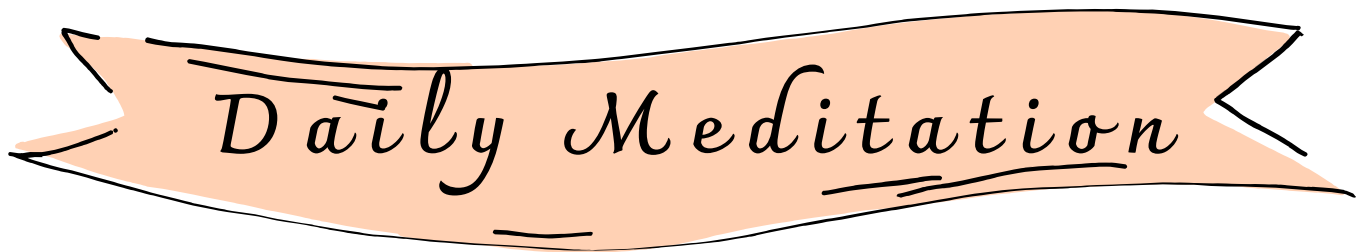


St. Mary & St. Joseph Coptic Orthodox Church
11308 Yonge St, Richmond Hill, ON L4S 1K9

Daily Meditations • June 13, 2020

THE ROCK

THE LORD IS MY ROCK.
- PSALM 18:2



Reflection on (1 Peter 3: 8-15)

8 Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; 9 not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.





10 For

“He who would love life

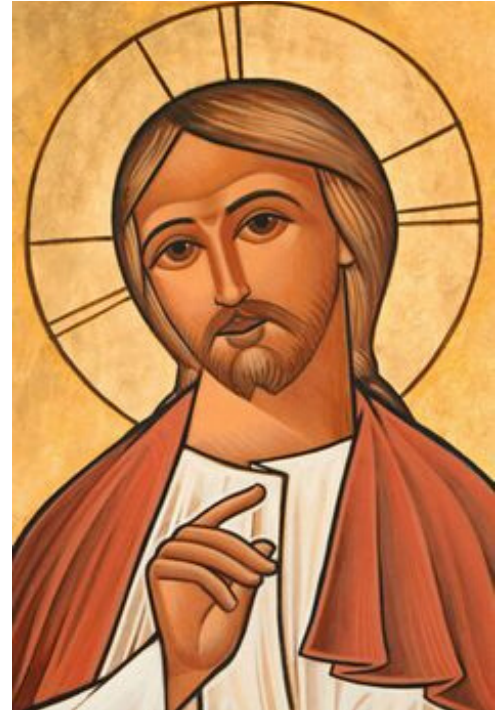
And see good days,

Let him refrain his tongue from evil,

And his lips from speaking deceit.

11 *Let him turn away from evil and do good;*

Let him seek peace and pursue it.



12 *For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,*

And His ears are open to their prayers;

But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

13 *And who is he who will harm you if you become followers of what*

is good? 14 But even if you should suffer for righteousness’

sake, you are blessed. “And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be

troubled.” 15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and

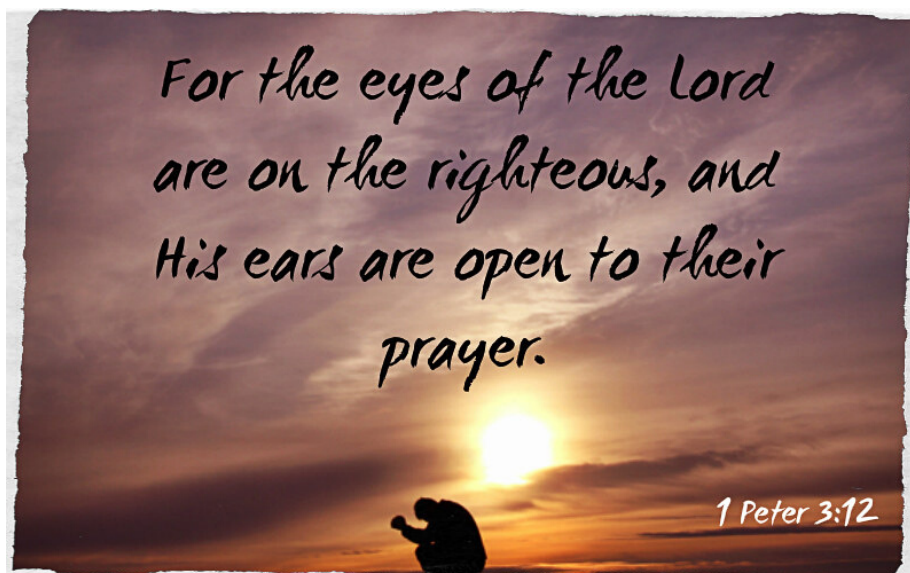
always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a

reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.



When we are harmed by another's evil wrongdoing, our minds react instinctually according to the flesh. We are often angered and desire revenge in the immediate moment, looking eagerly for a way to bite back. Christ tells us that we can transcend the ways of the flesh by suffering for what is right, by choosing to meet someone's ill will with pure love. After all, did He not endure great suffering for our own sins?

In my experience, when meeting an evil with good, people are often in awe; their eyes widen in a startled manner. By rising above the world, you reveal to them the merciful and loving mind of Christ, a mind that is otherworldly. Who would not be amazed by such an encounter?



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