

Gates Elizabeth

From: prayersatwork@googlegroups.com on behalf of Prayers At Work
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Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 1:02 PM
To: prayersatwork@googlegroups.com
Subject: [PRAYERS AT WORK] Dec 21-25, 2009

Monday, December 21, 2009 -- (Meditation: Revelation 14:13) God, I visited the home of the great evangelical theologian, Karl Barth, some years after he died. I had studied his work and was thrilled to see his home and be among the books in his study, where he worked for so many years. When I visited, Barth's biographer was living in the house. He very kindly showed me Barth's diary, opened at the date he died, December 18, 1968. On that page, Frau Barth had written, "He died peacefully in his sleep." Beside these words, she had drawn a Cross with her aging, shaky hand. I remembered that on her husband's last trip to the United States, a reporter asked him how he would sum up his life's work. He thought for a minute, then, and in his heavy Swiss-German accent, he said quietly, "Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so." God, may that sum up my life, too, knowing the peace that passes all understanding.

Tuesday, December 22, 2009 -- (Meditation: Romans 5:8) God, as the Wise Men brought the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to Your Son, so His birth brings to us faith, hope, and love. Our faith has not been perfect, but we ask You to renew it this Christmas. Our hope has sometimes faltered, but we ask You to strengthen it this Christmas. And our love has been less than constant, but we ask You to restore it this Christmas. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Wednesday, December 23, 2009 -- (Meditation: II Corinthians 1:3-4) God, thank You for my wonderful family, for good friends, for good food, for family traditions, and for special phone calls at Christmas. But as we enjoy these blessings, we pray for those who serve their country far away from those they love. We pray for all who are sick, or hurt, or lonely. We pray for those who will not receive anything at Christmas, and for those who are not able to give. God, may they feel Your nearness and comfort, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Thursday, December 24, 2009 -- (Meditation: Psalm 57:8-9) "Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free. From our fears and sins release us. Let us find our rest in Thee. / Come to earth to taste our sadness, You whose glories knew no end. By Your life You bring us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepard, Friend. / Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall; this the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all. / Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king. Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring. / By Thine own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone. By Thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne." Amen.
(Charles Wesley)

Friday, December 25, 2009 -- (Meditation: Luke 2:4-7) Lord Jesus, on this the day when You were born, our hearts are filled with wonder because You, Who made the heavens and the earth, came as a helpless baby cradled in Your mother's arms, in a lowly stable. O Holy Child, may such wondrous humility enter our hearts today, and abide with us, overflowing with love to others.

How to use Prayers At Work:

Read through the prayer for the day.

Let your spirit quietly enter into the prayer and make it your own.

Pray your prayer to God.

Sit in quiet meditation and wait for God's leading.

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