

It is now the season of Lent which began last week with Ash Wednesday. It is a 40-day season (not including Sundays) prior to Easter. It is meant to focus our attention on our sinfulness and mortality. Genesis 3:19 says, "*from dust you came and to dust you shall return.*" That is the penalty for our sin, but we also have Romans 6:23 that says, "*For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*" This Lenten season, let us turn our eyes onto God through Jesus Christ, remembering that it is only through faith in Jesus that anyone gets out of this life alive. Let us pray...

Father God,
I turn my eyes upon You this day –
seeking You.
I long to see Your face that I may not sin –
defiling this temple,
this jar of clay.
I long to know You better that I may not stray –
seeking after other gods,
placing my hope in them.
I long to be held by You and feel Your embrace –
knowing I am secure,
being at total peace.
O God, Surround me. Hem me in. Guard me. Protect me.
The Evil One seeks my demise and I am weary of fighting.
Fight for me.
Strike him with a devastating blow.
Glorify Your name in victory.
O God, I praise You that the ultimate battle has been won –
the battle over sin and death,
the battle for me.
I praise You that Jesus is Lord, my Savior –
that he took my sins to the grave
and You forgive me.
I praise You that through him I will wear the crown of life.
O God, You are mighty. Mighty in love. Mighty in mercy. Mighty to save.
Father God, I turn my eyes to You this day,
and always.
In Jesus name I pray,
Amen.