

Prayer for restoration in Australia

Live online Q&A chat with Beverly Goldsmith, a Christian Science practitioner and teacher, on spirituality.com February 12, 2009



Event Transcript Summary of Q&A: Thousands left homeless; over 200 killed in Victorian bushfires. People around the world, including many Australians who rose as early as 5 AM, joined this chat to pray, ask questions, share thoughts for healing, peace, and restoration.

Beverly told them, "Every prayer, every single healing thought which is motivated by your deep love for God and man has the power to bring comfort right now, even to people you don't know." She went on to say that "each prayer is like a pebble dropped into a pond. It doesn't just sink out of sight and have no effect. Even a tiny pebble sends out ripples. In the same way, each prayer sends out ripples of comfort and healing."

Beverly answered questions on how to pray with those who have lost homes and family; fire affected animals and wildlife; arson; media reports that exacerbate fear; vivid images of destruction; what God's role was or wasn't in the disaster, the difference between sympathy versus compassion, and the need for forgiveness. Find out more at www.beverlyg.com - Tips / E-cards / Articles

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SPIRITUALITY.COM HOST: Our topic today is "Prayer for restoration in Australia". Our guest is Beverly Goldsmith from Brisbane, Australia - a Christian Science practitioner and teacher for many years and writer of numerous articles for spirituality.com as well as the magazines published by the Christian Science Publishing Society. We're going to be talking about the bushfires in Victoria, Australia. Beverly is going to help us think about this through prayer. Beverly, we're so glad you're joining us.

BEVERLY: Thank you. Welcome everyone and thank you for being online to pray and share healing thoughts for those caught-up in the bushfires in Victoria, Australia. I spent the first 20 years of my life living in Melbourne, Victoria. I know many Victorians online today including a friend who lives very close to one of the main fires. I know she has been, and still is, praying diligently for the safety of her town. It remains unscathed.

For those online in locations around the world let me say how grateful I am for your presence. Each of you has come to spirituality.com, because of your Christly love and compassion for others. Your love and prayers are so vital at this moment. Fires are still burning, many lives have been lost, hundreds of homes destroyed, thousands made homeless. The restoration work has not really begun as yet. People are still coming to terms with what's happened.

You want to reach out and help. I thank you for that. But some of you may be wondering how to do this...especially if like me, you live far away from the fires. The answer is right where you are. Every prayer, every single healing thought which is motivated by a deep love for God and man, has the power to bring comfort right now - even to people you don't know.

Can prayer do this? Yes. I've proved in my life what Mary Baker Eddy has written in her book, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, p.559:8. "The "still, small voice" of scientific thought reaches over continent and ocean to the globe's remotest bound. The inaudible voice of Truth is, to the human mind, "as when a lion roareth." It is heard in the desert and in dark places of fear."

That still, small voice of prayer, affirming God's ever-present love and comfort, does bind up the broken hearted, and bring healing. Each prayer is like a pebble dropped into a pond. It doesn't just sink out of sight and have no effect. Even a tiny pebble sends out ripples. In the same way, each prayer sends out ripples of comfort and healing. So thank you for your prayers.

1. Concerned Australian: I'm praying that people are feeling and benefiting from the immediacy of divine Love's comforting embrace and healing power. Is that OK?

BEVERLY: Yes. Prayer brings comfort and healing. Distance is no obstacle. Prayer is a mental activity. A person doesn't have to be present with us to experience the love of God. Divine Love is present with them. I was watching the TV news last night, and one survivor said, "We feel so loved. We feel that love". And I thought, "Yes. She's feeling God's love. The love that's being poured out to all these people is coming from that divine Love." Divine Love's care is wrapping around them like a blanket - keeping them safe and cared for.

2. George: How to reduce media fear?

BEVERLY: The media on the whole is doing a good job keeping those of us who live far away from the fires up-to-date. I'm using what's presented as my "prayer list" - what needs to be prayed about. But here's what to do when listening to the news. **Firstly:** Don't ruminate chew over all the bad things you see. Affirm instead that divine Love is present to help, to give hope to the survivors and strength to emergency workers. **Secondly:** Don't reiterate - constantly repeat things like *isn't this tragic*. Affirm instead that divine Love is comforting and sustaining everyone. **Thirdly:** Don't speculate. This means, don't wonder why this has happened, or blame divine Love, or think it's some kind of punishment. Affirm instead that divine Love *loves* everyone and doesn't hurt or harm anyone. Keep focused on positive things that lead to recovery and restoration. See what needs to be healed, then pray specifically about it.

3. Praying Queenslander: Can people be healed of the terrible visual images associated with the bushfires? How can they find lasting peace?

BEVERLY: Think about what I just mentioned - don't ruminate, reiterate, or speculate. Yes, we're overcome by what we're seeing. But, we need to immediately put that on our "prayer list" and get busy spiritually mentally and pray about the things we're seeing - not just let them replay in our minds. Be pro-active with prayer. Say "Okay, this is what's happened. Now, how do I pray about this? What do I pray about to help the situation?"

4. Pril: I've started praying by reading Genesis 1:1-31 in the Bible, to understand the reality of what God created. Can you share other passages helpful in our prayers for comfort and restoration?

BEVERLY: Yes. I'm currently praying with II Corinthians 1:3-4 about comfort. It says, "Blessed be God, ... the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God". I've been praying that I'm being comforted, and the comfort that I feel from God is comforting everyone else. I've also been praying with Ps. 46:1 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble". Psalm 91, and Psalm 23. These are beautiful psalms with healing messages in them that we can include in our prayers. Also my favorite one from *Science and Health*, "Divine Love always has met and always will meet every human need". P.494:10-11

5. Willing helper: How can we pray for people impacted by bushfires if they haven't specifically asked for our help?

BEVERLY: We're not praying for specific individuals. We don't know them. We see people come on the TV, we see pictures of them. My prayers are not for specific individuals but for the whole situation. There are literally hundreds and hundreds of people - emergency workers, survivors. Here's an example of how I've been praying. For the survivors: God has made each person strong, like Himself. He's given them courage. His love is comforting them. His love, divine Love, is helping them move forward. They can feel safe in God's care. This is prayer for everyone. Emergency workers: God has given them strength and courage; doing good, blesses; it's blessing them. God is supporting, sustaining them. This isn't praying for any one worker. It's embracing all of them in God's love and care. They do enormous work, confronting walls of flame and having the courage to stand there and fight, but they're doing it. And I know that what sustains them is the courage and strength from God.

6. Prayer Vigil: My prayer focus is that God's love is consoling, assuring, sustaining, encouraging and strengthening everyone affected by the bushfires. Is this the way to go?

BEVERLY: Absolutely! Keep that good prayer up.

7. Melissa: How can we think about the people responsible for starting the fires? It's difficult...

BEVERLY: Some fires did start with lightning strikes and fallen power-lines, but some were lit by arsonists. Australia is a very dry continent. We've had years of drought. Every bushfire season we receive announcements - high fire-danger day, complete fire-ban, do not light fires. Over time I've noticed that this seems to be a call for arsonists to start fires. So I've asked myself "How do I counteract the thought that fire-bugs will act?" I've been praying with this statement in *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures.* p 234:31-3. "Evil thoughts and aims reach no farther and do no more harm than one's belief permits. Evil thoughts, lusts, and malicious purposes cannot go forth, like wandering pollen, from one human mind to another, finding unsuspected lodgment, if virtue and truth build a strong defence." That's led me to affirm 1. there is one divine Mind governing. There are not many minds - some good, some bad. 2. The Christ is speaking to the human consciousness stating what is right to do. Each person listens to, obeys the Christ, distinguishes between evil and good thoughts, does what is right and rejects evil thoughts which lead to evil deeds. We can be mentally prayerfully pro-active when these days are announced. Immediately take up prayerful work about arson and prevent evil thoughts being acted on.

8. Heather: Would you talk about how to comfort those who've lost loved ones?

BEVERLY: Yes. In our prayers let's affirm what is true about God and His loved children. Life is eternal. Each one's identity is intact. Each dear person is, and always will be, safe in divine Love's care. Hold to the true, undying, nature of each person. Each child of God is immortal. Choose to believe that life is eternal, unceasing; the true identity of everyone is always safe in God's care. This is continuing to love people who've passed. That's important in our prayers for those who have lost entire communities, not only just loved ones, friends, neighbors, but entire communities. To know that each person's identity is intact, that life is eternal, comforts me. I hold to: each person is going on in God's care.

9. Bid: How can I be sure God will stop this torture?

BEVERLY: That assumes that God is allowing 'torture' to happen. That's not my view of God. God is supreme, infinite, omnipresent Love. Right now Love is embracing everyone. Remember the tsunami a few years ago? We were overwhelmed by the pictures we were seeing. But it never undermined my confidence in God's love for us. If we hold to that strongly in our prayers everyday, we would help bring health, harmony, peace, protection and safety to our communities. That's what we should be doing. It's what we can do.

10. Praying Aussie: I've been praying for the ongoing resilience and buoyancy of those affected by the bushfires. Is this on the right track?

BEVERLY: Absolutely! I've seen in survivors the resiliency and buoyancy of the human spirit. That's coming from God. Resiliency, buoyancy are qualities of God. Resiliency: Think of a rubber band. You can stretch it out of shape, but it recovers. It always goes back to its original shape easily, because it's resilient. We don't have to be rigid with fear or despair. God has made each of us resilient, flexible, strong. We have spiritual resilience - the capacity to recover easily from depression or trouble. **Buoyancy:** Think about a buoy that floats on the top of the ocean. You can push it down, but let go and it comes back to the surface because it's buoyant. It's the same with us. We can't sink into fear or depression. We're filled with God's spiritual buoyancy which helps us stay on top of circumstances. We can rise above tough situations because we're filled with God's life-sustaining power.

11. SPIRITUALITY.COM HOST: We have a number of questions about animals like Sam, the Koala who got water. I'm going to combine them in this one. Mary: How do we pray for the animals and wildlife?

BEVERLY: We've seen examples of extraordinary kindness towards our animals. A vet in one of the devastated towns, is driving around locating horses, native animals and pets, taking them in, feeding and tending to their burns at his own expense. The RSPCA is also on the job. The main concern is loss of habitat for native animals. They will have to be taken to areas where they can live - koalas only eat certain gum trees, so areas have to be found where they can resume normal life. Kind people are taking care of pets that have been left behind. I've been praying that the pets and their owners will be re-united. In my prayers I'm affirming that animals are God's creatures. They're creatures of God's creating, and they're included in His tender ministering. No creature is left out.

12. SPIRITUALITY.COM HOST: Here's a question. You might mention the situation where you're living as contrasted with Victoria.

Supportive Queenslander: Soaking rain is needed to put out bushfires. How do we pray about this? **BEVERLY:** Right now, North Queensland has so much soaking rain that we'd love to parcel it up and send it down to the bushfires. Australia is a country of great extremes. North Queensland is under flood. A whole town, Ingham, has been under water for days now. Every house is flooded. Up here we've got too much rain, in Victoria not enough. We need to pray about divine Love meeting every human need. We can pray that whatever is needed to make those areas in Victoria safe, will be provided - whether it's rain, back-burning, or cool temperatures. I'm quite sure divine Love is able to meet the human need for securing the fires.

- 13. Henry: How do we relate arson with what may be troubling others who seem to have no voice, are not listened to, are shunned by society, who take it upon themselves to strike back at society by arson?

 BEVERLY: That makes assumptions about the mental make-up of arsonists. I've seen interviews exploring reasons as to why people start fires. I don't go poking into the human psyche. I'm praying with Science and Health p 234:31-3 taking a pro-active stand. Evil and malicious purposes can't invade other people's thinking, and prompt them to do these things for whatever reason. Let's move our prayers higher than that, and affirm that there is one Mind not disturbed minds out there who are susceptible to these thoughts. We need to affirm that there is one divine Mind, we are all made in the image of that one divine Mind, every "thinking" is stable, good, it's positive, it reflects the divine Mind. We can address this in our prayers, be pro-active not only for bushfires, but for terrorism, for people that want to steal in our community. Proactive prayer enables us to move to that point where we can help hold crime in check.
- 14. SPIRITUALITY.COM HOST: This is an anonymous question. The first part is about arsonists. You've just talked about that. The second part is "How can we work on forgiveness?".

BEVERLY: Forgiveness is really about us. It's important in our thoughts to keep affirming what is spiritually true about every person - whether you label them as an arsonist or a criminal. We need to lift our thought higher - take that label off them. If we perpetuate the idea that people are "this" or "that", then we're getting down into an area that is not benefiting anyone - it's not helping to resolve that situation, or helping that individual. We can separate the error, the evil, from that person, and know that evil thinking is not "them" - it's thoughts coming to them, which they're listening to, and then acting on. Our prayers can help them see themselves as the beloved sons and daughters of God - pure, honest, upright, kind, unselfish - all those wonderful God-like qualities. That's what each of us is truly like. That would be my highest sense of forgiveness.

15. Stacey: How to deal with the apparent destruction metaphysically?

BEVERLY: One great thing about the Australian bush is that it regenerates. Throughout the history of this continent, which goes back millions of years, there's been fires through forest areas. Trees regenerate. That's a guide to praying about restoration. Every idea, every concept of home, of the environment, is able to be renewed. People rebuild homes. Forests regenerate. We can hold to those spiritual thoughts, aid the restoration process, and not be overwhelmed by the immediate picture. A woman in the previous Victorian bushfires lost her house. I saw pictures of the devastation. Her house is now rebuilt, there's bush around it. You'd never know that it had been destroyed by fire.

- 16. Sue: How can we change sympathy for people, animals, environment into something more productive? **BEVERLY:** The Bible says that Jesus had compassion on people, not sympathy. There's a difference. In researching the words, I consulted several dictionaries for original definitions. Sympathy, meant "empathy with", getting down into the pit with the person. Compassion, on the other hand, was the process of "lifting them up". This made me realize the need to have great compassion not to just say, "Oh you poor thing. Isn't this terrible. I can only imagine what you're going through." That's sympathy. Compassion in our prayers is saying, "You are safe. God loves you. You are being cared for right now. Everything that you appear to have lost can be restored to you. God is a God of abundant good. No good thing can be lost from you. I have confidence that you are safe in God's loving care. I'm confident that divine Love will meet every one of your needs right now". That is compassion. It's being moved to pray from a spiritual standpoint to help bring healing.
- 17. Laurie: Why would a government encourage people to stay and defend their homes in the fire? **BEVERLY:** People will re-think this policy of "stay and defend". This was an extraordinary bushfire -extreme high winds, and 114°F/ 46°C temperatures. It's hard to have human plans to cover every scenario. We can pray that each person is guided by divine intuitions to do what is needed, to be safe before, during and after a fire; conventional wisdom can be replaced with the divine Wisdom that protects and saves. People were guided to take un-conventional actions, lives were saved. You can't always employ "conventional wisdom". There must be guide-lines. But, over and above is the divine Wisdom that speaks to people right in that situation.

18. Emma: How can we confront the fear that the droughts and fires are linked to global warming?

BEVERLY: It's been said that bushfires are cyclical. Often people rely on set weather patterns. In praying about bushfires/floods, we need to stay alert to change - whether or not it's brought about by global warming, and not be complacent. We can rethink conventional wisdom and think about the divine Wisdom in relation to seasons. If a summer is hotter, or a winter colder, what do we need to be alert to? What appropriate steps should we take? As individuals we can take responsibility for our thoughts and actions; pray that the divine Mind is giving us the divine Wisdom to take steps to be safe in all seasons. We have God's intelligent ideas to work with. Whatever the human need, divine Love is meeting that need. The only way that won't happen, is if we ignore those divine impulsions - those divine intuitions that tell us what is the right thing to do.

19. Praying in Seattle: How can we combat the belief of injustice, that some have suffered unfairly? Why do some escape and others not? Some say that this event shows that God isn't all powerful, fair or good.

BEVERLY: God is Love. His love is so totally impartial and universal. He so deeply loves each of us. That is the truth that is immediately effective in every situation. There's not "haves", and "have nots". God is a God of abundant good. That good is pouring forth more than we can realize. The Bible talks about opening "the windows of heaven" and pouring "out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it". Mal 3:10. The only way we experience limitation is by letting it into our thinking. I'm sure all of us can think of instances where we've felt unjustly treated. The good thing is, we've been able to rise above that and achieve a good outcome. We need to know this right now for those in the bushfires and floods. There is enough abundant good to bless everyone. Some houses were saved. Some weren't. People who lost their houses will have them restored, because there's enough good to go around for everyone. There's not just a little, tiny amount for some and none for everybody else, or more for everybody else. It's there for each of us. I'm praying that whatever the human need, divine Love has enough love and abundant goodness to meet it.

20. Eduardo: "Natural" and man made disasters have happened often. How can we pray for these disasters never to happen again? Should we pray with this expectancy?

BEVERLY: Absolutely! It comes back to conventional wisdom and divine Wisdom. We're going to have debates about the wisdom of allowing people to build houses in heavily, densely treed and undergrowth areas. On TV, a man revealed that when he moved to a Victorian area, he cleared a huge area around his house as a fire-break. He was fined \$50,000 because the law says you cannot cut down even one tree around your house. We have to look at such policies and ask, "Do they express divine Wisdom?" Such policies will be reviewed and the conventional wisdom that's been accepted in the past, re-visited. I'm praying earnestly that the intelligence of the divine Mind will provide the right answers for the future, so that we can reduce the opportunity for these situations to be repeated.

21. Ruth: One man who helped many of his neighbors escape said, "I saw things that people should be trained to see." How can we pray for those people to move on without the tragic images of death and destruction?

BEVERLY: It comes back to those qualities of resiliency and buoyancy. I'm so impressed with the resiliency and buoyancy that I'm witnessing. That's coming from God. We say, "Where is God in all this?" Well, God is reflected by each of us. His love envelops us, keeps us safe and well, and we express that Love. The outpouring of kindness and goodness is an expression of God. Resiliency and buoyancy is enabling all of us to move on. Choose the good images. Look at images and ask, "What is the good I'm seeing here?" See the resiliency and buoyancy; the unconditional love of strangers being poured out to people who need this love. They're the images we need to hold in thought - not looking at the shock and horror images and constantly reiterating and ruminating over them, but looking at them and saying, "What good am I seeing right now?" Sam the Koala. What a wonderful, inspiring image that was! They're the images we've got to fill our thinking with, not the others.

BEVERLY: It's sad to see people taking advantage of others. Let's pray with that piece in *Science* and *Health* p. 234:31-3. Be more pro-active in prayer. A policeman once said to me, "Criminals do things you and I wouldn't expect." Pro-active prayer can help hold crime in check, stop thoughts of "taking from others" to find lodgment in thinking. We can affirm that the Christ is speaking to the human consciousness, telling people what is right to do, and that they can listen to the Christ and reject the evil thoughts which lead to evil deeds, such as arson and looting.

23. Ann: Science and Health p. 293:21... "There is no vapid fury of mortal mind - expressed in ... fire..."
'Vapid' means 'pale, listless, spiritless, dull' - an unlikely description of what we see on TV. Is this a clue to dealing with this? - SPIRITUALITY.COM HOST: For those unfamiliar with the term "mortal mind", it's essentially the material sense of things - that which focuses on evil and negativity.

BEVERLY: I live in Queensland which is cyclone-prone. When there are alerts about a coming storm I always pray. I turn to that passage in *Science and Health*. Lightning strikes, claps of thunder, walls of bushfire are impressive. Yet when Elijah [1 Kings 19:11-12] experienced earth-quake, wind and fire, he found God was in none of that. So, what is all-powerful? While a storm is raging, I affirm my safety and protection; that a storm has no power because nothing equals the power of God - the power to preserve, maintain and sustain us. I think of Jesus in a boat when a storm arose on the lake. He was asleep. The disciples were freaking out! They said to him, "What! Don't you care? Wake up. "Jesus spotted the trouble. He went forward and spoke to the winds and the waves and they immediately calmed. [Mark 4:35-39] Oh, to have that presence!

24. Charolotte: How do we explain to children, who may think that God's allowed this devastation to happen? BEVERLY: It's important to be sharing with children a sense of God's love. Again, what are we focusing on in this situation - the images of destruction, or the images of God's goodness? We can say to children that the picture looks bad, but let's look higher - at the images of goodness, of the outpouring of love. I've visited the ABC - the Australian Broadcasting Commission, web site. I've read the thoughts and prayers from people all around the world. It's been so humbling and inspiring. A fellow from Morocco could barely write English, yet you could feel the enormous outpouring of love that was in his message to the people of Australia, particularly those in Victoria. We can help our children focus on the enormous out-pouring of love and goodness, and the examples of divine Wisdom that enabled people to be safe.

25. Lloyd: People are challenged, overpowered by confusion, searching for the reality in the situation, questioning life and death, anxious about other world issues?

BEVERLY: We've just gone through this fire. Now the debate is starting about who's to blame. I'm praying that out of this will come a better way of doing things. It may relate to global warming, climate change, or the dire economic situation the world is facing right now. It doesn't matter. We've got to pray for clear vision that takes us forward to sustainable right ideas and wisdom for the future. That's going to take putting aside political views, cherished standpoints, being humble and meek enough to listen to God for the right ideas - to listen for the divine Wisdom, and not allow anger, fear, frustration, to cloud that vision. That's what praying people can do right now.

26. Brian: Noah dealt with climate change! He had a great sense of safety. [See story in Genesis 6:13 - 8:19] We need that safety, whether in fire or water. How can we enlarge our ark to include everyone?

BEVERLY: Prayer is universal. The prayers we're praying right now are like pebbles. You don't drop a pebble into a pond with no effect. It sends out ripples. The prayer for safety - the idea of the ark - being prayed conscientiously, devotedly, will help bring those ideas forward for safety. Noah's idea for safety was to build an ark. There are other arks, and we have to look at those and not say, "I'm not going to consider this person's ark". But to say, "Whatever the right idea is, I have to put aside my preconceptions and assumptions, and listen to God. He has the right ideas. God will tell us the right arks to build. He is preserving that sense of safety in His people." We'll have our answers. We'll find that divine Love meets our needs, as we listen humbly and meekly to divine Love.

27. Julie: I've been thinking about the biblical account of the three Hebrews thrown in the fiery furnace who emerged unscathed. How can this account apply to the State of Victoria?

BEVERLY: I've been praying with that story too. [See Daniel 3:1-27] What a state of spiritual, divine thinking, to nullify the harmful effects of fire. We too can aspire to that. In *Science and Health*, p.369:23 Mary Baker Eddy talks about Christian Science healing as being *preventive*, as well as curative. She speaks of prevention as the *higher* art of healing. Our prayers can be more focused on the preventive art of Christian Science healing, rather than just its curative aspect. Let's continue our prayers and not let them fade away. Let's keep our prayers going in the direction of resolutions, healing, and see restoration occurring.

28. Bee: Where do we draw the line about "over" watching the news reports and staying properly informed on what is needed in our prayers?

BEVERLY: As I said earlier, "watching" is not the problem. It's what you *do* with what you're seeing. Some town meetings revealed a complacency towards safety. "Why didn't someone tell me?" The radio had constant alerts. People didn't tune-in. We have to listen, be pro-active, keep alert, be informed. My friend had her case packed by the door, ready to go if the fire came. She was alert, ready. The news is my "prayer agenda". It tells me what the need is. If I didn't watch, I wouldn't know. If you're watching like a sponge, soaking it all in, that's not helpful. If you look at it as a prayer agenda, and then *pray* about the situation, *pray* for resolutions, that is helping.

29. Margaret: Much of the official information increases fear and apprehension. People need to know that God is there first, wisdom will direct their steps to protect their home and their actions during the fire.

BEVERLY: Yes. Be alert. Rather than saying, "Fire hasn't happened for years. I'm okay", say every bushfire or cyclone season, "I need to be alert, pro-actively praying about these situations *before* they happen, not after they've happened." Pro-active prayer is needed.

30. MC: I've found the idea that the "raindrops of divinity" [Science and Health p. 288:17] are refreshing the earth and mankind, to put out fires and refresh sagging morale.

BEVERLY: During the years of drought in Australia I've thought about those "raindrops of divinity". And when they've fallen I have sat outside on my back porch, and thanked God for each raindrop or dewdrop of divinity that's refreshing the earth. Those dewdrops of divinity are not only just drops of rain, but they're the spiritual, calming, peaceful, regenerating *thoughts* of God's goodness and love towards us. That divine Love is meeting every need.

SPIRITUALITY.COM HOST: There's a passage from the Bible that I'd like to read. Isaiah, chapter 35:3-8 "Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you. ...for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water: in the habitation of dragons, where each lay, shall be grass with reeds and rushes. And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness;"

BEVERLY: That's lovely. We can add, Isaiah 66, verse 13. "As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted...". Thank you for your prayers, love, and good thoughts you're pouring out. These messages of comfort are like prayer-candles, holding up the warmth and light of God's love to help, comfort and heal. Those of us here today have shared our thoughts and prayers. You can be assured that such prayer brings help and healing. Thank you for your Christly love. In the weeks and months ahead we can be sure that the restoration work will move ahead under divine Love's direction with grace and good will. Thank you everyone.