

THINK ON THESE THINGS.....

Reading: Isaiah 44:1 - 5

"Listen now, Israel, my servant, my chosen people, the descendants of Jacob. 2 I am the Lord who created you; from the time you were born, I have helped you. Do not be afraid; you are my servant, my chosen people whom I love.

- 3 "I will give water to the thirsty land and make streams flow on the dry ground.
 I will pour out my spirit on your children and my blessing on your descendants.
- 4 They will thrive like well-watered grass, like willows by streams of running water.
- 5 "One by one, people will say, 'I am the Lord's.' They will come to join the people of Israel. They each will mark the name of the Lord on their arms and call themselves one of God's people."

Reflection:

The words in this passage are really quite powerful and give wonderful assurance. Twice God refers to his people as his servant and his chosen. God is their creator and helper, and promises to bring them water for their fields and bodies, and the Spirit to fill their souls.

Even though they had experienced great devastation, God assures the people that they will thrive, and will once again know that they belong to him. So secure will the people be that they will proudly declare their commitment to God and will even write it on their hands.

It is usually in our toughest times that we need to be reminded of God's presence and God's commitment to us. We all need that reminding right now don't we? We need reaffirming that we do indeed belong to God, and to remind ourselves that God is with us.

Breath-Prayer for Today:

Loving God, today I remember that there is nothing that can separate me from your love, and I give thanks that I belong to you.