

# whatever God things

THINK ON THESE THINGS.....

## Reading: Psalm 137:1 - 4

- <sup>1</sup> By the rivers of Babylon we sat and wept  
when we remembered Zion.
- <sup>2</sup> There on the poplars  
we hung our harps,
- <sup>3</sup> for there our captors asked us for songs,  
our tormentors demanded songs of joy;  
they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"
- <sup>4</sup> How can we sing the songs of the Lord  
while in a foreign land?

## Reflection:

Near the beginning of lockdown I reflected on the song “Rivers of Babylon” which was a popular song written and recorded by the Melodians in 1970. The song became a chart-topper in Europe and around the world when in 1978 the group Boney M did a cover version, which was awarded a platinum disc and is one of the top-ten all-time best-selling singles in the UK. What most people were not aware of when listening to the catchy tune, was that it was based on Psalm 137, a psalm which was written to express the feelings of God’s people who were in exile in Babylon.

I reflected on how God’s people must have felt being removed from everything that was familiar, and having to make major adjustments to a completely different culture and value system. More importantly, they were faced with the challenge of practicing their own faith in a strange land. They also had absolutely no idea how long this exile would last.

In a similar way we too have had to adjust to a very different way of life under lockdown. Practicing our Christian faith has taken on a very different shape, as we have had to get used YouTube services and devotions like this by email. It hasn’t been easy, but I’d like to believe that God has continued to work in our lives, shaping and moulding us in ways we never thought possible.

Our “exile” may well last many more weeks and perhaps even months, and “singing the songs of Zion” may well have to wait until a more opportune time. But that time will come, and we will all be able to gather together and celebrate. Until then, hold on tight – God is with us!

## Breath-Prayer for Today:

Dear Lord, thank you for your sustaining love and presence with me through this difficult time. Help me to continue to trust in you.

