Daily Encouragement – 23rd November

(Malachi 4:2)

**“**But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays. And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves”.

In both the last book of the Old Testament (Malachi), and the last of the New Testament (Revelation), we are given pictures of the wonderful promises of God our Father. In them the Lord is sometimes described as the “sun” - a reminder that for the ancients the physical sun was often seen as a representative reminder of the one God over all of life. As we know that our God is a Trinity, we give thanks for the wonderful work of the Lord Jesus, the son, in dying to save us; so we can mix the images, “sun” and “son”.

Malachi reminds us that God brings healing - and his healed people can skip and frolic anew! What a wonderful picture for us of what the Lord will do in our lives - even during Lock-down. This healing is for eternity, not a mini-healing to prolong earthly lives by a few years, but a full-blown healing for what in Revelation John calls the new Heaven and the new Earth. Meanwhile, as our Home Group studies in the letter of James may have reminded us, the Lord will raise up even sick people in this transitory life, through prayer and the anointing of oil.

How much we have to be thankful for now - and how much more we have to look forward to!

*Heavenly Father,*

*We praise you that you are over all things and that through the death of our Lord Jesus you have brought us back to yourself, and through the work of your Holy Spirit you help us and heal us. Thank you that we are an Easter people, trusting in the forgiveness of sins, the Resurrection of the Body and the promise of Eternal life. Amen*



a full-blown healing ‘The new Heaven and the new Earth’