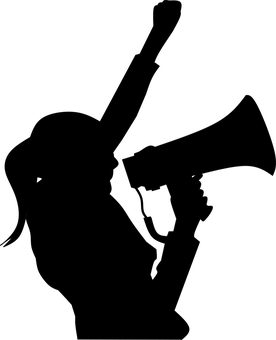
**Monday 29th June**

Psalm 71: 14-16

As for me, I will always have hope;  
    I will praise you more and more.

My mouth will tell of your righteous deeds,  
    of your saving acts all day long—  
    though I know not how to relate them all.  
**I will come and proclaim your mighty acts, Sovereign Lord;  
    I will proclaim your righteous deeds, yours alone.**

The Psalms are such a rich resource for us in this time. In them we find every imaginable emotion – lots of circumstances that we can relate to, and quite a few which are beyond anything that we may have experienced. But through them all, we find deep trust in the character of God, and an expectancy that He will move in answer to prayer and in rescue of His people. These verses from Psalm 71 begin with this assertion: ‘As for me, I will always have hope’. As I have been praying into our situation and thinking it through, I have felt the Lord say that His people need to be instilling hope during this time. How can the psalmist say he will always have hope? His hope is not predicated on his own optimism or enthusiasm. It is not rooted in everything having always gone right in the past. It is firmly founded on the goodness and unchanging character of God. It is entirely based on God. ‘My hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus’ blood and righteousness…’

<https://youtu.be/QvLxZEU02uI>

*Lord Jesus, our hope, our peace, our righteousness, we put our trust in you today. Thank you that you are always trustworthy, and that you hear us when we call to you. We pray that you would bring us to the place that we can say along with the Psalmist, ‘As for me, I will always have hope.’ Thank you that this is possible because of who you are. We worship you today as our Lord, our Rock and Salvation, and the One who has moved mightily and will continue to move in power to work out your purposes. Amen*

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