**Daily Prayer and Encouragement for Thursday 31st December -** Sarah Pix

Isaiah 45: 3

I will give you hidden treasures,

riches stored in secret places,

so that you may know that I am the LORD,

the God of Israel, who summons you by name.

This is a surprising promise given to King Cyrus who was King of Assyria. In it, God speaks of treasure hidden in secret places. Our God is the God of surprises. He is able to bring great blessing from the most unexpected places. This time of year is traditionally one of reflection, when we look back on the year that has past and think about what lies ahead. I want to encourage you today, to ask the Lord to show you what treasures were hidden for you in the strange land of 2020, and to give thanks for those. Were there things that you learnt about Him, or experienced of Him that were new? Did you see more of His faithfulness and provision? Did you find special value in something that you had previously taken for granted? Know that He is God – the same yesterday, today and forever – great is His faithfulness – and know that He knows you by name and He will not fail.

Even if things are full of struggle for you just now, allow the Lord to minister to you through this song:

<https://youtu.be/0B_lnQIITxU>

***Father, we thank you that we can trust in your unchanging nature, unfailing love and sure promises. As we come to the end of a year that has been unlike any other, help us to be thankful for all the ways in which you have given us treasure. And help us to trust you for all that lies ahead. Thank you that you make a way where there is no way. In Jesus Name. Amen***

