## ~IMAGINE (87)

[English, picture, envisage, envision, visualize, see, see in your mind's eye]

- Mordecai told Esther not time imagine that she would escape the effect of the wicked law passed against her people just because she was part of the king's court.
- Then Mordecai said to reply to Esther; Do not imagine within your own soul that the king's household will escape any more than all the other Jews. (Esther 4:13)
- Jesus now counsels them as to how to pray. They should not just repeat some prepared prayer over and over again. God is not interested in such liturgies. He wants us to open our hearts to him and tell him of our concerns and cares.
- People of the nations, and even many supposed Christians today use prepared prayers, many even going against Jesus' own counsel by simply repeating the model prayer, which is after all a model for prayer, or a pattern for prayer, showing us the topics that are pertinent, and then we should adapt it to the concerns of our own hearts. People doing otherwise imagine they will get a hearing for using many words.
- But when praying, do not say the same things over and over again, just as the people of the nations do, for they imagine they will get a hearing for their use of many words. (Matthew 6:7)
- Though Jesus was a peaceful man, never did he want his disciples to imagine that he came to bring peace on earth, for he knew ahead of time that his preaching and teachings would divide mankind into two opposing groups with very differing philosophies and works.
- Do you imagine I came to give peace on the earth? No, indeed, I tell you, but rather division. (Luke 12:51)
- So Jesus asked them if they imagined that these Galileans were worse sinners than all other Galileans, simply because they had suffered through these things.
- So in reply he said to them; Do you imagine that these Galileans

were proved worse sinners than all other Galileans because they have suffered these things? (Luke 13:2)

- Then Jesus showed another example, that of a tower that fell upon eighteen men in Siloam, thereby killing them all. Then he asked them, if they imagined that these eighteen men were any greater debtors or sinners, than other men inhabiting Jerusalem at the same time.
- Or those eighteen upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, thereby killing them, do you imagine that they were proved greater debtors than all other men inhabiting Jerusalem? (Luke 13:4)
- They were then told to expect major differences, for now instead of teaching in the synagogues of the Jews, as they had done for the last three and one half years, they would be expelled from these very same synagogues. In fact, Jesus stated that people, the Jews and others, imagining, that they were doing a sacred service to God, would kill them.
- Men will expel you from the synagogue. In fact, the hour is coming when everyone that kills you will imagine he has rendered a sacred service to God. (John 16:2)
- So Paul showed, that since we are the progeny of this divine one, that we ought not to imagine, that he is somehow like the things that men can make themselves, for he is vastly superior, for he made us.
- Seeing, therefore, that we are the progeny of God, we ought not to imagine that the Divine Being is like gold or silver or stone, like something sculptured by the art and contrivance of man. (Acts of Apostles 17:29)