

The Nearness of God

Psalm 46:1 – God is a very present help. He is always near and willing to help. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Jehovah Shammah – The Lord is Present (Ezekiel 48:35).

God's Intimate Knowledge & Care for Me

Psalm 139:13-16 – For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb. I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works, and my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth; Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; And in Your book were all written The days that were ordained for me, When as yet there was not one of them.

Jeremiah 1:5 – Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations.

Ephesians 1:4-5 – Even as [in His love] He chose us [actually picked us out for Himself as His own] in Christ before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy (consecrated and set apart for Him) and blameless in His sight, even above reproach, before Him in love. For He foreordained us (destined us, planned in love for us) to be adopted (revealed) as His own children through Jesus Christ, in accordance with the purpose of His will [because it pleased Him and was His kind intent]—

Psalm 56:8-9 – You have taken account of my wanderings; put my tears in Your bottle. Are they not in Your book? Then my enemies will turn back in the day when I call; this I know, that God is for me.

Luke 12:6-7, 24 – Are not five sparrows sold for two cents? Yet not one of them is forgotten before God. Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear; you are more valuable than many sparrows. And He said to His disciples, **for this reason I say to you, do not worry about your life**, as to what you will eat; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens, for they neither sow nor reap; they have no storeroom nor barn, and yet **God feeds them; how much more valuable you are than the birds!**

Matthew 6:26 – Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?

He Sees, Knows & Understands

Exodus 2:23-25 – ... The sons of Israel sighed because of the bondage, and they cried out; and their cry for help because of their bondage rose up to God. So God heard their groaning; and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God saw the sons of Israel, and God took notice of them.

Exodus 3:7-10 - The Lord said, **I have surely seen the affliction of My people** who are in Egypt, and have given heed to them. So I have come down to deliver them from the power of the Egyptians, and to bring them up

from that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey... Now, behold, **the cry of the sons of Israel has come to Me**; furthermore, **I have seen the oppression** with which the Egyptians are oppressing them.

Psalm 31:7-8 - I will be glad and rejoice in Your mercy, for **You have considered my trouble**; You have known my soul in adversities, and have not shut me up into the hand of the enemy; You have set my feet in a wide place.

Psalm 102:14-20 – For He looked down from His holy height; from heaven the Lord gazed upon the earth, to hear the groaning of the prisoner, to set free those who were doomed to death.

Isaiah 40:27-31 – Why do you say and assert, my way is hidden from the Lord and the justice due me escapes the notice of my God Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, The Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Don't say that He doesn't see. Don't say that He doesn't know. Don't think that He doesn't care. He is great in understanding.

Come and wait in His presence and realize that He is there, that He actually cares; make yourself aware of

what He is like. You will gain renewed strength. When you realize how much He really wants to help, you will accept it and go your way believing it is done – and it will be.

Hebrews 4:13-16 - And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do. For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (It is already there; we merely need find it and receive it. If we need to find it, maybe it is hidden from natural eyesight.)

Some think He is watching to see our sins. No! He is watching because He cares, because He is actually interested in us; He wants to help us and set us free. He is searching for those who will trust in Him so He can hear and answer them and help and deliver them! Decide to be one of these!

Hebrews 2:18 - For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted.

He doesn't say I overcame temptation; now you do the same. He says that because of it, He is able to come to your aid and help you.

Psalm 34:15, 17, 19 – The eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous and His ears are open to their cry... When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears, and delivers them out of all their distress and troubles... Many are the

afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

1 Peter 3:12 – The eyes of the Lord are on me and His ears are open to my prayer. Not only does He hear and see but He also He delights in my prayer. He likes it when I come to Him in my times of need. He enjoys spending time with me. He delights in showing mercy and meeting my needs.

2 Chronicles 16:9 - For the eyes of the Lord turn to and fro throughout the whole earth to show Himself strong in behalf of those whose hearts are blameless toward Him.

Psalms 33:18-19 - Behold, the Lord's eye is upon those who fear Him, who wait for Him and hope in His mercy, to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine.

Matthew 6:6-8; 7:7-11 – My Father is unseen but there. He sees. He knows my needs. He wants me to pray to Him, and He wants to answer me. And He knows how to give good things to me when I ask.

Come to the Lord in your times of need, and don't leave without what you need; He is offering it to you. He has already given all we could need; we must take it by faith, as plainly and simply as if we could see Him holding out a package for us to receive. It is a faith transaction, but it as real as a transaction you can see or feel. Learn to live in this realm, and you will have found the secret to life, how to live by faith not sight.

How to Walk in His Presence

Matthew 28:20 – Behold, I am with you all the days (perpetually, uniformly and on every occasion), to the very close and consummation of the age.

Hebrews 13:5 - ...He Himself has said, I will never leave your nor forsake you.

The answer to your most urgent need is close – much closer than you ever imagined. The Father is so near that you can talk to Him at any moment – and know that He listens, and His Spirit is so close that He can give you comfort, peace and direction at any time, wherever you are, regardless of your feelings or situation.

God is always the same and always with me the same, but my perception and my feelings continually change. Truth is not based on my moods or passing emotions or even on present circumstances but on the eternal realities and on the unchanging nature of God and the promises of God.

I need to rely on the **fact** of His unchangeable presence not the feeling or assurance of it. Relying on **feeling** His presence throws things out of balance, and when I no longer feel Him, He seems to be gone. But when I rely on the fact of His constant presence that is always the same, (when I don't feel His presence and when I do) His presence never changes to me - because the fact never changes.

He is just as real and hears just as clearly when I don't feel Him as when I do. He is unchanging, always there

for me, willing to answer, yes, longing to meet my needs.

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He is there every day; always the same. So I can count on His truth every day of my life regardless of feelings or circumstances. He is unchangeable. His love is unchangeable. His mercy is unchangeable.

Things may change, my moods may change; my circumstances and situations may change, but He is always the same, always near and always meets me when I believe. His presence is constant; but my faith activates it and makes His presence real in my experience.