

Sheltered IN God's PRESENCE ~ Psalm 3:14-24

→Scripture Reading Psalm 31:12-17

INTRODUCTION

Deuteronomy 31:6 (NIV) Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; He will never LEAVE you nor FORSAKE you.

Lament encourages us to talk to God about our struggles SO THAT we can Reaffirm our TRUST in Him. Simply stated, Lament is a prayer IN pain that leads to TRUST. Vroegop

¹² I am forgotten, like a dead man no one thinks about; I am regarded as worthless, like a broken jar. ¹³ For I hear what so many are saying, the terrifying news that comes from every direction. When they plot together against me, they figure out how they can take my life. (NET)

You are MY God ~ Psalm 31:14-18

¹⁴ But I trust in You, O LORD; I say, "You are MY God." ¹⁵ My times are in Your hands; deliver me from my enemies and from those who pursue me. ¹⁶ Let your face shine on Your servant; save me in Your unfailing love. ¹⁷ Let me not be put to shame, O LORD, for I have cried out to You; but let the wicked be put to shame and lie silent in the grave. ¹⁸ Let their lying lips be silenced, for with pride and contempt they speak arrogantly against the righteous.

Wicked- those who seek to destroy the faithful followers of God vs. 17

Righteous- those who Trust in God, Believe His Word, and seek to Obey Him vs. 18

IMPLICATIONS

→Our God is PERSONAL and INFINITE

¹⁴ But I trust in You, O LORD; I say, You are MY God

Hebrews 4:16 (NIV) Let us then APPROACH the throne of grace with CONFIDENCE, so that we may RECEIVE mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

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→Our LIVES are IN His Hands

¹⁵ My TIMES are in Your hands; deliver me from my enemies...

¹⁵ The course of my life is in Your power; deliver me from the power of my enemies and from my persecutors. (HCS)

Romans 8:28 (NLT) And we know that God causes everything to work together FOR the GOOD of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

Philippians 4:12-13 (NLT) I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. ¹³ For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.

The hand of God is NOT the place where we are immune from life's troubles; it IS the place where they happen to us; our security is not FROM trouble but IN trouble. NBC

Your GOODNESS is Great ~ Psalm 31:19-24

¹⁹ How great is your goodness, which You have stored up for those who fear You, which you bestow in the sight of men on those who take refuge in You.

¹⁹ ...You LAVISH IT on those who come to You for protection, blessing them before the watching world. (NLT)

Psalm 119:68 (NLT) You ARE good and DO only good; teach me Your decrees.

²⁰ In the shelter of Your presence You hide them from the intrigues of men; in Your dwelling You keep them safe from accusing tongues. ²¹ Praise be to the LORD, for He showed His wonderful love to me when I was in a besieged city. ²² In my alarm I said, "I am cut off from Your sight!" Yet you heard my cry for mercy when I called to You for help.

²² I jumped to conclusions and said, "I am cut off from your presence!" But you heard my plea for mercy when I cried out to you for help. (NET)

²³ Love the LORD, all His saints! The LORD preserves the faithful, but the proud He pays back in full. ²⁴ Be strong and take heart, all you who HOPE in the LORD.

Deuteronomy 31:6 (NIV) Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you.

IMPLICATIONS

→ Don't Panic - God is GOOD ALL the TIME

²² In PANIC I cried out, "I am cut off from the LORD." But You heard my cry for mercy and answered my call for help. (NLT)

Hebrews 11:39 (NLT) All these people earned a good reputation because of their FAITH, yet none of them received ALL that God had promised.

TAKE AWAY ??

→ What could be SAFER than to be in God's PRESENCE

²⁰ In the SHELTER of Your PRESENCE You hide them

²⁰ You hide them in the PROTECTION of Your presence... (HCS)

²⁰ You hide them WITH YOU, where they are SAFE from the attacks (NET)

God, who separated the light from the darkness, is not surprised by **shadows**. Vroegop