

## **"God Is!"**

God is Sovereign. He rules, overrules, and has supreme authority. Even while the world is in a state of turmoil, God is still in complete control. Is there anything too hard for God? There is no failure in God.

### **Psalm 46:1-11 KJV**

**1** *God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.*

The psalmist begins his great declaration of faith by highlighting three attributes of God: First He is our refuge: a place of safety/shelter. He is our strength: our power and authority. He is our present Help in trouble: 24/7 He is accessible, and readily available. He is Sufficient to carry us through. If we learn to take refuge in Him alone for strength, then we are set to face any trial of life in quietness and confidence. (**Isaiah 30:15**) God is our Rock, He is our Stronghold, He is our High Tower. After we have been strengthened, we report back to active duty on the battlefield for our Lord.

When the pressures of life seem to weigh you down, and you don't know which way to turn. Stretch out in your faith! God is concerned, and He's working it out for you.

**2** *Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; **3** Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Se'-lah. (Lift up/exalt)*

Because God is, "*I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: He that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold, He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.*" (**Psalm 121:1-4 KJV**)

**4** *There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High. **5** God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.*

The city of God in the Old Testament is usually understood as Jerusalem, but there is no river flowing by or through this mountaintop city. The city's water source is the Gihon, a spring on the eastern side of the city. Jerusalem depends on water from this spring and its system of pools and cisterns with stored water. (**2 Chronicles 32:30; 33:14, 2 Kings 2:20:20**)

God is always with His people, and He will provide. Just as God is in the city and His presence is in our lives, God is the ultimate in provision. The city has a reason to be glad.

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There are times when we become exhausted as we wait for God to work out His will. Our eyes are strained from watching for some evidence of His presence. While we wait, we ask, "How long?" or "When?" These are natural responses of suffering people. Let us be reminded and encouraged that it is through faith and patience that we inherit what God has appointed for us. **(Hebrews 6:12)** Our trials will produce patience **if** we trust in the Lord. **(Matthew 13:58)** *"Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing."* **(James 1:3-4 KJV)**

**6** *The heathen raged, the Kingdoms were moved: He uttered His voice, the earth melted.* The heathen are the nations other than Israel, what the New Testament calls Gentiles. They are enemies of God and therefore enemies of Israel, God's people, **(Psalm 2:1-4)**. Just as the Lord created the earth by speaking, His mighty voice can also destroy the earth. **(Genesis 1)**

**7** *The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Se'lah. **8** Come, behold the works of the Lord, what desolations He hath made in the earth. **9** He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; He breaketh the bow, and cutteth the chariots in the fire.*

Have you ever looked back and wondered how you made it over? God's hand was evident in Israel's military successes.

**10** *Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth. **11** The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Se'lah.*

Be still; stand still and sit still. Breathe, relax, stay calm, let it go, trust God and His timing. Let God be God. Our faith grows when we have an awareness of God's presence. Spending quiet moments alone with God is so refreshing, Worship and glorify God while you endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. **(2Tim 2)**

## **Hebrews 11:1, 6**

**1** *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*

**6** *But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.*

**SONG: "SAFETY" BY LeCresia Campbell**

*"I'm in His safety, dwell in His safety, the safety of The Lord*

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