

Zoom Bible Study Workshop

Practical Wisdom for your life
August 17, 2020, 11 AM via Zoom

How to Decorate Your Tree

The world is too much with us; late and soon,
Getting and spending we lay waste our powers;
Little we see in Nature that is ours;
We have given our hearts away, in sordid boon.
William Wordsworth

My goal is God Himself; not joy, not peace, not even blessing, but Himself . . . my God
Leonard Ravenhill

It is not because angels are holier than humans or devils that makes them angels, but because
they do not expect holiness from one another, but from God alone.

William Blake

Take the world, but give me Jesus
Fanny Crosby

This world is not my home, I'm just passing through
Albert E. Brumley

Those who leave everything in God's hand will eventually see God's hand in everything.
Anonymous

Centering Question

Has there ever been a time when you were faced with a good reason not to tell the truth or not to do what otherwise you had promised to do? Do you think that these times were opportunities to see God work in your life?

This Week's Biblical Passage

Psalm 93: 1-5

¹The Lord is King, he is robed in majesty; the LORD is robed, he is girded with strength. He has established the world; it shall never be moved;

²your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.

³The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the floods have lifted up their voice ; the floods lift up their roaring.

⁴More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters, more majestic than the waves of the sea, majestic on high is the LORD!

⁵Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.

Discussion questions and Background

1. What is the relationship between the Psalmist's identification of Yahweh as having a royal majesty and the stability of nature's regularities?
2. How does this stability intersect with the Psalmist's claim that there is a great tumult occurring in the world?
3. What kind of tumult, do you think, has so frightened the Psalmist? Does he mean this literally or is there some metaphorical application?
4. Is it surprising to see that the Psalmist relates the thundering of mighty waters to the majesty of the Lord?
5. If the Lord is the source of stability in the world lived by the Psalmist, how is it clear that the instability of flooding is attributed to His majesty?
6. What is the relationship between the regularities of nature and the decrees of God for the Psalmist?

Closing Thoughts

If God commands us to be holy (and He does, Lev. 11: 44 and I Peter 1: 16; Jesus even goes so far as to command: "Be you therefore perfect as your Father in heaven is perfect." Matthew 5: 48), and if this is because He wants us to be happy (Psalm 2: 11), what is the connection between holiness and happiness?

What relevance does this question have to Paul's statement in I Corinthians 10: 13, "No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it."

Compare this with the account in Genesis 22 that begins, "After these things God tested Abraham . . ." after which testing God declares to Abraham, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."