

Series: Truth for All Time

The Watchful Eyes of the LORD Our God

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Craighouse Christian Fellowship



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“The eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong in behalf of those whose heart is perfect toward Him, or to strengthen those who are fully committed to Him.” (2 Chronicles 16:9)

In 2011 an MCM mission team returned to Israel for the fifth time since 1999 on special assignment. Then as from the beginning, the timeless truth is as God assured Jeremiah,

“I am watching over My Word to perform it” (Jeremiah 1:12); and He watches over His Word even now. The Word of the Lord stands forever.

The Holy Spirit is moving to prepare a bride in holiness, to prepare a highway of holiness for the people of God. He is roaring over the Middle East and to the mountains of Israel He will be proclaimed God the Faithful God, for He will perform His Word and fulfill His promises.

In Israel our MCM mission team declared God the Faithful and True, the Ancient of Days, the Rose of Sharon, and particularly El Roi, God Who Sees. God sees. God sees all and as the Judge of all the earth, He does right. His judgments are righteous judgments.

“The ways of a man are before the eyes of the LORD and He watches all his paths.” (Proverbs 5:21)

There is no hiding from El Roi. He sees and knows all that happens, all that happened, and all that will happen.

Psalm 139:16: **Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them. ESV**

When there is shame and guilt, we try to hide, and this tendency goes right back to the Garden. Adam and Eve started out naked and unashamed living before El Roi, but sin brought hiding and the impulse to cover up nakedness before God Who Sees. God may politely ask, “Where are you?” but He already knows where we are, who we are, what we did, why we did it, when we did it, and what will result from it. So God as El Roi may be our comfort or our terror. He is our comfort when we turn to hide in Him.

In Genesis 16 we find the story behind the revelation of God as El Roi. God had promised Abram an heir. But how? Sarai told Abram to take Hagar, her Egyptian servant, as wife. He did, and Hagar conceived. Hagar then despised Sarai. Abram turned Hagar back to Sarai after she said to Abram, “the LORD judge between me and you.” Sarai treated Hagar harshly, and Hagar fled into the wilderness from her mistress, Sarai.

The Angel of the LORD found Hagar by a fountain or spring of water, by the fountain or spring in the way to Shur. “Shur” means “fort” or “wall.” Hagar (“flight”) ran away from Sarai straight into God. Like many of us, she was running away from some oppressive situation or bad memory or from unfair treatment. But God saw her plight.

The Angel of the LORD told Hagar to return to her mistress Sarai and to submit herself under her hands. He knew she had conceived and promised to multiply her seed exceedingly, a great multitude. He told her she would bear a son and named the son Ishmael, meaning “God shall hear” or “whom God hears” because the LORD had heard her affliction. He told her what her son would be like, a wild donkey of a man whose hand would be against every man and every man’s hand against him and that he would dwell in the presence of all his brethren. (Genesis 16)

Hagar called the name of the LORD who spoke to her El Roi. El Roi saw her. The well was named Beer-lahai-roi, meaning “the well Living One Who sees me.” Built into the name El Roi are God’s attributes of omniscience and omnipresence. Idols don’t see anything. They are no-gods; but **“The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.” (Psalm 34.18)**

***Behold, He who keeps Israel
Will neither slumber nor sleep.
The LORD is your keeper.
The LORD is your shade on your right hand.
The sun will not smite you by day, nor the moon by night.
The LORD will protect you from all evil; He will keep your soul.
The LORD will guard your going out and your coming in
From this time forth and forever. Psalm 121.4-8***

The One, true and Living God always accomplishes His purposes. Hagar returned to submit to Sarai and did have a son, Ishmael. That kind of submission requires a belief that what God permits is as much His will as what He appoints. God’s permissive providence was operating.

F. B. Meyer said, “Through all the discipline of life we must believe that God has a purpose of unfailing love and wisdom. Then our submission is not stoicism, but loving acquiescence in our Father’s will.”

We are never alone, never forgotten, never beyond hope. God sees us entirely, constantly, supremely, and with eyes of holy love.

God searches the heart. Our hearts are to be repentant, circumcised, the flesh cut away so as to expose what is hidden. A circumcised heart is one that is cut so as to be

naked before a holy God, living unashamed, reconciled, redeemed, free to be the person God intended, able to function in the purposes ordered by the Lord.

The Living God Who Sees is shaking the nations, bringing down the proud heart and exalting the lowly. Before El Roi we are to repent of our sins lest we perish. God as El Roi sees our miserable estate, the sin in which we find ourselves. He sent Jesus Christ to live the obedience required by a holy and sovereign God and to die to pay the penalty for sin in order to satisfy divine justice in order that we might be reconciled to the Living God Who Sees, redeemed, and set free to know Him as our Comfort and not our terror. Jesus Christ is the only Mediator between the true God and man. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Whatever our circumstance today, God sees us. He is El Roi and He knows. He is not just omniscient and omnipresent, He is also omnipotent, all-powerful. He can move in our circumstance to heal us, save us, turn our hearts, and become our praise.

Hagar was the bondwoman and lived her life in the purposes of God. Sarai was the freewoman and her son Isaac was the child of promise, as are all those born after the Spirit. (Galatians 4:21ff)

Every true believer can discover the power of Christ's crucifixion and resurrection. Yes, death could not hold Jesus; on the Third Day, He rose again from the dead. Life is in the Spirit, the Holy Spirit. Jesus came in the power of an endless life and that life can be ours. We must be born again, born anew, born-out-of-God ones.

Ask if your name is in the Lamb's Book of Life, for as many as received Him, to them gave He power, or the right, to become the sons (children) of God, even to those who believe in His Name. The Lamb's Book of Life is a register of those chosen from eternity for salvation. It lists those termed "the Elect," those who are the recipients of God's electing love.

"But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect" (Hebrews 12:22, 23).

"But nothing unclean will ever enter it [the New Jerusalem on the New Earth], nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life" (Revelation 21:27).

John 1:12-14: ¹²But as many as received him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name: ¹³Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. John 1:12-14 KJV (See also Psalm 84.)

Revelation 13:7-9: ⁷Also it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. And authority was given it over every tribe and people and language and nation, ⁸and all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain. ⁹If anyone has an ear, let him hear: ESV

Revelation 17:8: The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to rise from the bottomless pit and go to destruction. And the dwellers on earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world will marvel to see the beast, because it was and is not and is to come. ESV

Also, whereas it can certainly be said that the Lamb of God was “foreknown before the foundation of the world” (1 Peter 1:20) and that he was “delivered up [to die] by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God” (Acts 2:23), what can it possibly mean theologically to say that the Lamb of God was “slain from the foundation of the world”? The point of the text is that the people who worship the beast do so because their names have not been written in the book of life.’ That is why they are deceived by the Beast. <https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/bible-study/10-things-to-know-about-the-lamb-s-book-of-life.html>

God sees. His Name is El Roi. There’s no point running, hiding, covering up, lying, or fooling ourselves. The thing is, the One Who Sees is also God-Who-Forgives and the One Who Saves. Today the One true God, Creator/Redeemer, is turning the battle at the gate. He has warned, admonished, spoken through the prophetic word, revealed truth in the Scripture, and declared His glory in creation. Now is the time to humble ourselves before His mighty hand. Now is the time to turn from lawlessness and from doing evil. Now is the time to seek the Lord while He may be found. Now is the time to stop the madness. For the wind of the Spirit is blowing. The Lion of Judah roars. All of humanity and creation, all of heaven and earth, all of nature and the supernatural are under the watchful eyes of the Lord. Will He be our comfort, or our terror?

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***Neither is there any creature that is not
Manifest in His sight;
But all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him
With whom we have to do...
Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we
May obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.
Hebrews 4: 13, 16 KJV***



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