

## Psalm 93

**Read Psalm 93:1-5:** God appears differently in different parts of the Bible. He does this to help us understand different aspects of his character. This psalm is a tribute to his absolute and unapproachable power. He wants us to know that he has the power to back up his word. He does not rely on anyone or anything else.

There is no singular aspect that can capture the entirety of God. It is like looking at different sides of a mountain. One side might be covered with pine trees; while other sides could be solid rock. There are places where God appears as a burning bush. There are also places where he is obscured by a covering cloud. In this place, he is securely and majestically on his throne. There are times when we need to be reminded that he absolutely does what he says. There are many who oppose him; but no person or spirit can resist him in any way.

We need to see this view of God; because we have so many doubts and fears and failures. We project our own limitations on God. Man sees God in his own world view. That becomes obvious with our idols; because we make gods to be like us. They seem to include their same weaknesses and vulnerabilities. God is not experiencing any of those things.

It is also important to see this view of God's sovereignty for our scriptural understanding. The underlying message here is that God is all powerful; and that nothing can even measure his power. God is shown here in majestic clothing. In the bible, clothing is an outward indication of an inward reality. We cannot see what is inside; so the spiritual clothes illustrate the role or position of the person. God is also shown here with a belt of strength. The belt is what keeps everything in place. God's strength allows him to make unilateral decisions and actions. By extension, what God decrees to be established will undoubtedly be set up. We need to get past the idea that he might be wrong. We project our own fickleness on our view of God.

God has established the earth, to last for a time in this place. That cannot be changed. God's also has promises about protecting us. These promises are equally valid and powerful. It is critical to understand the concepts clarified in scripture; in order to correctly interpret them. This psalm is basically telling us that God and his decrees are completely untouchable until he determines otherwise. God has unlimited power that is

uncontested. Some may oppose him; but that is inconsequential. God uses his enemies to play a role in his grand scheme.

The devil has purposed in his heart to oppose God; but he only inadvertently accomplishes what God has ordained. There is an interpretation of the first few verses in the bible that is referred to as *The Gap Theory*. The gap theory states that God created the world; and then Satan ruined it...so that it had to be re-created. That is inconsistent with what this psalm is saying. God is telling us that his throne is untouchable; and so are his decrees. Whatever fails is according to his allowance. When Jesus went to die on the cross; it was his long-term decision (to become the lamb slain before the foundation of the earth), per his father's plan. He was not taken against his will. He even proved this power to control his destiny; right up to the last moment.

*And Judas, who betrayed Him, also knew the place; for Jesus often met there with His disciples. Then Judas, having received a detachment of troops, and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons. Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, "Whom are you seeking?" They answered Him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am He." And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. Now when He said to them, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground. (John 18:2-6)*

*No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father.* (John 10:18)

Part of our developing faith is to see if we still hold to God's promises when things appear to be unraveling. There are times when I become frustrated as my plans seem to be failing. The worst thing I can do is to start chirping and whining and pushing. I find that if I just pray; and keep calm that it all works itself out. In fact, if I start reacting upon others and chastising them, I start doing more damage. *Things are not what they seem.* Wait for it.

It might be the easiest to hold onto God's promises when all of our other efforts have failed. We have no choice. There is no faith involved when we fall on our knees, after all else has failed. It's our only choice. Whenever we still think that we can get ourselves out of a jam, it becomes harder to trust God. Whenever we do not think that we have a problem doing it on our own, it is harder to ask God for help. It is also interesting to see

how quickly we go back to worrying when a new situation that is out of our control comes along.

There are some comments here about dangerous waves. The scriptures compare waves crashing on the beach to the uprisings against God. The ocean itself is compared to the nations of the world. The breakers do not go anywhere; but they seem to have a lot of potential for damage at their peak. Waves are partially driven by winds. The winds are compared to unseen demonic intimidating forces in this world. In other words; we see big intimidating and scary waves over and over...but they have their boundaries set by God. God has allowed the nations to rise up in rebellion to him; but they have their boundaries.

*...raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever. (Jude 1:13)*

*Do you not fear Me? 'says the Lord. 'Will you not tremble at My presence, Who have placed the sand as the bound of the sea, By a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass beyond it? And though its waves toss to and fro, Yet they cannot prevail; Though they roar; yet they cannot pass over it. But this people has a defiant and rebellious heart; They have revolted and departed. (Jeremiah 5:22-23)*