

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ...



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Psalm 23:4 – “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
For You *are* with me”

We spend our lives looking forward to TOMORROW, only to discover that when tomorrow finally does show up it is just TODAY, again. Perhaps this is why disappointment is too often our constant companion. We build into those nebulous tomorrows all of our great expectations, then TODAY shows up devoid of our expectations, and when our dreams do not connect with our reality, we mourn over what never was.

What do you suppose would happen if we decided to trust God without running that trust through our negative circumstances? What if we lived every day with the mindset that TODAY really is the day the Lord has made, and we can rejoice “in spite of” because we know that the day to which the Psalmist refers is the day that the stone the builders rejected became the Chief Cornerstone. As a result of this knowledge, the joy of my salvation will not (should not) dissipate simply because things do not go the way I want them to go.

Some things we already know: God loves us absolutely and unconditionally. He loves us with no strings attached. He will never leave us nor forsake us. He is ever with us. We must learn to practice the presence of the God who cares, to look for him in everything rather than look at everything that has gone wrong, those unexpected life reversals and the oh-so barren places. When we do this, maybe, just maybe, we will not so readily give in to disappointment and despair because we know without a doubt that Jehovah Shammah (The Lord is Present) is always with us.

I began to live as if there were no one save God and me in the world.”
~Brother Lawrence, from *PRACTICE THE PRESENCE OF GOD*

Let the church say “Amen.”