

"Look unto the fields. . ."

SHAD WILLIAMS EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION

GLOBAL FIELD EVANGELISM

A VERY PRESENT HELP

Dearly beloved, are your circumstances calm and peaceful today? Are you just sort of rolling along through life with little or no disturbance, no real problems to speak of, no bills unpaid or needs unmet? Or, are you like some of the rest of us who are facing some really big challenges to faith today? Well, if it is all "Okay" with you at the moment, I suggest you enjoy it, praise God and give Him credit for it, and keep a weather eye out for approaching storms. But, if everything is NOT smooth sailing for you today, if you are facing problems for which there seems to be no solution and needs for which there appears to be no supply, then I have a very good word for you. There is a "**very present Help**" available to you – RIGHT NOW!

So that you will know that I am not speaking to you from a vacuum, I will share with you that this morning Sheila and I are passing through what looks like very adverse circumstances. We are leaving this Thursday for our next campaign in Kenya – and – at the moment we are many thousands of dollars away from having the necessary funds for the project and we have NO idea as to where it could possibly come from. So you might say we are in a storm. I tell you this, not to evoke sympathy or some response from you, but just to let you know that I know EXACTLY how you feel. But, I also want you to know that you do not have to fear. Remember – circumstances are ALWAYS temporary and they NEVER have the final word. "Why should I fear in days of adversity? (Psalm 49:5)"

This morning as I looked across the next few days, God reminded me of a wonderful truth and I want to pass it on to you. It is helping me today and calming my heart and I am sure it will have the same effect on you. Psalm 46:1-2 reads, "**God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear.**" The phrase "very present" literally means ABUNDANTLY AVAILABLE. Dear friend, if you are passing through some challenging circumstance today, please know that God is not only present, but VERY present. He, and all of His power and resources, is abundantly available to you at THIS moment. Are your circumstances making you feel vulnerable and weak? Do you feel threatened by them? Well, the word "refuge" means protection and the word "strength" means boldness and power. Do not allow Satan to make you tremble and cower in fear and timidity. Rather, run into the arms of your Father and boldly, loudly declare, HE is my VERY present help and I am trusting HIM - RIGHT NOW.

In Daniel 3:16-18, the three Hebrews boldly declared to the King that God was going to deliver them from the fire, but even if He didn't they would not worship a false god. So, either way, Satan lost. They were thrown into the fire, but they were not alone. There was a "Fourth Man" there also - Jesus. He was not just present, He was VERY present. He was not outside spouting promises - He was in the midst of the fire WITH them. When the disciples were in the ship in the storm (Mark 4:35-41) Jesus was not standing on the shore shouting words of encouragement. He was IN the boat WITH them. Dear friends, Jesus is not out there somewhere apart from what you are going through today. He is WITH you, right in the midst of your circumstances. He is your **VERY PRESENT HELP** - RIGHT NOW.

Now, do I want my circumstances to change today? Of course I do. Do I like the idea of getting on a plane this Thursday to go to Africa without the money I need? No, I don't. Who would? Do I know how God is going to deliver us? No, not a clue. BUT, what I do know is that while we are packing our bags and waiting on Him, He is right here in the midst of these circumstances WITH us. He is our **ABUNDANTLY AVAILABLE HELP** in this time of trouble. And so He is in yours as well. Dear friend, in all honesty, if I did not KNOW for a FACT that Jesus is walking WITH us through this situation step by step, I would come unglued today. But I DO know and I am moment by moment drawing upon our VERY PRESENT HELP. I am grateful to say that it is working - and it will work for you, too.

If your sailing is smooth today, great - but if the sea gets rough, don't panic. Just look around and you will see that He is IN the boat WITH you. Oh, and by the way – He is not only VERY present, but He is also VERY good at calming the sea.

Much love in Jesus,



"We Go To Them"

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