

Wisdom not Worry
Wednesday, May 6, 2020
Psalm 91:14

"Because he loves me," says the Lord, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledged my name."

As we come to the last stanza of the ninety-first Psalm, a very special shift occurs. The voice of the narrator changes. In the first two stanzas, the anonymous Psalmist refers briefly to himself in the first person (vs. 2), then throughout, to the saint in the second person, and, the *Most High*, in the third person. All of the sudden, in verse 14, there is a new voice, it is the voice of the Divine, what we call, an oracle. The voice of God Most High resounds in conclusion. Even as we confess that the whole of this Psalm is Scripture, is Divinely inspired and without error, this oracle is a wonderful distinction. The voice of the *Almighty* is a fearsome and terrible thing, when it echoed down from Mount Horeb the people were aghast with fear and humble reverence. When the voice of YHWH has been heard, it has had the power to create, the authority to demand law or pronounce judgement, and too, the mercy of promised deliverance.

As we humble ourselves at the terrific voice of Jehovah, perhaps we hear His law, His righteous demands, there is a sense of this in the text; *Because he holds fast to Me, I will deliver him*. There seems to be an "if, then", a "because, therefore" expressed, a notion that Divine deliverance is dependent upon human effort, our expressions toward Him. Certainly there have been those who thought this way throughout history. Many Jews would have countenanced their *love* toward God in their efforts to please and appease by keeping His law, still many today would quantify their *love* toward the LORD in terms of their obedience, their time spent in adoring worship, or striving for mercy and justice. The connection to God shown here in this Psalm has never been one of an "if and then", and it is a good thing. Reflect on your own experience during the current global unpleasantness. Could your time spent since the March 23 interruption be characterized by your love for God, by your obedience to His demands? If you are like me, most definitely not.

The law of this Psalm, is that the reader *love* God, and this has always been the law of God, *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength*. -Deut. 6:5. The Hebrew expression for *love* in this Psalm is actually, "cling adoringly", and this is the gospel of this verse. Only Jesus loved and clung to Him so adoringly, so faithfully in *love* that He was perfectly obedient, to the law, and unto death on a cursed tree. The gospel declares what love truly is; *This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins*. -I John 4:10

Consider this day what a grace it is that your connection to the Most High cannot be earned, or qualified by your attempts at affection in this distracted time. If anyone has been delivered, it is because of the *love* that God has for His Son, and the *love* that has been expressed in Christ's righteous expiation. The promise is deliverance, that God will set the humble believer on high with Himself, through a closeness and a knowledge of the *name*, the character of the One who speaks.