HELEN SANDERS 12-8-2023 OUR HIDING PLACE

As we prepare ourselves for what is inevitable according to the scriptures, I am drawn to the Word of God for our source of strength. The Word of God is described In Hebrews 4:12, *"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."* 

Again, in Psalm149:6 it tells us, *"Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand."* 

The sword that is two-edged is the sharpest sword there is. It cuts in both directions. God uses his word as a sword to cut away our flesh and as a mirror of what is in our heart. As we spend time in the word of God, we have a choice. To yield to it, or to be cut by it. I prefer the yielding, but there are many times that the cutting has had to take place.

As we spend more and more time in the word of God it becomes our hiding place. It is our strength. It produces faith for us to tackle whatever lies before us because we don't do it in our strength. The word is our strength and gives us the victory.

As I was studying the Word this morning the Lord led me to a promise. Many are concerned as to what they will do if war comes to our country and there are limited resources. This promise is found in Psalm 33:18-19 for those that reverence the Lord and spend time in his presence. It reads this way, *"Behold, the eye of the LORD (Yhovah) is upon them that fear (reverence) him, upon them that hope in his mercy: 19 To deliver (rescue, recover, save, preserve, without fail) their soul from death (natural death) and to keep them alive in famine."* 

As we spend time in the presence of God through reading His Word and reverencing him, we should not have any fear. He will rescue us from death and provide food in time of famine. Take this verse literally. I am. I put him in remembrance of this promise and trust that He cannot lie. While I wait for whatever needs I have in the presence of my enemies I spend my time in praise. For praise and the two-edged sword will give us the victory.