

HE IS!

Pastor James

www.gracetabernaclehyd.org

Father this morning we come to You by faith, we don't even have to go far to come to You, You are right here among us and for those who are saved in us. Let every other voice be stilled, let anxiety, fear, worry be cast out, let our spirits be sensitive to hear a gentle whisper of the Holy Spirit and our minds receive the Spirit of wisdom and revelation to understand the principles of the Kingdom of God to that end Lord, we here, and everyone who is listen online, around the world, we commit ourselves one Lord, one Word, one Body, be magnified Lord in our midst. For You have magnified Your Word above all Your Name. To that end I commit this time, in Jesus' name I pray Amen, Amen, Amen.

We've been looking at how the enemy steals and how the Lord gives. In *John 10:10*, Scriptures says,

John 10:10

¹⁰ The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

That's how Jesus is always; every time He comes He comes to give life. He doesn't come to give death, He comes to give life. Okay, He comes to give life, death is later, judgment is later, now when He comes He comes to give life. So whenever you come to Jesus do not be satisfied with the life of God you have. Because He wants to give us more, more. But there is an enemy, he come to steal, he never changes; he comes to kill, he comes to destroy. And we saw what all causes loss, death, destruction. Primarily it is ignorance. First platform is ignorance. That's why Jesus tells gives His disciples the command – "Go and preach! Even at the cost of your lives, because the message is worth it. Go preach, go teach make a disciples of all nations." Why? Otherwise they will perish because they do not have the knowledge of how God works and how His Kingdom functions, then it will be too late because then judgment will be set.

So people primarily perish because of lack of knowledge; the knowledge of God. Then where the knowledge of God is there people still perish because to receive that knowledge there is a culture, there is atmosphere rather which is the atmosphere of meekness – '*receive with meekness*' that's what the Word of God says through Apostle James and Jesus Himself will says, "Learn of Me, I am meek." He says, "You have to learn from Me and you have to learn of Me. Before you can learn from Me you have to learn of Me; be like Me." Be meek because only the meek can be taught. The proud cannot be taught. So the Bible says that pride also goes before destruction. So never come into the presence of God even for your morning Bible study thinking you know everything because the truth is that we know nothing, we know nothing. Okay, in the light of who God is we hardly know anything. That's why we encourage you over and over again those who know nothing come to the house of God with note book and pen. And those who know everything sit there like statues, and live like statues and go into eternity like statues okay. But those who do not know will always be taking notes because they know that they do not know and they don't even trust their memory because they know that they will forget, so they need points to remember.

But Christ comes to bless and He has already done. In Ephesians chapter 1 and verse 3 says,

Ephesians 1:3

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

It's done! There to here, right? There to here it's done. Now there are a lot of people in so many nations listening to us now. Okay, of course they will receive it 45 second later than you but they will receive it why because the message is in the air which they cannot see, they need to believe that it is being preached, they need to login to the internet, to YouTube or FaceBook, it is there. Can they see it? No, but if they believe and login, they can see it. So every blessing is first spiritual, it is not physical. Every blessing is first and foremost spiritual. The purpose of hearing the Word of God is so that faith will come and we learn how to bring it into our realm. So God has already done it, God is not going to do, He has already done it. We have already blessed with every spiritual blessing. Where? In the heavenly realms, in whom? In Christ Jesus.

So the first condition is be in Christ. Second, know where it is. Third, understand how you bring what you need into your lives to full fill God's purpose and His will. In the 2 Peter chapter 1 and verse 3 the Bible says,

2 Peter 1:3

³ as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,

His divines power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness. He has given all things no He will give, has given, all things that pertain to life and godliness, but how? Through the knowledge of Him, that's why we need the knowledge of God. Who is God? How does He function? That's why Jesus said, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness," okay His righteousness. He didn't say, "Seek righteousness," He says, "Seek the Kingdom of God and His righteousness," and His righteousness come only one way, it's only by faith. There is no other way you can receive the righteousness of God other than by faith. And you know what? For both you need to listen carefully. Because faith comes from hearing. And the knowledge of God comes from hearing. So it is given it is done, it is given it is done.

Unlike any other book, please remember, the Bible is the Book of faith. What did I say? Bible is the book of faith. It's not a scientific book, though there is information that will blow the mind of the scientist away, because it is far ahead of science, far ahead of science. But it's not a scientific book primarily, it's not a historical book, though it précised history. It is not a geographical book though there is geography there. It's a book of faith. This was for which the elders were commended, by faith we know. See, the Bible does not begin with an explanation because it is not a scientific book. It begins by saying, 'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.' So the Bible can be understood only by faith. There is no other way you will understand this Book. Otherwise it will become a historical book, you will look at geography and make a map and how Israel moved and all that. It is all good. You look for scientific errors and you will become a fool at the end of it, because science is still trying to catch up. But the key to the Kingdom of God is faith. So if you don't bring faith even this morning as you are listening to the Word of God, you may receive some principles, because even people who don't believe read this Book. But sometime they read this Book more often than others. Because this Book also offers wonderful principle of how to live. The book of Proverbs is the wonderful book of proverbs; you will receive the principles of how to live.

But let me tell you, if there is no faith you will not encounter God. To encounter God you need faith, when it comes to God, knowledge does not comes first, knowledge is second. What comes first is faith. Knowledge doesn't come first, we have to grow in the knowledge of God. That's Peter's exhortation, grow in the grace and in the knowledge of God, but knowledge does not come first, faith comes first, faith comes first. When it comes about faith, it's in a person. Faith is not to get things, faith is not about succeeding, faith is in a person. In one single person called God, faith in a person. Over 4000 years ago standing before a burning bush and the bush refused to be consumed, standing bare foot and the voice of God was speaking to him from the fire, Moses asked this question, primarily meaning, "Who are You? If people ask me, 'Who sent you?' what do I tell them? What is Your name?"

Because names mean something. Big name, name is your identity, we had naming ceremony today; a baby was named, right? Evan Zayden was named. But how do you name God? What name can hold Him? What name can hold Him? So God says, "This is who I AM. I AM WHO I AM. I AM WHO I AM." That's who God is, "I AM WHO I AM." Who are You? And God says, "I AM WHO I AM." So the writer of the Hebrews, through the Holy Spirit, in Hebrews 11 and verse 6 says,

Hebrews 11:6

⁶ But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, not knowledge first, faith first. Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a Rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. Did you see that, the first thing? So we have so many definitions from the Bible it's self about what faith is. Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things unseen. And all correct. But what is the personal definition of faith? Personal definition of faith is when I go to God He is. What is faith? He is! He is! If you know God is, here and now, many of your attitudes would be different; your attitudes are not what it should be because 'He is' not for you. He is! He is! That's way your spirit will be sensitive to hear, "Lord, I know Pastor is speaking, but I know

he is not speaking, I know You will speak to me today before the service is over. You will speak, because You are 'He is'."

Anyone who comes to God must believe that He is. He is because if you don't believe that He is, you will not seek Him. Do you seek anything that is in yesterday? No. You don't because it was, it was, you don't seek anything and something that is in 2023 are you seeking it now? No, because you are not even sure, not it will be, it may be. What it that you seek? What is, what is, what is?

So is He present for you, because anyone who comes to God must believe that He is. That's what the writer of the Hebrews will say, "Keep your eyes fixed on Christ Jesus." This is the eye of your spirit, the eye of your mind - keep your eye fixed on Christ Jesus; be focused and come focused. There is more preparation to hear the Word of God than anything else in life because to hear that Voice, to hear that Voice. When the great prophet of God broke under pressure, buckled and wanted to kill himself, to hear the voice of God, to give him a complete change of direction in his life God had to angelically feed him, through angels feed him twice, and cause him to walk 40 days away from the presence of the every human being, bring him to the top of the mountain, keep him in a cave, and then have all kind of manifestations and then speak in a whisper before he could hear. The preparation for a prophet to hear.

That's why today we do not have prophets like the Old Testament prophets. We don't have. We have the gift of the prophecy. Very, very, rarely do we have prophets, because a prophet is chosen in his mother's womb and his entire life is preparation to hear, to hear the voice of God. It's not easy to hear the voice of God. No, we are not prophets but to hear the voice of God there is a preparation, preparation okay. And the preparation doesn't start on Sunday morning, it starts much before that, "Lord I need to hear, I believe He is." That's why we keep telling come before worship begins, come before the King comes. Okay, these are thing you need to take seriously, as far as possible if it is beyond you unforeseen circumstances, I am telling you because we have live in this democratic setup we don't understand how monarchy works. The kings in an actual monarchy, the king comes last and once the king comes the doors are shut, nobody enters after that; every subject has entered and taken his appointed place before the king enters, before the king enters.

So if that is what we do for an earthly monarch. See, these things can be done only personally, not corporately, corporately it can be only taught. Personally it can only be obeyed every day, every day. That's why we say, "Seek ye first, first." Because He is a Servant King, because He is a gently King, because He is a kind King and He doesn't take in His own word, He doesn't take pleasure even in the death of the wicked He still speaks, to unruly subjects. If He went by the standard of the earthly monarch He shouldn't be speaking to anyone of us. But He is not that kind; He is a Servant King and He doesn't take pleasure in the destruction of anyone, even the wicked. So He still speaks to us. But our duty is to keep our eyes fixed on Him, because anyone comes first thing we have to believe He is. For He is Rewarder of those we diligently seek Him.

What do you seek this morning? See there are four gospels, right? Matthew, Mark, Luke, John. You should never lose that, okay never lose that in your life. We have, what is called, the Red letter Bible. Do you know what a Red letter Bible is? It is where the actual words Jesus spoke is written in red. If you open the Gospel according to Matthew, first time you read, it is Jesus speaking to John about the baptism, "*It is meet proper for all righteousness to be fulfilled that you baptize Me.*" Okay if you go to Gospel according to Mark, it is written – *then Jesus started preaching*, "*Repent for the Kingdom of God is here.*" If you go to the Gospel according to Luke, Jesus speaks at the age of the 12, "*Why were you seeking Me?*" You know your hair should stand up, really when you read it. You know unlike the rest of the Bible which He spoke through men, you know He is speaking, "*Why do you seek Me? Did you not know I was at My Father's business?*" and in the Gospel according to John, the first words He speaks is, "*What do you seek?*" He is the Rewarder of those who diligently seek healing? He heals, but that's not what is written. Does it say, those who are seeking prosperity? He prospers people. Is it, those who are seeking for exaltation? He exalts people, but that's not what is written. It is - *those who diligently seek Him.*

So the question Jesus asked is the question ringing through centuries – *What do you seek?* This morning what do you seek? He is the rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. And those who seek Him must first believe that He is. None of us, even in this entire lifetime, will really get to know God fully, because it's simply impossible, impossible. But every time you come to God you should go back with knowing Him little better, a little more and that is going to happened only if you come by faith and faith says, 'He is!' God says, "I AM who I Am," faith says, "He is who He says He is," not was, He is! Let me tell, you faith is more than knowledge, faith is experience, faith is experience. You need knowledge, but like Pastor Vijay was using, I think last Sunday he was taking about it - faith is when you move from

the theory class to the lab. In the lab suddenly you realize theory is not working, faith is where you encounter the Person of God, it's an experience you encounter God. You know 'He is,' you know He is not what was told to you; He is no longer your father's God, your grandfather's God, He becomes your God. God will first come and say, "Jacob, I am the God of your father Isaac, and your father Abraham." One day Jacob will say, "the God of Jacob." He is no longer his father's God, or his grandfather's God, He is, "The God of Jacob. My blessing I have exceeded," why? Because he knows God now better than his father or his grandfather because it is an experience. So faith is an experience where you really encounter the living God. Faith every time goes to God and believes that He is now, He is now.

In Romans 14 and verse 23 it's another illustration or another view or understanding of what faith is?

Romans 14:23

²³ But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because he does not eat from faith; for whatever is not from faith is sin.

He who doubts is condemn if he eats because he does not eat from faith, whatever is not from faith is sin. Okay, whatever is not of faith is sin and whatever is of faith is not sin. It is righteousness. Whatever is from faith is righteousness. Whatever is not of faith is sin. Meaning, you came to church and you are sitting right in church, but you have not come in faith, your very presence in the house of God is sin. Because you have not come in faith, you don't have to one thing to sin, all you have to do is miss faith, because whatever is not of faith is sin. I am not saying that you are judged, I am saying it's a sin. Because faith always begets God's sons. And unbelief and sin always begets slaves. God has only sons, He has no slaves. The enemy has only slaves whom he calls sons, but they are not sons, they are slaves.

I have this excitement of birthing children online, that's a different, different joy when you minister online and you birth children. So this week a birth a young man was 18 years old, birthed a young man in Christ. So when I wrote him a second time I said, "Be safe son." Immediately he responded back and said, "Are you my father?" I said, "No, I am your spiritual father in Christ." That transition takes place just like that; from slave to son, because faith begets sons, unbelief which leads to sin begets slaves. God has only sons. The Bible says that *sons abide in His house foreve* .

So let us be a son today or a daughter today. And it is by faith. Don't flip like this – sons, slaves, slaves, son, son, slave son. No! Be a son, be a daughter, stay in faith, stay in Christ. We saw in Galatians 3:14 about,

Galatians 3:14

¹⁴ that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Through faith what do we receive? We receive the Spirit of God, when we receive the Spirit of God what do we become? We become sons of God, daughters of God. Sons and daughters of God, this is the blessing of Abraham. God doesn't come to curse, He comes to bless. And what is the greatest blessing you can receive from God? "You are My child, you are My child, you are My son, you are My daughter." So Romans 8 verse 15 and 16 says,

Romans 8:15-16

¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

For you did not receive the spirit of bondage. What does the devil give you? The spirit of slavery, it is always in fear. What does God give you? He will give you the Spirit of adoption. See the "S" is capital, the Spirit of adoption by whom, by that Spirit we cry out, "Abba Father!" and the Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit we are children of God. That's why you cannot prove to somebody "I am a child of God" because it's your witness; the Spirit of God tells your spirit, "You are My son." You don't need a birth certificate, you don't need to prove. God says, "You don't worry, death will show that your spiritual DNA was of God." You cannot prove to the skeptics and to atheist. But you are God's child, how do you know? How do you know, what is the fine, you can go through all this rituals of the church and be absolutely not sure. Yet you can have not gone through anything of the church and know for sure, because you believed, "Verily I tell you today you shall be in paradise with Me" in an instant a slave became a son and he is paradise. Because the Spirit gives witness that you are the child of God. That's a primary Witness, that's primary Witness. That is the Witness. That is the blessing of Abraham. What have we become? We have become sons and the daughters of the living God. And every time as a son and as a daughter you go to a heavenly Father

believe that He is, He is; He is your Father; He is your God and He wants to reveal Himself to you. The question is, Lord open my ears. Not He was, not He will be. This was and will be, is useless today. I am very hungry, do you have food? "I have ordered, it will come tomorrow." Is it going to feed today's hungry? No. "I had but I finished," that was yesterday. God has given only, in the Bible it is very clear, a day called 'today', not yesterday or tomorrow, but 'today'. About tomorrow you should always say, "If the Lord wills," we are not sure. Even about traveling, James says, "If the Lord wills," only today. So the Bible says, "Today, when you hear His voice," Today, not tomorrow, but today. So God is always with His children today, not yesterday or tomorrow, though He is there in the yesterdays and there in the tomorrows because He is outside time but we experience Him and we have to experience Him today, because you and I need solutions today.

Genesis 15:1

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward."

The question is, this is God's voice to Abraham, the question is – does Abraham believe? No! It's knowledge. Has it become faith? No! It hasn't become faith. How do you know? Because even when he is 99 years old and his 90 year old wife is pregnant and they go to Gerar he tells his wife, "Please say that you are my sister otherwise somebody may kill me and take you." Does he believe that God is his Shield? No! So all this knowledge of God is useless if you don't believe, even for Abraham it is useless if he doesn't believe. He may believe for a child, when God says, but the same man may not believe God is not able to protect his wife and the child. That's what happens to us; we may be able to believe for one thing from God and totally not believe in another thing, and what happens? the enemy takes over, he takes over. That's the things we have to fight in our mind. He is, He is yet thousand years later, son of Abraham, one of the sons of Abraham, the man whom God really loved and who loved God, in Psalm 3 verse 1 and 2,

Psalm 3:1-2

¹ LORD, how they have increased who trouble me! Many are they who rise up against me.² Many are they who say of me, "There is no help for him in God." Selah

³ But You, O LORD, are a shield for me, My glory and the One who lifts up my head.

Lord how they have increased to trouble me many are they who rise up against me many are they who say of me there is no help for him in God, Selah! and he pauses and you know what's his response is in verse 3? but You O Lord are a shield for me, my Glory and One who lifts up my head. He says, you know what? You are my Shield. Where the father failed, the son does not fail, "You, O' Lord, are my Shield. He is my Shield." You know what he is saying? "You're not just the One who protects me, You are my Protection. You are my Protection, You are not somebody who protects me, You Yourself are my Protection. If I am in You, if I am surrounded by You, there's nothing or nobody who can touch me."

Do you know whom he is running from? He is running from his own son, from Jerusalem. An old man, running from his own city because his son has taken over the kingdom and he wants to kill his father. Do you know what he says? You are my Shield, you are my Shield, You are not only the One who protects me, You are my Protection. That's why God loved this man, even today Abel was reading from another Psalm. These all are Psalms of David, 150 Psalms, at least 77 are his and each one is not the knowledge of God, it is faith, it is an experience with the living God. Reading that we will get knowledge and we struggle with faith. He was not a wise man like his son but he was man who knew God through his encounters with God. "You are my Shield, You are my Shield." That's why testimonies are important, your personal testimony, your encounters with God are important, where you are able to say, you are able to pass it on to the another generation, 'I know I know God has, God has, I know God has.' Your personal testimonies are important because you cannot just walk with the knowledge of God, you need to have faith and faith means He is. "I know Him, I encountered God. I know He was there. I know He is my Shield. He is my Protection, He is not just my Protector, He is my Protection."

When God created us Adam and Eve, when God created us, man was created in glory, he was covered and surrounded with glory. That was how he was created, in God's image, full of glory. When man sinned, the first thing he loses is glory. That's why they realize that they are naked and they are ashamed, naked and they are ashamed. Now devil know it very well. In Matthew chapter 4 verse 8 and 9,

Matthew 4:8-9

⁸Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."

That's what the devil offers every man, every day and that's why we run after glory, because deep inside we want to cover our shame, we are ashamed of something. We don't feel equal to somebody, so we try to find, find glory, in the same portion, in the Gospel according to Luke, he will talk about authority and glory. That's why we are not satisfied with the basic things. We need a thing which is basic, with glory. That's why we keep on upgrading everything from phone to cars and we are not satisfied with the house we have lived for so many years and the minute money comes in, we call and we renovate it, because everything is connected to glory. But do you know that this glory is vain? Vain meaning, it's not that it is not real, but it never lasts, it fades away, it fades away. And that is how the devil fools us, with vain glory, it fades. How much joy do you have in last year's results? "GAP 10 out of 10!" where is the glory? It was last year. This year you found out that 10 more students got 10 out of 10.

Give me one thing where glory lasts in this world? Nothing lasts. Absolutely nothing lasts. This entire world system is built on vain glory and God says, "Don't be part of it, don't be part in that rat race. Everything that you need I will add to your life, don't run after this vain glory." Think about the great ones of the past, they are really, really, great. Today we don't add 'great' to anybody's name and even if we add it is meaningless. We used to say, 'Akbar the great' today's government in another five years there will be no Akbar the great, Akbar won't even be there in history books. Forget 'great'. We are rewriting history because we are ashamed. We are ashamed of the fact that we are 85% of the population and one small group of people came and took over our country. We are ashamed. We want to rewrite the British history because we are ashamed that one tiny little nation from faraway place came over and took us over. We are ashamed. You can't change the history. And we don't have to be ashamed because when we were in Christ, Christ gave us an absolutely new beginning and canceled all history.

Shame and glory. We are trying to cover our shame. Okay. That's why I said that you should study to acquire knowledge, not for glory. If you study for glory that glory will never satisfy you. Knowledge is useful, anything you do. Kings of the past, legends of the past, we had interesting pictures of the two legends sitting side-by-side and Nadal was weeping because Federal is retiring. It is true! He's weeping because one legend has retired. Don't worry Nadal your time is coming; you too will retire. I am waiting for Nadal to retire, because when Sachin retired I retired, so when Nadal retires pastor Vijay will retire. After that no more cricket for me. I finished! When Sachin retired I retired. When Nadal retires he will retire, he will have more time on his hands.

Isaiah 14:6-7

⁶He who struck the people in wrath with a continual stroke, He who ruled the nations in anger, Is persecuted and no one hinders.⁷ The whole earth is at rest and quiet; They break forth into singing.

Isaiah 14:9-11

⁹"Hell from beneath is excited about you, to meet you at your coming; It stirs up the dead for you, all the chief ones of the earth; It has raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations.¹⁰ They all shall speak and say to you: 'Have you also become as weak as we? Have you become like us?' ¹¹Your pomp is brought down to Sheol, and the sound of your stringed instruments; The maggot is spread under you, and worms cover you.'

Hell from beneath is excited about you, not 'Heaven from above is excited' but hell from beneath is excited about you to meet you at your coming. It stirs up the dead for you all the chief ones of the earth it has raised up from thrones all the kings of the nations. They shall speak and say to you, 'Have you also become as weak as we? Have you become like us?' Your pomp is brought down to Sheol, your glory has been brought down to sheol, and the sound of your stringed instruments, the maggot is spread under you and worms cover you.

What a nice covering! Even though we have this spectacular eight days ceremony with four billion people watching the final day, the truth is, if you were to open the casket one layer of masked maggots, another layer of maggots, that is your glory of being Britannica for 70 years. Where you have gone, God knows. I don't know, I am not a judge, where you have gone only He knows. Remember pomp and glory? This is the truth of what God is talking about. We are ashamed, we are ashamed. Even Moses when he came down from the mountain, after being in the presence of God for so many days there was this glory on his face, they said, "Cover your face," but you know that, that glory faded. Because flesh cannot hold glory. It will fade away, it will fade away. That's why in our generation we have all

these pictures and videos of past glory. We store them until we guess the message from iCloud, "Your storage is full, please buy," then we debate, "Is it worth paying for past glory?" Psalm 3 verse 3, so how do I have glory that lasts?

Psalm 3:3

³ But You, O LORD, are a shield for me, My glory and the One who lifts up my head.

But You O Lord are my shield You are my glory. He is my glory, He is my glory that glory can never fade, that crown is never taken away. He is my glory. That's why God says, "If anyone wants to glory, let him glory that he knows Me." That is my glory – He is my glory. If He is my glory and God approves of me, it does not matter what the world says. It does not matter what the world says if God approves of me. You know what? I can go through any situation and do you what I experience in those situations? You don't have to be discouraged and put your head down, you don't have to be ashamed and put your heads down, you do not have to be depressed and put your head down, because you know what He is? He is the lifter of your head. He is the lifter of your head. He is my glory because when you are ashamed you put your head down. He says, "You don't have to. If you see," God's says, "Me as your glory, you will see that I will always lift your head; you will never have to be ashamed." You never have to be ashamed. But if you look for the any other glory, let me tell you, it always comes with shame because within a few minutes, hours or days you will see that somebody has more glory than you, that glory never last.

He is my Shield, He is my glory, therefore I don't have to hang my head in fear. I don't have to hang my head in shame. Discouragement, depression, nothing. So the question this morning is - who is your glory? What is your glory? What do you find glory in? Who is your glory? What is your glory? Look at all these people, they will all fade away, all them will fade away. *But You O Lord are my Shield my Protection and my Glory.* Do you know what he is saying? Do you know when he is saying? When I come back you know what people will say, "King David coming back. Do you know who went after? His own son. Do you who took the throne? His own son. Do you know what he did to his father's wives?" "But Father, You know me; I have only gloried in You and I can walk through the streets of Jerusalem with my head high because You will lift my head."

No man could have walked in more shame than he, because this is what his own son did to him. Do you know what he says? "*You are my Shield, you are my Glory, you are the Lifter of my head .*" Think about it, can you go through any more demeaning experience in life? But when you see, He is your glory, He is the lifter of your head. That's how you will live. That's how you will walk. And who is He who is your Shield, your Glory and the Lifter of your head? Who is He? Psalm 10 and verse 16,

Psalm 10:16

¹⁶ The LORD is King forever and ever; the nations have perished out of His land.

The Lord is King forever and ever. Who is He, tell me? Who is the King forever on earth? Nobody. 'President for life' he also dies. Monarch, 'longest reigning monarch' she also died. But who are You (who is God?)? Who is God? My Glory, my Lifter, You live forever, forever and ever. So I would rather glory in something or somebody who is forever and ever. And who is the King? The Lord is King and He is King forever and ever and ever and ever.

So if you want boast, boast in Christ. If you want glory in your accomplishments, boast in what God has done through you. Not what you have done. Be sure that it is God who did. God has done through you, because you know what? It is glory forever because He is a King forever. That's why the Bible says, "Christ in us, the hope of our glory." So He is my Shield, He is my Glory and He is the Lifter of my head. And be very sure. It does not matter what happens on earth, if you have sought Him and you have found Him, on that day you won't be ashamed. Because the Bible says that on that Day many will be ashamed, believers will be ashamed. You don't have to be ashamed, you don't have to be ashamed. God says, "You don't have to be ashamed."

So any one who comes to Him must believe that He is. He is! It is not how smart I am, but it is, "How great the Thou art! How great Thou art!" Look at Joseph, look at Daniel, these simple men who went through experiences, none of us will ever have to go through their rigors, but every time when they were called and put into a situation they would always say, 'O' king, our lord," they didn't say, "how smart I am." They said, "How great He is!" So they boasted in their God. One Hebrew boy in Egypt boating in his God, one Hebrew boy in Babylon boasting in his God, they found that He was their glory and He was the Lifter of their heads. So Joseph is lifted from the pit to the palace because his glory was God and He became the lifter of his head. And the kings say that he wanted to lift him among the three satraps to the highest, because Daniel gloried in his God, therefore God was the lifter of his head.

In Psalm 18 David is facing another situation.

Psalm 18:1

¹ I will love You, O LORD, my strength.² The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

What can you say to this man? And he is not sitting in a church happy, all settled, had heavy breakfast. No. He is running from king Saul. All his Psalms are his experiences when people are chasing to kill him. Do you know what he says? "You, O Lord. He is my strength." What is your strength? Money? Education? Resume? Young people gym? What is your strength? Young ladies, your looks? 'It doesn't matter, I can always hook one'? What is your strength? Because people find their strength in so many things. That's what the Bible says - beauty is vain, charm is deceitful. Are you getting it? Who is your strength?

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

⁹ And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰ Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

He said to me My grace is sufficient for your for My strength is made perfect in weakness. You know often this is one of the things which God tells us if you listen carefully, "You are fighting the very things which I am trying to make you weak. So that you will know Me as your strength." He is not going to be my strength unless I am weak. But who wants to be weak? That's why God keeps telling Israel, "After I have done all this, this, this, and prospered you and everything, do not forget who made you prosperous." 'Jeshurun grew fat and he kicked God.' That's why he says, "When I am weak then I am strong." You can never experience the strength of God in any area where you are strong. He is not your strength, you are your strength. Abraham was rich in the Ur of the Chaldeans, Abraham was rich in Haran, Abraham was rich in the Promise Land, Abraham was rich in throughout his life, but if he has to experience God as a Jehovah Jireh, my Provider, it has to be on Mount Moriah where he is poor and all he can offer is his son and God says, "Don't kill him," so you are poor, you have built an altar, the fire is ready, the wood is ready, there is nothing to offer a sacrifice, then you realize that there is a ram, and God is the Provider. As long as you are rich you will never know what God's prosperity is, what God's strength is.

You are my Strength, You are my strength. Saul is pursuing him with 3000 soldiers to kill him, but you know he says, "You know Lord, as I am running I also want to tell You, not when I am prosperous and sitting on the throne, Lord as I am running as fast as I can, as I run I want to tell You something, 'Lord I just love You, I just love You, for You are my strength'."

Next time the dog chases you and you have a speed more than the dog, run saying, "Lord I love You." Because no king is going to chase us, but dogs will. And that's when you really realize that you have skills which you never had, how you climbed this tree. And now you don't know how to come down. He is my strength, He is! not 'was' or 'will be' "He is!" because when you are weak what you want to know then is that God is your strength. He is! He is! I am sure in the entire land of Israel, after three and half years, when the heavens opened and rain poured down and everybody rejoiced, one person mourned, it was the widow in Zarafath, because to live every day, experiencing the provision of God ceased. She regretted, "Lord, this was awesome! Every morning you go, there is flour on the bin and the oil has come up. Hallelujah Lord! Then one day rain comes and you look down, experience has gone. All those years He is my provision, He is my provision. I am telling you He is and He is my Rock, in verse 2.

Psalm 18:1-2

¹ I will love You, O LORD, my strength. ² The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Now God is speaking in our language because if He speaks His language we won't understand. That's why when we pray in tongues the Bible says that you are speaking mysteries to God because you don't understand, but your spirit is speaking to God. So if God were to speak in tongues we will not understand. So He speaks our language. If you look all around the world, everything is passing away. Everything is passing; trees fall down, everything, the wind blows, the sands of the seashore keeps on moving, everything is on a constant state of flux and in this state of flux one thing that looks constant is the rock. That was my first sight when I came into Hyderabad, in June the 5th 1992. Boy! This city has only rocks! Hyderabad skyline has changed, but even now when you come by the train, the rocks

are still there. 30 years later the rocks are still there. Everything else has changed. When you are coming down the main railway track from Warangal, 'Narane estate welcomes you' the last time I saw I don't know was last time I traveled in train I don't know when it was but it's still there right? and the rocks. So God says, "I am the Rock; the constant in your life; the unchanging Person." So He say, you know what, "I am the Rock Who never change," because we need in our life somebody who never changes, who is constant. He says, "I am the Rock," He is the symbol of our stability. So He talks about the Gentiles before Israel and He says, "You know, they also had gods, but they failed before you because their rocks sold them." But Israel wandered in the wilderness 40 years, nobody could touch, them nobody could curse them, and they were fed every day, they had fresh sparkling water every day, because the rock that followed them was Christ.

So Christ is my Rock. Why is that we can sit here absolutely sure of our salvation even when we are actually factually know that we are no better than many people on the streets? It is because my salvation is up on the Rock called Christ Jesus; on His work and not mine. Therefore I am not moved about my salvation. If my salvation was based on my work every day of my life will be a miserable man. But I am not miserable man because He is the Rock. *Upon this Rock*, Jesus told at the confession of Peter, not Peter but about what he said. When Jesus asked, "Who do you say I am?" "You are Christ, the only begotten Son of God. The Son of the God." And Jesus said, "Upon this Rock I shall build My Church."

What have you built your church on? What have you built your life on? You know what David built his life on? You are my Rock, therefore I will not be shaken, I will not be moved." What is a rock? What are you building your life on? Jesus said about the two people, an illustration, a man who built on the rock, and a man who build on the sand. Both outwardly looked fantastic; they looked the same outwardly, but the difference was that one had built on the rock, and He says, "The one who builds on the rock is the one who hears My words." Hears, that's where it begins; it all begins there. Faith comes for hearing. So when you heard, faith came. And that genuine faith leads to what Romans 1:5 says,

Romans 1:5

⁵ Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name,

The obedience that comes by faith. You heard and you obeyed and your life is on the Rock. The storms can come, the floods can rise, the wind can blow, king Saul can chase you with 3000 soldiers, Absalom and the nation can go over to Absalom, and you have to flee from your own son who is looking for your blood, but He (God) is my Rock. "Abiathar, take the Ark back to the city. I don't need the symbol because I have the Person." When you have the person you don't need the symbol. The Ark is the symbol of God's presence but God's presence is with David, because people will gather around the ark. He says, "No, take it back. He is with me. If He has taken the throne from me so be it. But if He not, I don't need the Ark, the throne will come back to me. Because He is my Rock, He is my Rock."

Who is your rock? Anyone who comes to God must believe that He is, He is my Shield, He is my Glory, He is the Lifter of my head, He is my Strength. He is! not 'was'. He is my Rock. That's why the ancient sang the songs on Christ the solid Rock I stand, Christ the solid Rock I stand. Don't stand anywhere else, it is sinking sand. Don't stand on your accomplishments, don't stand on your knowledge, don't stand on your wealth, don't stand on anything. We're going to face crisis after crisis after crisis unless God puts His feet on the brakes. Let me tell you, be prepared, be prepared. Let Him be your Rock. Germany is going into a recession like it has never in its modern history, because Russian has shut off the gas, winter is coming. We don't know how many will freeze to death. Like they did not release the COVID death counts, the actual numbers, they will not release the actual deaths. Industries are shutting off because they have to conserve. Germany is the heart of industrial Europe and if Germany is going to start, it started already, other nations will follow. We came through pestilence because He was our Rock, we will come through war if He is our Rock, we will come through famine if He is our Rock. It is coming. It will come. Where even your knowledge won't be of any worth in the market, because there are no jobs worth your knowledge. Jobs are few, laborers are many, money will have no value, not when inflation, no that's not what they are talking about. They are talking about hyper inflation, meaning what cost you one rupee to buy may cost your 10 or 15, your money has lost its value because the governments are just printing money and dumping it and it loses its value. How do some products have the price crashes, it's because it has become the buyers' market, meaning there is more product in the market than the number of buyers. What happens when it happens to money? It has no value. You see people have gone through all of this, that's why the word 'famine' is repeated over and over and over and over throughout the Bible.

Do you know who came through it? Those who knew that God is their Rock and they were not moved, they were not moved, they were not shaken. They were not moved, they were not shaken.

Psalm 18:2

²The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

He is my fortress. He is my fortress. Who is your fortress? Fortress is something that is impregnable; you cannot break through into your fortress easily. He is my fortress. What is your fortress? Nowadays fortresses, in the olden days you see like when the queens this thing was coming, you could see the slice of British history, the huge massive castles built in the old days, with the moats around the drawbridge, because then when gun powder was invented all that became useless. But before gunpowder came, fortresses were impregnable. Right? But who is your fortress? What is your fortress? Your money? Your knowledge? Your strength? Numbers? These are all the things that people glory in. But look at Proverbs 18 and verse 10,

Proverbs 18:10

¹⁰The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

The name of the Lord is a strong tower, the name of the Lord is your fortress and the righteous run to it and they are safe. That's what the first thing God does. The first thing God does is, if you believe with your heart and confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus Christ; you believe in what He has done and you believe in His name, and He's still not satisfied He says, 'You know what, I need to do something more so that you are secure from every attack.' He takes you and me and He baptizes us in His name. Baptizes us, soaks us, immerses in His Name and then He says, "In My Name, there is no power on earth; neither Putin nor Biden nor Xi, no army on earth can move single demon, your nuclear weapons are worth nothing, before a demon, He says, "In My Name! The fellows who control this world system, in My Name you shall defeat them, when they come to you, in My Name you shall cast them out. In My Name!" The power of that Name.

We don't understand the power of that Name. It's more powerful than the most powerful weapon ever invented by man, the power of that Name, demons tremble before that Name. But are you baptized in that Name? Is that your fortress? As the righteous of the Lord, have you run and hid yourself in that Name and say, "I die, You live! I have no other identity but You and You alone, O Lord." And like Martin Luther, if I am right, said, "Every time the devil knocks at the door I let Jesus open the door." When trouble knocks at the door, when calamity knocks at the door, who opens? You or Jesus? Who opens? In His Name! "In My Name, you shall heal the sick." Is that the testimony of the Church? No! In His name I fall sick. Nonsense!

I am not blaming or condemning anybody, but I am saying, "Keep speaking, keep speaking." I speak to my body every day I tell it, 'You will not get into a sick bed, because I got better use for you, your job is to glorify God. Okay and not glorify the medical professions.' Thank God for them. Okay, even if you are in the sick bed, speak to the bed, 'You will be without a job soon. I will get up from here and I will go! I will pick up my mat and I will walk! I am not lying here, unless He has purpose for me lying here because I have made a covenant with Him – ***the body for the Lord and the Lord for the body.***' Body for the Lord and the Lord for the body. Demons tremble; they might try to set you up, knowingly, unknowingly corporately, individually, to kill you. They may call it poison, with poison or call it vaccine. But in His Name ***I will not die but live and declare the works of the Lord.*** For it is written – in His Name, *even if you take poison it shall not harm you.* Even if you pick up snakes, in His Name. If you like snake meat eat it, don't let it eat you because we are called to trample upon snakes and scorpions.

I see Stanley smiling from there, so if you catch it give it to him, he may fry it for you. You shall not be scared. You shall not be scared. Russell's Viper, king cobra, what are these before that Name? They left all that outside my own door at the church office and I have the pictures, they left it at the wrong road because they didn't know that this man grew up with snakes. And he is not scared of snakes, because you have a Name above that great and ancient serpent, even that serpent, the ancient serpent, very ***soon the God of peace shall crush Satan under your feet,*** that great serpent. What are you afraid of? Stay in that Name, be baptized in that Name, be soaked in that Name. You should say, like Paul said, everyday wake up and die, "I die daily so that He lives." Tell Satan, "See what you can do to Christ. Aren't you tired of being kicked all the time, from the Cross every day? You can try it with me, but you can't try it with Him. So what I will do is I will hide in Him. Let Him fight my battles. He is my fortress."

And He goes beyond that – ***the righteous run into His name.*** He says, “You know what? Until now you haven’t asked the Father anything, now you ask the Father in My name, so that your joy may be full. Ask! In My Name.” Just go and say, ‘Almighty God! Highly exalted!’ all that is true and then? Are you afraid to ask? He says, “Don’t ask in your name, you may get a ‘No,’ you ask in My Name because when you ask in My Name He looks at Me and sees you in Me and you are good. You are not just good, you are perfect because in one sacrifice He has made perfect all those who are being sanctified.”

So be careful! Don’t go in your own name. Request denied! Go in His name, go in His name. He is my Fortress, my Strong Tower. *For the righteous run into His name and they are safe; they hide there.*

Psalm 18:2

²The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

And He is my deliverer, who is He? You know all these Psalms? We read one of them also today, we responsively read and forgot what we read. Because ‘He is not’ is our reality. David’s reality is ‘He is!’ “He is my Deliverer. This poor man cried and the Lord heard and delivered him off, (some of his troubles? No) he says, “out of every trouble.” All his troubles. No man of God goofed up like David and no man of God was rescued from all his trouble like David because he cried and the Lord heard him. Therefore when he says, “He is my Deliverer,” he experienced God as his Deliverer. So it didn’t matter who it was; it could be King Saul, or the fake king Absalom. It could be the Amalekites, the Philistines or any gentile nation. God delivered him from everybody. It could be a lion or a bear or Goliath himself, God delivered him and gave victory in every situation. Do you know why? It is because he said, ‘He is!’ He is! You should have a testimony or encounters with God, where you are able to say, ‘He is!’ Why? I have a history; a hidden history with God. Everybody is panicking, everybody is running when Goliath comes and challenges, for 40 days no challenger to Goliath, even the king who is head and shoulders above the rest of Israel, until the young boy comes, and then he has a testimony, “One day the lion came, one day the bear came. What did they take? A lamb but the Lord delivered them into my hand. My God is a Deliverer. I will fight him. God will deliver Israel through my hand.”

God is a Deliverer. In your prayer closet you should experience God as your Deliverer. That’s what he is saying, “He is my Deliverer. He is my Strength in whom I will trust. I will not trust in my strength.” That is why people don’t pray and go do things and then come back and say, “Sorry!” Why is the prayer closet so important? Because that is where you prove to God – “You are my strength and I am not strong.” It doesn’t matter how strong you are. No man walked on earth who is more stronger than Jesus, who is more wiser than Jesus, who is more anointed than Jesus, but every day it is written that His day began in His prayer closet; when it was still dark He rose and looked for a deserted, secluded place so that He could be in the presence of His Father and seek His Father’s will. Why? Because “You are my Strength!” Prayer!

You need to ask yourself and you know God will bless you, God will prosper you, that is His desire. But I am telling you, as God prospers you more and more your prayer closet should be inhabited more and more, and not less. So that you can stay in that and it doesn’t touch your soul. As God blesses you, as God strengthens you, as God prospers you, keep one thing very clear, your prayer closet where you encounter Him; you prove to Him, “You are my Strength, Lord! I will not put my strength in this. Thank You Lord for blessing me with good education, good degrees, making me the top of my class. I thank You Lord. Thank You Lord for the position You have given where I have influence. Thank You for the wealth that I have, I don’t have to worry about my daily provision, but Lord early in the morning I will rise and I will still come and tell You Lord, ‘You are my Strength!’ Because this can go, that can go, this can go but You are my Rock. You will never go. Because You gave me a promise ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you, I will be with you till the very end’.”

Psalms 18:2

²The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

He is my strength, He is my shield and He is the horn of my salvation. He is the horn of my salvation. He is just not my salvation, He is the horn of my salvation. David is speaking from experience; he can look back and remember the day when Prophet Samuel had come to his father’s house, his father did not include him, his mother did not include

him, he was in the wilderness taking care of his father's sheep and probably a servant came running and said, 'You are wanted, your father is calling you.' Imagine, drama scene, "What happened? Some calamity?" He says, "No. The prophet has come." Who? "Samuel, the prophet has come. And you are being called." No guile, no offense, 'Daddy didn't call me', 'Mommy didn't call me' nothing. But when he reaches the home the prophet is standing, he hasn't sat down, he is standing. When he sees the young boy running in, God says, "That is My boy!" The Bible says that he took the horn of oil, horn is a symbol of power, Saul was anointed from a flask, David was anointed from the horn. He took it and anointed him, and he knows the power that came upon him.

That's why David was never defeated by his enemies all the days of his life. Do you know why? Because God was not just his Salvation, God was the Horn of his salvation. It's an experience. Even last week, I had to tell somebody else in another country, "Look back, look back. Yes, you have been pushed down, you have been pushed, pushed, pushed but actually look at every day, the enemy has not been able to overcome. Every day we have been victorious because we have experienced Him as the Horn of our salvation. That's what God says that He shall take you in Christ Jesus, how? In triumph, how? In every place and in every time. Spiritual victory is guaranteed 100%. Physical no. Physically it is irrelevant, what matters is spiritual and I am guaranteeing you on the Word of God, if you experience God as the horn of your salvation, the devil cannot defeat you. It's impossible to defeat you, He is the horn of my salvation. That's what he was talking about in Ephesians 6:10, if I am right, Paul will say,

Ephesians 6:10

¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

Finally my brethren be strong in the Lord, and that is not enough, in the power of His strength. Then he says why, it is because we are not fighting flesh and blood. We are fighting principalities, powers, rulers, wicked powers of darkness. He is! This is another man in the New Covenant who understood it. He is the horn of my salvation. You see? He is my High Tower, He is my Stronghold. These are all words that he used, but why is it so? Why is it so?

Psalms 18: 46

⁴⁶ The LORD lives! Blessed be my Rock! Let the God of my salvation be exalted.

The Lord lives blessed be my Rock let the God of my salvation be exalted. Why? Because He lives. My God is not an idol. My God is not bomma (doll). My God lives and He lives forever, He lives, He lives forever and ever. He is! Think! Meditate upon these things! He is my Shield! He is my Glory! He is the Lifter of my head! Because when these situations come, you need to believe that is He. I will not be put shame. You will not; You will vindicate my name. I will shut my mouth and I will wait because You have promised in Your Word "I will make the justice of your cause shine like the noonday sun." Fret not when evildoers are going around and doing evil. Shut your mouth trust in the Lord and do good. Keep doing what He has called you to do. Don't answer your enemies; let God answer them. Why? It is because He is the Glory and the Lifter of my head. We are busy fighting the wrong battles, fighting flesh and blood, fighting to vindicate our name, Jesus did not fight to vindicate His name. He said when He was accused He kept His mouth shut, but He handed everything over to His Father, the righteous Judge, and therefore by His stripes we are healed. He is! He is!

Psalms 23:1

¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He is my shepherd, not Pastor James. After this service Pastor James will go and sleep. But your Shepherd, your real Shepherd neither sleeps nor slumbers and He watches over you. He watches your going out and your coming in and He will not cause your foot to slip. The sun shall not smite you by day, nor the moon by night. Why? Not because you are great, not because you are strong, not because you are not tired, you are tired, you are weak but because your God, your Shepherd is watching over you. He neither sleeps nor slumbers because He is! He is my Shepherd. He is my Shepherd that's why we do not fear about the future. The future will come. Like I said unless God puts His feet on the pedal and slows down things and gives the Church some more time, it looks very bleak but if He is, not was or will be, if He is your Shepherd then your confession should be, "I shall not want! I shall not want!" That's what I said thousands and thousands of people in Israel going through famine, but one poor Samaritan widow did not know famine because she fed Elijah and she experienced the God of Elijah as her Shepherd there was no want in her life. We have to come back to those days. We have to believe God can command ravens to feed me. God can command people so that my bin is filled because the days are coming, everyone who relies on the hand of flesh is cursed.

Because He tells, "I will break your staff of bread." And here is a man who says, "I shall not want, I shall not want. He is my Shepherd I shall not want. Not only that, but He also makes me lie down in green pastures, green pastures."

How wonderful this Shepherd is! He's been preaching to the people, the crowds have been following Him and now they are in the wilderness, the crowds are tired and the disciples come and say, "Lord, send them away! Let them go to the towns and eat. We are very far away, lest they faint. And the Lord says, "You feed them." They said, "Lord!!! Six months' wages won't be enough for a mouthful. We have a boy with five loaves of bread and two fish." And He said, "Make them sit down," and it was place full of green grass. Read your Bible carefully, when the Shepherd chose a place to feed His people, He made His sheep sit down in green pastures and He fed them and He fed them until everyone was full and they had 12 baskets of leftovers because He is still makes me lie down in green pastures. It never changes, never changes.

Go to sleep well, every night, it doesn't matter what you're facing tomorrow. Every week I have to tell somebody, "Sufficient unto the day is the trouble. Do not worry about tomorrow." Why can't you sleep? Because you ate well today but you are worrying about tomorrow. Who told you to worry about tomorrow? The sweetest Psalm for sleep is *Psalm 131* one of the smallest Psalms in the Bible, meditate on it and go to sleep. Can I have it on the screen? because He makes me lie down. After the sheep have eaten, they will roll around in the nice green grass. Go to sleep!

Psalm 131:1-3

¹ LORD, my heart is not haughty, nor my eyes lofty. Neither do I concern myself with great matters, nor with things too profound for me. ² Surely I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with his mother; like a weaned child is my soul within me. ³ O Israel, hope in the LORD from this time forth and forever.

Will Xi attach Taiwan or India? Don't worry! That is too profound for you, leave it to God. Will Vladimir Putin shoot a tactical nuclear weapon upon Ukraine? Don't worry! Go to sleep! It is too profound for me. ***Surely I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with his mother; like a weaned child is my soul within me.*** Remember we had, in the morning, prayed for Atira's little sister because we didn't name her yet, why? Because the baby couldn't sleep through the night, crying. The last resort is hold it close, because very comfortable voice, sound, the child has known for nine months is the heart beat of the mother. Like a child weaned.

The question is, David when did you wean a child? He says, "As a shepherd, the little lambs I carried.' Then when I was in trouble I realized that is all I have to be, a little lamb in my Shepherd's arms and I turned around and went to sleep." The once who were chasing him had sleepless nights. They need musicians to put them to sleep and yet they couldn't sleep. David is sleeping nicely. He is my Shepherd! He is!

This is how you know. How do you know that He is your Shepherd? Watch your sleep. Watch your rest. Watch your thoughts in your mind. *O my soul, why are you down cast? Hope in the Lord. Why are your anxious?* The minute you are anxious you are not able to sleep, He is not your Shepherd right now. He was, but He is not now. Revert back to default setting – 'He is my Shepherd! He is my Shepherd! He leads me to still waters.

I keep telling pastors, the simplicity of the Gospel that is in Christ, don't muddy the waters. This (Bible; the Word of God) is the Water that can save you, this is the Water that can cleanse you, this is the Water that can sanctify you, don't complicate it, don't muddy it, because sheep cannot drink it. Keep it simple. Keep it simple because you know what? You listen to Jesus preaching to the crowds, it is very simple, "There was a sower and as he was sowing..." how simple! Look at His messages they all are very simple. Not complex; He uses illustration that they can understand. It's very simple. He never muddies the Water; whether it is about Heaven or whether it is about Hell, he didn't say, 'Hell, may be'... No, He said, "Surely, hell..." about peace, about torment, no muddy. "If you do not forgive from your heart, so will My Father not forgive you." Very simple, nothing complicated there. He never muddies the Waters, He will always lead the sheep to the still waters. Drink from it deeply, it is good for your soul, good for your soul.

Meditate upon **Psalm 23** these are Psalms that have sustained millions upon millions of souls, because one man went through it and it became his experience, then it became experience of others.

⁴Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Even though I walked through the valley of the shadow of death. You are not going to live on the mountain top all your life. Most of the time you are not going to live on the mountain top experience. As soon as service is over the valley will begin. Valley is a place where is not much light. Even though I walked through the valley, and it is not even dark valley, there is a shadow over the valley, it's a shadow of death; death is pursuing you, wicked people are pursuing you, powers of darkness are pursuing you, to cut short the destiny God has for you. Even though I walk thought the valley of the shadow of the death I will not fear. Why? It is because He is with me. He will do something to rescue you from the lion's mouth. He is with me, He is with me. Look at his own personal testimony, only God can do something like that, in 1 Samuel, look at that, 1 Samuel chapter 20 and verse 1 to 4,

1 Samuel 20:1-4

¹Then David fled from Naioth in Ramah, (He is running from Saul to find shelter with Samuel, Samuel is not there, he is running and he is running, he is running. What happens?) and went and said to Jonathan, "What have I done? What is my iniquity, and what is my sin before your father, that he seeks my life?" ²So Jonathan said to him, "By no means! You shall not die! Indeed, my father will do nothing either great or small without first telling me. And why should my father hide this thing from me? It is not so!"³ Then David took an oath again, and said, "Your father certainly knows that I have found favor in your eyes, and he has said, 'Do not let Jonathan know this, lest he be grieved.' But truly, as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, there is but a step between me and death." He says, "I am just away from death," ⁴So Jonathan said to David, "Whatever you yourself desire, I will do it for you."

You know what God said, ***even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will not fear.*** I am just one step away from death but when the king who is trying to kill me, God put the king's own son. Jonathan is saying, "If he has to kill you he has to kill me first. He has to come through me first." That is God. ***Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of the death I will fear no evil,*** if anybody should have killed David it is Jonathan, but Jonathan says, "I am for you and I will stand between my father and you. You will surely not die, surely not die." That is our God, that is our God. These are mysteries we will never understand. Pharaoh is going to be destroyed, Egyptian army is going to be drowned in the Red Sea one day. Israel is going to walk free out of the land and the deliverer is sitting at the Pharaoh's table and eating merrily and his name is Moses. Where is he? Sitting at the Pharaoh's table. Does the Pharaoh know that this boy who is sitting here will destroy Egypt one day? He doesn't know because that is my God, that is my God.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of the death I will fear no evil because my constant is 'He is with me.' I am surrounded by my enemies, I am surrounded by my enemies. It doesn't bother me because when I look, 'Oh! Dad's He looks like a Chef, what's my Father doing? Oh! He's got the chef's cap on and He is got His apron on and He is busy cooking for me because He spreads a table for me in the presences of my enemies.

Psalm 23:5

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

Enemies are surrounded me but My Father is feeding me in their presence, He is, He is, He is, He is, He is! It does not matter if you have worked and failed. Yes, you worked hard but you failed. You worked the whole night, you failed and you are discouraged, you are disappointed, Jesus stands at the shore and says, "Children, have we caught anything? Nothing! But if your look at the shore, if you look carefully, there is smoke rising, there is smoke rising. Why? Because He has baked bread and fried fish for you. Did you leave your post? Yes, did you fail through the night? Yes. Are you discouraged? Yes. Are you disappointed? Yes. Has He prepared a table for you? Yes. Why? Because He is, He is! not He was. Not He will be. He is! That's what God tells Isaac, famine has come like his father foot is going towards Egypt, God said, "Stop! I am the God of your father Abraham. Don't go! Stay here, stay here, I will take care of you, I will." He prepares a table. Oh! That is nothing! There is something greater, in John 14: 1 and 2,

John 14:1-2

¹"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. ²In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

All of us, except maybe one or two who live in their own apartments or houses, rest of us all live at the mercy of the landlords. Though the land is His, they act like lords. The earth and fullness is His, to them He says, "Don't worry!

Don't worry! *In My Father's house there are many mansions. If it were not so I would have told you and I go to prepare a place for you.* He is preparing more than a table, He is preparing a house for us. Each one, their own, with your name on it. No encroachment, that was a physical symbol He gave Israel; each man will have a plot. That is why it is called the Promise Land. You cannot sell it, don't sell. It is for yours forever and ever and ever. and if Naboath said, "No," even the king couldn't take it because that was the Law. In eternity you will have a prepared place forever and ever.

Final verse for today Song of Solomon chapter 2 and verse 4 one of the most beautiful verses in the Bible.

Song of Solomon 2:4

⁴He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love.

He brought me to His banqueting house and there was a banner and His banner over me was love. Angels scratched their heads, demons gnashed their teeth and say, "Behold what manner of love that these puny little useless things are called the sons of God." We forget all these old songs right? One of the first songs I learned when I got saved in that Bible study was a simple song called, "He is my everything He is my all in all" come Able, simple song right? It is not complicate, you need to learn to sing simple songs which you understand the lyrics and the tune is not complicated which only worship team can sing, the ones which you can sign and you can understand, let it be your confession through this week, what is that? Come let us stand up and sing that simple song. HE IS! Focus on those words – HE IS!

Closing prayer:

This morning, this morning let's go to God, our living God Who is and repent and ask forgiveness for worry, for being anxious, for fearing so much, because it's a blot on who He is, because He said, "Do not worry." He said, 'Look at the sparrow, look at the lilies of the field, your Father, your Father in heaven, not even a sparrow falls to the ground without your and my Father in heaven knowing.' He said, "Look at the lilies. Even Solomon in the all his splendor was not clothed like one of them." He is my Father and your Father. That's why when Jesus was asked by His disciples, "Master, teach us to pray." He said, "This how your need to pray, 'Our Father!'"

When you are desperate, when your are anxious, when you have no more words to say, just say, "My Father!" that's enough, because it is written that your Father knows, He already knows what your need before your ask. Just say, "My Father. I have no more strength," Like David they had wept until they had no more strength. Everybody's hand was against him. They picked up stones but it is written that David encouraged himself in the Lord. How did he encouraged himself? Because he remembered "He is", He is my Shield, He is my Glory, He is the Lifter of my head, He is my Deliverer, He is my Fortress, He is my Stronghold, He my Shepherd, He is and He always is. Heaven and earth will pass away, the earth and the heavens will be rolled up like a scroll but He, forever, He is.

Today this morning we stand before You, for He who is, is my Father and our Father and we come to You Lord and say, 'Father forgiver us for the time we have worried, for the times we were anxious, for the times when fear overwhelmed us, we forgot that You are there right beside us, for You said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." Lord, we want to proclaim and confess today, whatever life may hold us, You will never leave us and we want to be where You are. We would rather be in prison with You than be outside without You, we would rather be in fire with You than be outside without You. We would be rather in the lions' den with You, than be outside restless without You. We would rather be in dungeon with You than be in the palace without You. For Lord You are the Horn of my salvation. You are my Salvation. We don't want to be anywhere without You.

This morning, this final Sunday, of this ninth month, we once again surrender ourselves into Thy hands O' Lord. We want to be, as Your servant Don Moen sang, 'We want to be where You are,' nowhere else. And experience You more than anything else. For You are that great I Am. Strengthen Your people, heal Your people, strengthen weak hands, feeble knees, hearts that are failing, stretch forth Your hand, touch Your people. One touch, one Word spoken to that inner man, destinies will be changed, life will be changed forever, captives will be set free. That's who You are. Speak that into everyone listening hear O' Lord. Be made whole in Jesus' Name.

Thank You, thank You, Father thank You.

Now Father we lift up holy hands. Now we want to bless Your holy Name. We bless Your holy Name. We bless Your holy Name, bless Your holy Name. We stand in Your house and we declare - Thine is the Kingdom, the power and glory forever and ever, because our King lives forever.

Thank Lord, in the Name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ the love of the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit rest and abide with us. Now and everyday of our lives. Amen, Amen.