

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 34

HYMN: Under His Wings

*“Under His wings, what a refuge in sorrow!  
How the heart yearningly turns to His rest!  
Often when earth has no balm for my healing,  
There I find comfort and there I am blest.”*

## WHEN LIFE ISN'T SO GOOD

Have you ever been through hard times in life and felt like it was a “sign” that God wasn’t happy with you? It is tempting to think that God is happier with us when things are going well for us, when we easily see His blessings or when He answers “yes” to our prayers. But when we face struggles, heartache, pain, loss and difficulty, we are tempted to wonder if God still loves us, or if we’re being punished. We might even be tempted to get angry at the Lord- often without realizing it, we expect an easy, comfortable life. Other times we feel like God is silent- He’s not answering our prayers; nothing is changing, and we are tempted to believe that He doesn’t care.



This is dangerous thinking.

If we look at our own life and our feelings and allow them to determine what we believe about God, we will most certainly become mistaken. Our perspective is limited. Our feelings are not trustworthy. And our circumstances are constantly changing.

Our faulty thinking and beliefs will affect our lives in a powerful way. If we believe that the Lord is unhappy with us, or does not care, or did this to punish us and we are getting just what we deserve, then we will not go to Him for help and comfort. We will turn away from Him. We will grieve Him just like a child that refuses comfort from a parent grieves his parent. We will miss the blessing of His precious gift of comfort that feels like a real balm for our hurting soul. We will miss out on His nearness that we seem to only experience in such a powerful way when we need Him the most- in the most difficult of times; the *experience* that , “The Lord is *near* to those who have a broken heart”.

There is only one good place to get to know God- about how He thinks and what He is like. It is in His Word. Psalm 34 is a wonderful example of a description of the Truth about God, especially as a Help in difficult times. Verse 8 says, “Taste and see that the Lord is **good**”. Verse 15 tells us that His eyes are **toward** us. It tells us that the Lord **hears** us when we cry out to Him. He is **near**. And, even though we may have many afflictions, He promises to deliver us out of them **all**. He will save us when we cry out to Him, just like He did for David! (Just as an aside, remember to always share with others when the Lord helps you through, just like David did for us- it encourages others to seek the Lord, too!)

The point of this is, be sure to hold onto the Truth about our wonderful God, especially when you are going through hard times. He wants to help you!! Never let yourself entertain a doubt that He really cares about you. Keep calling out to Him! He is faithful. And He is closer to you that you think.



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