

# TONIGHT'S READING



## ENJOYING GOD (3)

### Scripture Reading:

- Psalm 18:1 I love You, O Jehovah, my strength.
- Psalm 118:14 Jehovah is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.
- Isaiah 12:2 God is now my salvation; I will trust and not dread; for Jah Jehovah is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation.
- I John 4:8b ...because God is love.
- I John 4:16 And we know and have believed the love which God has in us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God and God abides in him.
- Nehemiah 8:10b ...And do not be grieved, for the joy of Jehovah is your strength.
- Isaiah 51:12a I, even I, am He who will comfort you....
- Exodus 15:26b ... for I am Jehovah who heals you.
- Psalm 103:3 He pardons all your iniquities; He heals all your diseases;
- Psalm 147:3 He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.
- Philippians 2:6-8 <sup>6</sup>[Christ Jesus] Who, existing in the form of God, did not consider being equal with God a treasure to be grasped, <sup>7</sup>but emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave, becoming in the likeness of men; <sup>8</sup>and being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, becoming obedient even unto death, and that the death of a cross.
- 2 Corinthians 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, for your sakes He became poor in order that you, because of His poverty, might become rich.

### God Being Our Strength

The Bible also says that God is our strength (Psa. 18:1). It is not sufficient for us to have only life. Although we need life to live, the life we have needs power. Because some people lack strength, they are weak and senile even though they have life. Hence, we need God to be our power, our strength.

## **God Being Our Love, Joy, and Comfort**

In order for a man to live, he also needs love, joy, and comfort. The Bible clearly says that God is love (1 John 4:8). He is also our joy and our comfort (Neh. 8:10; Isa. 51:12). He is everything we need.

## **God Being Our Healing**

If we need healing, God is the best healing for any sickness in our psychology, our soul, or our body. He is Jehovah-ropheka, which means “Jehovah your Healer” (Exo. 15:26). He is Jehovah, the God who heals. With Him we have healing.

## **God Being Our Guidance**

In addition, we need guidance for our personal walk. We need to know when to move and when to stop, when to go forward or backward, and when to turn left or turn right. Thank God that He is our guidance. When we touch Him, we have guidance and direction, and we have a way to go on.

## **God Being Our All**

When we read through the Bible and realize that it presents God as everything to us, we cannot help but praise Him. God wants to be our life, our Husband, our food, our drink, our habitation, our light, our strength, our love, our joy, our comfort, our healing, and our guidance. What He is matches what we need, and He provides Himself to us as that very item. Whatever we need, He is, and He provides us with Himself as that item.

## **GOD HUMBLING HIMSELF TO BE OUR ENJOYMENT**

May the Lord grant us the understanding of the Bible that our eyes will be opened to see this great, holy, bright, and sovereign Lord has humbled Himself to meet with small, lowly, filthy, and sinful men such as we. Just as He was happy to speak with the immoral Samaritan woman by the well in Sychar (John 4:5), He is happy to contact us, the despicable sinners. He desires to dispense Himself into us. Even though He is our Redeemer on the cross and the Lord of all on the throne, He has condescended and lowered Himself to be as small and lowly as we are so that we can receive Him.

When we worship Him, we should not consider Him as a great and sovereign Lord sitting far above all. We should not be afraid to approach Him. There is no need to pray to Him with trembling and fear. Approaching Him in this way proves that we have no revelation and that we have insufficient knowledge of Him; we are void of light and are filled with religious concepts. If we have revelation, we will see that while He is high and lofty, the Lord of glory and holiness, He also loves to dispense Himself into us. He wants us to draw near to Him. If He remained in heaven, we could neither be saved nor receive Him as life. If He remained on the throne, we could not touch Him or enjoy Him. But now He has stepped forward. He has lowered Himself, left the throne, and come to us. He is

now where we are. He is as low as we are, and He is the same as we are. He has condescended and come to us in order to make Himself available to us for our enjoyment.

Every child of God needs to realize that the God whom we worship and serve is not the God of our religious concept. Even though our God is the Lord of all, He has lowered Himself, humbled Himself, to the extent that He has become the same as we are. He is the same as we are in everything except sin. He did this in order to make Himself available to us for our enjoyment and so that we can gain Him and experience Him. He wants us to receive Him into us as our everything.

## **HOW TO ENJOY GOD**

Then, how do we enjoy God? Since God is life, food, drink, light, strength, and everything to us, how can we touch Him? Let us consider two points.

### **Turning to Our Inner Being**

First, God is inside of us. If we want to enjoy Him, we should learn to turn to our inner being. We must turn in order to exercise our inner being. God is not outside of us. He is within us. He dwells in our spirit. We do not need to look for Him outside. He is very near to us; He is within us.

### **Being Calm**

Second, we must learn to be calm before Him and pray to Him. In other words, we need to fellowship with Him. Although God is in us, we are often drawn to the outside world through busy distractions. To be busy is to have our heart drawn away by distractions. When our outer man is busy, our heart is dead to God. Our heart may also be asleep even though it is not dead. The heart should not be dead, and it should not be asleep. We do not want either situation. We should be normal and exercise our inward being in quietness in order to absorb God. The best prayer is one that absorbs God. Prayer has nothing to do with how many words we utter. It is a matter of finding a quiet time to turn our busy heart to the inner chamber in order to fellowship with God and to absorb His very being. We can then realize that He is our life, food, drink, light, strength, joy, and comfort. He is the answer to whatever we need. This is the meaning of being a Christian. A Christian does not worship God who is high above and far away from men. Instead, he abides quietly in the inner chamber and touches God. He fellowships with God and absorbs Him in his spirit. In this way God abides in him and becomes his all.

Questions:

1. What does it mean that God humble Himself to be our enjoyment?
2. How could we enjoy God? What aspects of God have you enjoyed or experienced lately?