

# IMPACT

**I** **M**ust **P**ersonally **A**cknowledge **C**hrist **T**oday  
Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; in *all your ways acknowledge Him* and He shall direct your path.  
Proverbs 3:5-6

**Passage:** Lamentations 3:17-26 “You have moved my soul far from peace; I have forgotten prosperity. And I said, ‘My strength and my hope Have perished from the LORD.’ Remember my affliction and roaming, The wormwood and the gall. My soul still remembers And sinks within me. Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. ‘The Lord is my portion,’ says my soul, ‘Therefore I hope in Him!’ The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, To the soul who seeks Him. It is good that one should hope and wait quietly For the salvation of the Lord.”

**Quote:** John Wesley: “ Show me a worm that can understand a man and I will show you a man that can understand God.”

**T** rue Christians are no longer “natural men” who disdained spiritual things that they viewed as the emotional crutches of simple-minded people who can’t “cut it” in the real world. The preaching of the cross is now the power of God unto salvation in their lives.<sup>1</sup> They are secure from God’s holy wrath because they have been given the righteousness of Christ through faith in His finished work. God has declared them justified forever! They know His abiding peace in the midst of life’s storms because they are anchored in Him. Isaiah gives believers the key to tranquil contentment. “You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.”<sup>2</sup> The Hebrew word for “stayed,” means “to lean upon; to support or brace oneself; to sustain, refresh, revive.”<sup>3</sup> It is only as we rest in the perfection of God’s character and trust in His promises that we can learn contentment in His providence.<sup>4</sup> When it comes to ‘natural disasters’; atrocities like abortion and genocide; oppressive governments; unstable economies; the flaunting of sin and assaults upon biblical Christianity, we can rest assured that God is Who He has always been and will always be—unmatched and unchanged in His holy nature, unthreatened by man’s arrogance and unimpressed with man’s achievements; undeterred and undefeated in His will, and unwavering in His promises. He is “the faithful God who keeps covenant

and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments.”<sup>5</sup> Amen!

Love, trust and security are dependent upon, and deepened by, our knowledge of God. At best, our understanding of the Almighty merely scratches the surface of His unique excellence. In the 1600’s, the Puritan preacher Thomas Manton wrote, “We know God but as men born blind know the fire, they know that there is such a thing as fire, for they feel it warm them, but what it is they know not. So, that there is a God we know, but what he is we know little, and indeed we can never search him out to perfection; a finite creature can never fully comprehend that which is infinite.”

In the 1950’s, A.W. Tozer described the harvest of a low view of God. “To admit that there is One who lies beyond us, who exists outside of all our categories, who will not be dismissed with a name, who will not appear before the (court) of our reason, nor submit to our curious inquiries: this requires a great deal of humility, more than most of us possess, so we save face by thinking God down to our level, or at least down to where we can manage Him. And for this we are now paying a too

## Secure in His Faithfulness?

heavy price in the secularization of our religion and the decay of our inner lives.” What Tozer saw in his day has led to the blatant practice and promotion of the sins of Romans one. For those who practice some form of secularized “Christianity,” God is merely the “go-to guy in the sky,” a cosmic “Master Card” that they tap into when their reason and resources falter. In their minds, He is a god that they can “manage” to their advantage. In reality, their god is a “sugar-pill” that will melt as they bow condemned before the Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>6</sup> Oh that our lives would reflect the truth that God is beyond our ability to comprehend fully. The fear of God involves awe and adoration from the people of God that evidences itself by guarding and guiding our thoughts, words and deeds with the Word of God for the glory of God.

1 Romans 1:16 2 Isaiah 26:3 3 OT Hebrew Lexicon 4 Isaiah 55:6-9; Romans 11:33-36 5 Deuteronomy 7:9; Hebrews 10:23 6 Romans 14:11; Philippians 2:10