

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: Genesis 16:13-14 “Then she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, You-Are-the-God-Who-Sees; for she said, ‘Have I also here seen Him who sees me?’ Therefore the well was called Beer Lahai Roi....” [The well of him that lives and sees me].

Quote: “Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come; ‘Tis grace had brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.” John Newton

Sarai’s sinful scheme to give Abram an heir through her handmaid, Hagar, backfired. Once pregnant, Hagar despised Sarai which led to Sarai treating her so harshly that she fled into the wilderness. As she sat near a well, God appeared to her in a theophany— “a temporary visible manifestation of the presence and glory of God. This may be in natural phenomena such as cloud or fire, in human form or in prophetic visionary experience.”¹ Here God addressed Hagar in the form of a man called “the Angel of the LORD.” Upon receiving His instruction, Hagar called Him, You-are-the-God-Who-Sees, and the place she called “The well of Him that lives and sees me.”

In the midst of life’s most grievous trials, the Christian can have the assurance that God is present with him or her. David marveled at the abiding presence of God in Psalm 139. when he asked, “Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me.”² God said to Israel, “But now, thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel: ‘Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you. For I am the LORD your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior.”³ The Amplified Version of Hebrews 13:5 drives the truth of God’s presence home for our benefit—“Let your character or moral disposition be free from love of money [including greed, avarice, lust, and craving for earthly

possessions] and be satisfied with your present [circumstances and with what you have]; for He [God] Himself has said, I will not in any way fail you *nor* give you up *nor* leave you without support. [I will] not, [I will] not, [I will] not in any degree leave you helpless *nor* forsake *nor* let [you] down (relax My hold on you!) [Assuredly not!]” God does not use this repetitious language for His benefit! It is for ours! God, Who cannot lie,” always keeps His word!³

A survivor of the Holocaust and the author of The Hiding Place, Corrie Ten Boone captures the peace that comes with trusting Who God is when we do not understand what He is doing in the midst of our most grievous and on-going trials.

“Life is but a Weaving” (the Tapestry Poem)

The God Who Sees

“My life is but a weaving
Between my God and me.
I cannot choose the colors

He weaveth steadily.

Of’times He weaveth sorrow; And I in foolish pride
Forget He sees the upper And I the underside.

Not ’til the loom is silent And the shuttles cease to fly
Will God unroll the canvas And reveal the reason why.

The dark threads are as needful In the weaver’s skillful hand
As the threads of gold and silver In the pattern He has planned

He knows, He loves, He cares; Nothing this truth can dim.
He gives the very best to those Who leave the choice to Him.”

Conformity to Christ necessitates bowing to God’s sovereign script even when it includes sickness or trial. His grace is sufficient! In his wonderful hymn, “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”, William Cooper wrote, “His purposes will ripen fast, Unfolding every hour; The bud may have a bitter taste, But sweet will be the flower. Blind unbelief is sure to err And scan His work in vain; God is His own interpreter, And He will make it plain.” **Have faith! God sees and knows because God ordains!**