

## ***Theme for 2019***

**‘The God of Another Year, is a God of Wonderful and Amazing Grace.  
He is the God of Forgiveness and He is the God of Beginning Again.’**

### **365 DAYS OF POSSIBILITIES!**

*“O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. Through the Lord’s mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. I will praise You, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will tell of all Your marvelous works. I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.”*

**Psalm 51:15 (ESV); Lamentations 3:22-23 (NKJV); Psalm 9:1-2 (NKJV)**



### ***This Week’s Thought – August 18, 2019***

---

*“I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.”* Psalm 121:1-2 (NIV)

---

**365 DAYS OF POSSIBILITIES**—I believe more and more, especially in the midst of the days and times we are living in, that one of the great challenges for a lot of people today (most notably Christians) is learning to slow down long enough to see God’s Hand at work in our midst. It is remarkably easy to rush from one thing or one place to the next, without once pausing to be mindful of God and His faithful provision in our lives. As a result, busy days turn into busy seasons and busy seasons become our default posture in life.

Busyness is often rooted in a posture of self-reliance. Though we may never explicitly say it, our actions reveal an underlying belief that says, “If I don’t take care of this matter or that thing myself, who will?” And while this sentiment may be deeply rooted in most, it isn’t the way God intended His disciples to live.

Faithful discipleship is an invitation into a daily process of letting go of your need for control. It is a process of learning to be at peace, even in the midst of a storm. It is ever-increasing clarity on who God is and His unfailing protection and care for you. As the psalmist reminds us, *“The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.”* (Psalm 121:7)

August 18, 2019

What does it mean to be “*kept from all evil?*” Does this mean we should cling to this verse as our promise of financial prosperity, relational harmony, and pain-free living? While many have built entire theological systems around such claims, I fear they are missing the heart of this ancient prayer and the heart of what it means to walk through life with the LORD on our side.

As the psalmist says elsewhere, “*Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me.*” (Psalm 23:4) For David and countless others throughout history, and possibly for you in this very moment, the journey of life takes you through seasons of dark valleys, intense sorrow, and great uncertainty. The promise of God is not that we will be immune and unaffected by brokenness, but that God will not abandon us in the face of evil. That there is no place we can go or find ourselves where He cannot reach us or enter into our greatest pains or fears.

If the LORD is with you, you are perfectly safe and secure, regardless of what your circumstances may say. Slow down and have eyes to see the LORD’s protection and provision in your life. He “*will neither slumber nor sleep*” (Psalm 121:4), which means you can rest in peace and awake in safety.

**On today, may the blessing of peace rest upon you...the blessing of joy abide within you...the blessing of success and favor surround you...the blessing of love flow out through you. May all the Blessings of the Lord be yours in abundance as you ‘Encounter the Possibilities’ this day will bring!!**

**Application:** How does the LORD’s nearness and protection help you to reframe or change your thinking and feelings about your current trials and challenges?

**Prayer of reflection you might pray this week: “Lord God, Almighty and Everlasting Father, You have brought me in safety to this new day: Preserve me with Your Mighty Power, that I may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all that I do, direct me to the fulfilling of Your purpose in, with and through my life. This is my prayer in the matchless, wonderful and compassionate name of Jesus, Amen!”**

*“And then God answered: ”Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what’s coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn’t lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It’s on its way. It will come right on time.” Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)*

Yours in Christ, Pastor King