



God Sees Our Story — Therefore Rejoice!

BY JAN BRUNETTE

As children, we may have chosen to hide in a closet or under the stairs when escaping from parents or older siblings. Yet, we need to admit that hiding from God is impossible no matter where go. But, what if our hiding place was God Himself, a location of protection and deliverance? Perhaps seeing Him as a shelter, rather than someone from whom we need to escape, would open our eyes to seeing Him differently. It is reassuring to view Him as One who not only sees us, but One who also covers us with His power, love, grace, and mercy — all through the cross of Christ.

Opening Prayer: Dear Father in heaven, open our eyes to the value and blessing of knowing that Your all-seeing eye is that of love and protection. Prepare our hearts to learn from Your Word what depth of grace and mercy is involved in all that You do for us. May Your glory be revealed to us. Amen.

God Sees

What are your thoughts about God knowing and seeing everything you do? Do you feel intimidated, or does it bring you comfort? Does it change how you do things? Does it alter where you go and who you see? Tough questions, huh? Let's search the Scriptures to discover His truth.

God's All-seeing Eye

Read the following verses and consider whether it brings comfort or discomfort.

Psalms 33:13-15 _____

Jeremiah 23:24 _____

Matthew 6:6 _____

Hebrews 4:13 _____

His Protective Care

God's overpowering love for us provides protection in the most challenging of times. Our failures and mistakes (actual or perceived), come with the assurance that He has a covering of grace for all believers. Read the following verses and describe how He provides protection.

Psalms 37:23-24 _____

Psalms 139:1-6 _____

Our Hiding Place

Have you ever considered prayer as your hiding place or as a means to finding your hiding place? To develop a better understanding of prayer and the Lord Himself as your hiding place, look up the following verses to discover the words that describe the wonders of hiding in Him through prayer.

Psalms 17:6-8 _____

Psalms 27:5 _____

Psalms 32:6-7 _____

God Sees Us In All Time

God sees us as we make decisions in our daily lives and the course and direction in which those decisions may take us. Our lives are not controlled by fate or the universe. Instead, our loving Father allows us to have free will and make our life decisions. Often, these challenges bring us closer to Him in faith and trust as we weigh the decisions in our life.

As you go through the next three sections of this study, list the ways God lovingly supports us through the Word and by His Holy Spirit.

God Planned Beforehand

Psalm 16:5–6 _____

Acts 17:26–27 _____

Ephesians 2:10 _____

God's Presence and Guidance

Joshua 1:9 _____

Psalm 18:28–33 _____

Psalm 31:14–16 _____

God's Counsel and Instruction

Psalm 16:7 _____

Psalm 25:4–5, 8–12 _____

Psalm 32:8 _____

God Sees Us and Is Faithful

Read the following verses, and note how God is faithful, merciful, and grace-filled — beyond our comprehension.

Lamentations 3:22–26 _____

Psalm 139:13–18 _____

John 15:12–17 _____

Yet I Will Rejoice In The Lord

Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will take joy in the God of my salvation. God, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the deer's; he makes me tread on my high places (Habakkuk 3:17–19).

Can we really rejoice in Him (Habakkuk 3:18) when we:

- Receive a cancer diagnosis?
 - Lose a loved one?
 - See destructive behaviors in a family member?
 - Lose everything?
- _____
- _____

Circumstances in life will happen, but Christ's love still reaches the heavens. His faithfulness is still higher than the skies. His righteousness is like the mighty mountains, and His justice like the great deep. He still covers us with the shadow of His wings.

When challenges happen in life we still have God's love. Read **Psalm 36:5–6**. Can you praise God in the middle of it all? Will you honestly be able to cry out, "Thy will be done"?

Psalm 5:11–12 _____

Psalm 18:1–3 _____

Psalm 30:11–12 _____

Because of all these things, He carried our pain to the cross and felt it all in His torn, shredded body. In His agony of body and soul, He became sin for us. He felt the pain and the suffering, the loneliness and the sorrow, even the anger and the despair. In exchange, His light became ours; His joy carries us to His heights of love — the love that surpasses understanding. Read: **Psalm 108:3–4, Proverbs 3:5–6, 2 Corinthians 5:21.**

Our journey on earth isn't about our circumstances; it's about the lives we touch in the process. It's about knowing that, in His time and way, His glory will be revealed, even if we don't live long enough to see it. His power, love, and strength will be ours to the end.

How can we know these things to be true? Even in the depth of loneliness and despair, we can climb the mountains of His love and His joy. Without understanding "why" and with the Spirit's help, we can trust and believe that His purpose has eternal significance. Only in Him can this happen, *for God, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the deer's; he makes me tread on my high places (Habakkuk 3:19).*

Now we can cry aloud: *Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever (Psalm 73:25–26).*

Closing Prayer: Read or sing "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" (LSB 411).

Jan Brunette has been widowed twice while she served the Lord in the position of pastor's wife. She is now the mother of 11, the grandmother of 32, and the great-grandmother of 24 (with more to come!) She understands, very well, how God sees and oversees the events in her life, all for which she praises God.