

## HIND'S FEET ON HIGH PLACES

### Chapter 19 – High Places

With so many people slipping and struggling these days to keep their minds soberly trusting in faith that Jesus will never forsake them, we are going to go over one of my favorite scriptures in the whole Bible... Philippians 4:8. When we become so very fixated on the worries of tomorrow, we quickly begin to drift and fall into the pit of fretting, questioning if faith in the Lord will really get us through and we wonder if He will really protect us just because we believe in Him. He warned us many would fall away from their faith in Him, I pray that not be any of us. Too much time in what those in the World are sharing and not enough alone time with Jesus and the Word, will quickly pull you down into a spiral of unbelief.

Therefore, to counter the fruitless messages of the day, I want us to hold tightly to what our Lord and Master says. We still have to do our part to believe and hold fast to that which is written and obey what is written, which often conflicts with what our flesh wants to do. We are also going to go over a little more this morning about what it means to “abide” in the Lord. The two really go hand in hand... faith and abiding perfectly compliment one another, producing a peace the World cannot offer us. Then we will get into Chapter 19 of our book study. We only have one more chapter to go after that!

#### **Philippians 4:8**

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

*The word MEDITATE is key here... It means to think about and focus on the most. Nothing will pull you down faster than focusing on things outside of the what God has said, His truth and promises over us – more than we hear His still small voice. People run to and fro these days seeking much knowledge outside of knowledge delivered straight from the Lord Himself. So they are in a panic, unsomber state, worried about tomorrow and the events unfolding before them. They listen to probable what-if's man throws at them constantly... Only to run to and fro all the more.*

*But God says... not an optional suggestion, but an actual command we chose whether to obey or not:*

*To only focus on the most or think about the most that which is worthy of HIS PRAISE, virtuous topics, the good reports, lovely things found only in His kingdom, topics which are PURE and do not taint our souls with spots and blemishes, that which is just and noble and most importantly... whatever things are TRUE.*

*How do we know if something is true? One it is Biblical, two it doesn't encourage evil or assumptions and three it showers you with peace instead of dread, fret or unrest. Nothing in the Book of Revelation brings panic to us when we read it, does it? Because it is grounded in truth, watering the truth already seated within us. I will tell you what brings fright concerning the Book of Revelation, it is when man interprets it for you, adds to it or takes away from what is brought forth in the wholeness of the message conveyed – which is: WE are not appointed to God's wrath.*

*We must read the Bible for ourselves, to discern truth from a lie especially in these days.*

*Next... quickly... Abide in the Lord, do we truly know what this means? Can anything harm Him? No, Jesus defeated death and is victorious. I say that because when we are truly abiding in Jesus, we have a fortified covering the enemy or people cannot penetrate. We are sealed, secure, unharmed, no matter what comes, we shall not perish. There is no safer place to be than in surrendered obedience to Him.*

*Did you know to abide is a verb (action word) and not an adjective (describing word)? I say that because so many people think it is describing them instead of requiring action on their part.*

*When we abide in Jesus, we are welcoming Jesus into us to reform our desires, direct our will according to His plans and take over our lives completely. To abide is to daily, moment by moment – choosing obedience over convenience and trusting His commands even when they challenge our comfort. It is remaining faithfully secure, when our prayers seem to be delayed and our growth feels slow. Abiding looks like choosing the ways of Jesus with humility when no one is looking but Him. Those who abide in Him, choose holiness all the time, not just when someone is watching. When we abide in Jesus His life and love flows through us to produce faith when we used to be driven by fear, peace where there was once chaos and endurance when we once wanted to give up. Abiding is learning to live from His presence and dwelling daily in His love, letting Him lead, correct and strengthen us as a result of Him being Lord over our lives. To abide in faith is to completely trust that staying close to Jesus is enough because everything we need flows from Him. And He is enough.*

*I really hope and pray this helps someone today, to just rest in Him and trust in Him to get us through each day, no matter what we may face... Our hope and our help comes only from Him. Abiding in Jesus is like reaching the Promised Land spiritually where you maintain that peace which surpasses human understanding knowing no weapon shall prosper against you and not one hair on your head may be touched and even if... So what? You've attained the only Prize of any real value, Jesus Himself.*

## **Today's Scriptures:**

### **2 Corinthians 5:8**

We are **confident**, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

*Are we CONFIDENT in this truth? Or are we still scared to death, trying to evade death at every turn, seeking to save our own lives – fearful to die? If we truly believed when our soul departs it lands presently with the Lord, it is perplexing to think how tightly we hold onto staying here. Just something to ponder... and for me, I see I need much growth in this area so that I too become more confident in whether I stay or go, I am in Jesus's presence and the location of me is in His full control.*

### **Psalms 100:4**

Enter into His gates with **thanksgiving**, And into His courts with praise. **Be thankful to Him**, and bless His name.

*We can be grateful or we can murmur and complain... Most likely we are a mixture of both, depending on what we are facing in any given moment. Complaining will set a hedge between us and the Lord, but when we are thankful to Him we are able to quickly enter into His presence and it is in His presence we are restored.*

### **Isaiah 14:12-17**

"How you are **fallen** from heaven, O <sup>Ⓜ</sup>Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are **cut down** to the ground, You who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High. Yet you shall **be brought down** to Sheol, To the <sup>Ⓜ</sup>lowest depths of the **Pit**.'" Those who see you will gaze at you, **And consider you**, saying: 'Is this **the man** who made the earth tremble,

Who shook kingdoms, Who made the world as a wilderness And destroyed its cities,  
Who <sup>14</sup>did not open the house of his prisoners?'

*Just a few things here... One is, this verse calls him a "man." I find that interesting... Now some of us have reached this understanding, others not so much as of yet... where we already can see how our Father removed all prospering of evil's influence and how He keeps the enemy on a short leash. I wanted to read this to confirm within us that the enemy, by the Lord's rule is fallen, cut down, brought low and cast into the permanent pit – Once our eyes are open to truly consider this truth, you just shake your head at his saber rattling and un-prospering threats, believing no weapon he forms against us such prevail. This explains why some believers freak out over that which is coming upon the Earth right now with failing hearts and are fretting about many things and while others are simply resting in the Lord.*

#### **Revelation 14:4**

These are the ones who were not defiled with women, for they are **virgins**. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were <sup>14</sup>redeemed from among men, being **firstfruits** to God and to the Lamb.

*I am just going to briefly share with you all my pearl on this – not saying I am correct at all, but I am being led to share a little what the Lord has showed me **SPIRITUALLY** not in the natural some key points of this verse.*

*Virgins represent a type of spiritual purity, those who are faithful until the end and do not have a desired mixture of ungodly things present in their lives. I don't really see this as being only males, just as I do not see the 10 virgins spoke of in Mathew 25 as being only females. It could be fleshly, but for me it is spiritual in nature, having come from the same Greek root word in both cases. We cannot require the Revelation 14 virgins to be in the flesh, while at the same time declaring the Mathew 25 ones are spiritual – which is hypocrisy. Either way, this will all be revealed in God's timing, just thought I would share you my understanding that doesn't really go with the crowd of Christianity.*

*Next, first-fruits – which means those who are set apart, redeemed from humanity and fully surrendered to Jesus, the Lamb of God. They have forfeited all self-will to the Lord's will over their lives and contain of mark upon them that aligns with integrity – doing what is right in the sight of God when no one is looking. Having no guile in the mouths, equals no deceit or accusations in their hearts because out of the mouth flows such issues held within the human heart.*

*When one follows the Lamb wherever He goes, they have a whole-hearted devotion to Him, even when it is very difficult or unjust things happen to them.*

**Please understand – I am not trying to be disagreeable or challenge what others are shown, just sharing what the Lord has given me for you to take to Him for clarity if so would like to do so.**

#### **John 12:26**

If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.

*This brings great comfort and assurance for us who do the Lord's work with a pure heart. The Father will honor us in ways humans cannot. Which is good enough, as we relinquish all desires to be seen or recognized by humanity.*

#### **Job 1:21**

"Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there. **The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away**; Blessed be the name of the LORD."

*Nothing we accumulate here on Earth, can enter into Heaven when we leave this physical body. The Lord gives us things and people – but it is all temporary, because eventually it will cease to have presence in our lives. Sometimes we get very upset when He removes that which is not permitted to remain, yet we trust His way is perfect and best. Anything removed is returned by that which He desires to remain as an influence to our time here. May we be as thankful in His taking away as we are in His giving.*

### **Mathew 7:12**

Therefore, **whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them**, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

*I just thought we needed a reminder that... whatever we desire for others to do to us and for us is how we are to treat all of humanity – before we act, not after. May we consider not only what we say, but how we say it and may we with compassion be able to show mercy and love to the afflicted, just like Jesus did in our time of brokenness. Our response to everyone we make contact with reveals the truth of us.*

### **Romans 12:21**

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

*I threw this one in because of the chaos and discord in our Country and the World... We need this reminder every single day that evil cannot cast out evil by doing evil with force... The only way we can overcome evil in our lives and surroundings is with doing good. If only people would lay this truth to heart and walk it out, everything would change.*

## **Chapter 19 – High Places**

### **Key Takeaways:**

- One of the beautiful things we get to behold in Much Afraid is the results of when we press into the purifying tests in our lives instead of rebelling or running away from them. Once we are delivered from a test, when we look back our hearts are too filled with joy, containing a great testimony of what God can do. Did we have questions at times? Definitely. But later with full understanding we go from only seeing in part the situation to knowing the full truth that was set before us the whole time.
- It is in the high places all assumptions melt away, in that only the purity of truth remains and we can finally see!
- As we lean upon the everlasting arms of Jesus – where He takes us is limitless! Instead of leaning upon our own understanding in fear, dread and hesitancy we start to walk upon water and trust without seeing when going through life's many detours.
- Sometimes we flounder because we forget to actually accept the help Jesus is offering us. When this happens complaining takes hold and we delay the deliverance process, its like getting stuck in quicksand.
- Sometimes we must fight the battle of loneliness and fall into His embrace, only to be held in His comfort during the moments of being set apart. It can feel like a wilderness moment, as if you are truly alone – which is what being set apart actually is, it is you and just Jesus. And it is purposed so we learn the real value of He is all we truly need for wholeness and joy.
- Loss binds us to Jesus in ways plenty cannot. Read that one again...He truly does give and He truly does take away. I was thinking – what if we really believed that every single thing removed benefited us to the same degree to what is given does? Can you imagine how our thoughts would change if we

trust Him that much? And how much thanksgiving would fill our hearts? We would rejoice at the losses just like we do the blessings.

- We should never attempt to wrestle with God and try to evade His will being done in our lives. The secret place of the land flowing with milk and honey called the Promised Land is... laying our will down in exchange for His, which is perfect, complete and restful.
- He is teaching us how to forgive others without traces of bitterness so that we stop fearing what man or the enemy can do to us so that the forces of evil cannot possibly prosper in our lives.
- Jesus sees us as a whole completed work, even while He is doing a mighty work within us. Even in our frailties He has great hope and compassion cast towards us because His love is pure and very patient in mercy.
- A lovely promise in His Word to cling to is: All circumstances we respond to by holiness can and will be transformed by the touch of His hand.

*Chapter 20 – Return to the Valley – last chapter!*