Our Ever Present Father 2020-04-26

<u>Psalm 139:7-12</u> Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your I

Or where shall I flee from your presence? ⁸ If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! ⁹ If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, ¹⁰ even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night,"

¹² even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.

Easy to feel alone during "shelter at home". Must take thoughts captive.

• Truth is you're NEVER alone...your heavenly Father is omnipresent and uniquely indwells every Christian!

omni =all: present everywhere w/whole being at all times. <u>Psalm 139:7-8,</u> <u>Jeremiah 23:23-24</u>

- Not move between places (baby Jesus/heaven) or partially here and there.
 - "far/near" from God not spatially but morally/relationally.
- Everything is <u>NOT</u> God (Pantheism)...He is distinct from all things. <u>ABOVE ALL!</u>

Inability to understand due to our limitations does not change this truth.

- If God is God, He must be everywhere and thus king everywhere. Fundamental truth: we were/are/will always be in presence of God.
 - Every sin committed in Heavenly Father's presence/sight. <u>Hebrews 4:13,</u> <u>Psalm 139:11-12, Psalm 90:8</u>
 - Many things never do if thought seen!
 - He is just judge because He is a first-hand witness to all our sin.
 - God can be ignored, but he can't be avoided.
 - No place where you may flee FROM God's presence.
 - Flee TO him for forgiveness and salvation.

God is in and around everything, and everything has its existence within Him but the miracle is He is uniquely within every Cristian! <u>1 Corinthian 3:16,</u> <u>Galatians 4:6</u>

• Christian: repent and walk in holiness....your Heavenly Father is there watching!

- Heavenly Father will discipline when you sin but not reject you....still we TRY to run/hide from Him. i.e. Adam & Eve
 - Our acceptance is based on the cross, not your performance!

Father's omnipresence is both sobering and comforting! <u>Psalm 23:4a, Psalm</u> <u>139:9-10</u>

- You're NEVER alone! He there when nobody else was or will be.
 - through all highs and lows of your life...past, present, future.
- Highs: birth, 1st step/word, drive car, graduated, married, child born
- Lows: lost in woods, when sin, physical/emotional suffering, personal loss, rejection, divorce, abortion, accidents.
 - Never, no matter how difficult circumstance, go thru without Heavenly Father.
 - Believing that can replace fear with faith.

Satan must deceive to make God cease to be God to have any effect on Christian.

- Whispers...you alone! Where Heavenly Father now? He doesn't care.
 - Not possible for Him to abandon you. Hebrews 13:5, Acts 17:28
 - Nor is He there (present) but not there....emotionally.
 - Way earthly father effects your relationship with Heavenly Father.

Not just present but supremely attentive/affectionate to all His children.

- He is God of detail so He is intimately involved with every detail of lives.
 - His compassion and care toward you greater than your compassion and care toward your children. *Isaiah 49:15-16, Psalm 121:3*
- Always have his FULL attention, never too busy to hear us when we pray, never preoccupied w/other problems....you can't "bother" Him!

Issue is not Heavenly Father availability but US: we need to be more cognizant of God's presence.

• Walk in conscious experience of presence of God.

<u>"All our actions become small occasions of fellowship with God."</u> from "The Practice of the Presence of God" by Brother Lawrence

 Greet Him beginning/end each day, continual dialogue.
God is in and around everything, and everything has its existence within Him but miracle is He is uniquely within every Christian! <u>Psalm 23:6b, Matthew</u> <u>28:20b</u>

- God of love, grace, mercy, compassion, holiness, is always with us even through all eternity.
 - We never alone because our perfect Heavenly Father is omnipresent!
 - Because of His grace we will always be in His wonderful, secure presence.