

DOES GOD CARE

SCRIPTURE - 1 Pet 5:6-11 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, {7} casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. {8} Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. {9} Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. {10} But may the God of all grace, Who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. {11} To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

INTRODUCTION

A. The Pit

A man fell into a pit and couldn't get himself out.

A Christian Scientist came along and said: "You only think that you are in a pit."

A Religionist said: "Just believe in God and He will get you out of the pit."

A Pharisee said: "Only bad people fall into a pit."

A Sadducee said: "Don't worry about it you'll be dead soon it will all be over."

A Humanist said: "You can get yourself out of your pit."

An IRS man asked if he was paying taxes on the pit."

A Moralist said: "You deserve to be in a pit."

An Optimist said: "Things could be worse."

A Pessimist said: "Things will get worse!"

Jesus, seeing the man, took him by the hand and lifted him out of the pit.

- B. Psa 40:1-4 I waited patiently for the LORD; And He inclined to me, And heard my cry. {2} He also brought me up out of a horrible pit, Out of the miry clay, And set my feet upon a rock, And established my steps. {3} He has put a new song in my mouth; Praise to our God; Many will see it and fear, And will trust in the LORD. {4} Blessed is that man who makes the LORD his trust* And does not respect the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.

I. HE KNOWS OUR NAME

- A. LITTLE GIRL PRAYED - OUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN, HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NAME. WE REMEMBER THE NAME OF THOSE IMPORTANT TO US.
- B. John 10:3 "To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.
- C. John 10:14 "I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own.

II. HE NUMBERS THE HAIRS OF OUR HEAD

- A. Mat 10:30 "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.
- B. WE SEE AND APPRECIATE LITTLE THINGS IN THE ONES WE LOVE

III. HE NUMBERS THE STEPS OF OUR FEET

- A. Job 14:16-17 For now You number my steps, Do you not watch over my sin. My transgression is sealed up in a bag, And You cover my iniquity.
- B. WE CARE ABOUT THE ACTIONS OF THOSE WE LOVE

IV. HE BOTTLES THE TEARS FROM OUR EYES

- A. Psa 56:8 You number my wanderings; Put my tears into Your bottle; Are they not in Your book?
- B. HE'LL WIPE EVERY TEAR FROM OUR EYES AND MAKE UP FOR ALL THOSE WE HAVE SHED. Rom 8:18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.
- C. WE REMEMBER THE TIMES THOSE WE LOVE HURT.

V. HE HOLDS OUR RIGHT HAND IN HIS

- A. Isa 41 : 13 For I, the LORD your God, will hold your right hand, Saying to you, 'Fear not, I will help you'
- B. TRUE FRIENDS HELP WHEN THERE IS A NEED - Prov 18:24 But there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

VI. HE SUPPLIES ALL OUR NEEDS

- A. Phil 4:19 And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
- B. Mat 6:33 "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.
- C. WE PROVIDE THE NEEDS OF THOSE WE CARE ABOUT. 1 Tim 5:8 But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

VII. HE PROVIDES A WAY OF ESCAPE FROM TEMPTATION

- A. 1 Cor 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.
- B. HE DOES ALLOW TEMPTATION SO WE CAN GROW AND DEVELOP CHARACTER. WE MUST DO THE SAME WITH OUR CHILDREN.

VIII. HE GAVE HIS SON FOR US - John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

- A. THE EVIDENCE OF HIS CARE - 1 John 3:16 By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.
- B. WE MUST ACCEPT HIS CARE - John 1:10-14 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. {11} He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. {12} But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: {13} who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. {14} And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.
- C. WE CAN REJECT HIS CARE - Heb 10:28-29 Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. {29} Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?

CONCLUSION - WE WERE IN A PIT AND GOD REACHED DOWN THROUGH HIS SON AND LIFTED US OUT OF THE PIT.

- A. HAVE YOU ACCEPTED HIS LOVE, AND TAKEN HIS HAND?
- B. HAVE YOU REJECTED HIS LOVE, AND HIS HAND?
- C. WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU SEE SOMEONE ELSE IN A PIT?