

You have rescued me

Psalm 30 offers, “I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.” This is a moment of sweet surrender when we see how God rescues us from our sin, from our lack of God-consciousness, from the loss of inner-security that we, at times, experience. Jesus showed us His own sense of inner-security when He was found safe in the temple at age 12. He seemed to KNOW who He was, even at this early age.

I remember, years ago, hearing and singing an old Gospel tune: “Jesus is a rock in the weary land”...how many “weary lands” have you encountered in the past year? Five years? Sometimes it’s just trying something new—formulating a new habit of thought or action that you are challenged by. Or it may be the strain of a relationship on your mind and heart. Unexpected burdens creep up and may engulf us from time to time, but the resilience of the Holy Spirit helps us pull through.

“Hear, oh Lord, and have pity on me” rings out Psalm 30; “Oh Lord, be my helper.” There may come times when we feel like driftwood washing up dry on distant shores...THIS is when we grab on to the reins and hold on for the ride of our lives! Jesus asks us to have the faith of a tiny mustard seed, and He will do the rest! The branches will grow, and the roots grow down deep, if we only hear the gentle whispers to our souls by the Lord, Most High! For it is in this silence of heart we SEE God for who God is. God, as Moses saw in the burning bush, is the great I AM, the oneness of Spirit and goodness that outshines all shadows of evil.

We are called to be promoters of the goodness of God in all that we do. “Jesus went about doing good,” it reads in the Gospel, for He knew He was called “to bring sight to the blind and bring glad tidings to the poor” in simple AND complex ways. Is it any wonder that even the Presence of Jesus brought on new strength and joy? Look about you! See the trumpeting Easter lily proclaim the goodness of our Lord! His goodness shall last a lifetime.

Author Matthew Kelly wrote: “God loves you as you are—but he loves you too much to let you stay that way.” Oh, yes, we are loved right into life and into being! Kelly often writes of “becoming our best selves,” as we strive to make positive changes to better our lives, and the lives of those around us. It is in this hope of discovering our best selves that the light of Christ shines within. Sing praise to the Lord, for His Love is everlasting! He has rescued me from the clutches of my enemies...He offers me His peace!

We all may remember a day when we might have felt lost—losing a loved one or failing at an important task...but God has a sort of “divine GPS” on us and will always lead us back home! God loves us beyond the moon and has us in His care. We find the true goodness of God in the hearts of so many people who are striving to do good in this world. Praise the Lord, the psalmist sang, for His love is everlasting. And in the midst of our struggles, God rescues us. Thank You God for Your saving Grace. You have redeemed the world!

Rich Melcher