

01-02-20 Thursday Thoughts

by Joan Paschal

The other day I saw a sign... "I saw that" - God ... this started my ponderings down the path of 'What did I just do?'... 'What did God just see?' ... Scripture speaks to this... Jeremiah 23:24 tells us "Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD." We read in Psalm 139:1-10 "1 You have searched me, LORD, and you know me. 2 You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. 3 You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. 4 Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely. 5 You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. 7 Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? 8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. 9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, 10 even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast." And Hebrews 4: 13 ¹³ "And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

It's sort of mind boggling to think that God sees all I do and knows all I think... if you are like me... there are times when you are presented with certain people or certain situations when you don't speak your mind... you hold back your thoughts... either out of wisdom or politeness... and confront the situation as truthfully as you can without being deceitful... or hurtful... But to God... we are transparent... God sees right through us... He sees through all of our pretense ... He fills the heavens and the earth... He is in everything... He IS everything... He even leaves a part of Himself within your heart... Wherever we go... there He is.

I remember a times when I tried to hide from God... I felt the Lord calling me to change where I attended churches... He was telling me that I needed to go back to the church I grew up in... a church that my Mother still attended...but I really didn't want to leave the church I attended... I kept ignoring His calling... for over a year... maybe more... I remained steadfast in my decision that I was right where I was supposed to be... I loved the people that I went to church with... they were my extended family... my brothers and sisters in Christ... I resisted... I ran... I hid from God's calling... but no matter how hard I tried to hide... God kept calling... He kept finding me... long story short... I now attend the church I grew up in... and it has been a blessing to me and to others from the day I returned...

There are other times in my life that I hid... I have an incredibly stubborn streak... but God knows that... and He never gives up on me... He never loses patience... He never quits loving me... He just keeps putting up those roadblocks... and if I jump over the roadblock... He puts an even taller one on down the road... until I finally sink to my knees and go forward in the way of His will... and always... ALWAYS... it turns out to

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be the better way!... I'm not saying that all is happiness and bliss from that day forward... but with living life in the will of God... there is a certain grace and peacefulness that accompanies one when they bow to the will of God... there may be pain and hardship... but He will give you the strength and grace to get through it...

Hebrews 4:14-15 tells us... **"¹⁴ Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin."**

So no matter where you are in life... no matter what challenges lie in front of you... no matter what your desires... and even if you think you're living a life that God cares nothing about or knows nothing about... my friend... you are wrong... God cares... God sees... God is right there with you... God has a plan for your life... God loves you in the midst of your mess... There is no where you can run... no where you can hide... that He's not going to be... waiting patiently until you reach out and take the hand He's offering you...

The dark moments in our lives will only last as long as needed for God to accomplish His purpose in us... It will be the Light of the Lord shining down on us, illuminating our path to righteousness, that will always prevail... Don't fight it... because no matter how hard you fight... God will ALWAYS win!

Walk in the Light!

Joan 😊

