

## Reading Through Psalm - My Thoughts and Comments

Psalm 10: 1, 17-18; 11:7

### New International Version

Why, O Lord, do you stand for off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?

### *The Message*

*God, are you avoiding me? Where are you when I need you?*

Does it seem like the Lord is hidden some times; or that he is just not listening to you, your prayers? This could be due the tendency to need God to listen when we think we need him (times of trouble) and to not think about God when times are good. Where is God...when you need Him?

He is steadfast, immovable, and omnipresent - he does not move, waiver or hide. **Though we may feel like he is far from us, he is not.** Don't trust such feelings or emotions but, rather, rest in the promise that when we cry out, God hears us and helps us; when we give praise and thanks, God hears us and delights in us; and when we pray for others, God hears our prayers and answers them according to his sovereign will.

You hear, O Lord, the desire of the afflicted; you encourage them and you listen to their cry, defending the fatherless and the oppressed, in order that man, who is of the earth, may terrify no more.

*But you know all about it—the contempt, the abuse. I dare to believe that the luckless will get lucky someday in you. You won't let them down: orphans won't be orphans forever.*

So much of the Psalms seem to be encouraging in that God is so loving and compassionate to all; **but God is especially attentive to children and to those who "cry" to him.** This attention may seem questionable because of so much hurt, unfairness, and cruelty that occur in the world. The question often arises over God's mercy, let alone his existence, considering the state of the world; and this is a tough question to answer, mind you. What must be considered is not the matter of this question but rather the question that if God does not care, than who does? Please rest on the promise that he cares above any and all.

H. Kirk Rainer

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For the Lord is righteous, he loves justice; upright men will see his face.

*God's business is putting things right; he loves getting the lines straight setting us straight. Once we're standing tall, we can look him straight in the eye.*

God is the creator of truth and Jesus the witness of truth. We are called to seek and find the truth; only then, can we be truly free.

H. Kirk Rainer