Great Salvation He Brings to His King

Happy Wednesday!

Have you ever wondered what God is really like? I have heard people claim that they don't like God, but they like Jesus because He is forgiving. When I hear this, I wonder if they have ever known anything about either God or Jesus? Jesus was forgiving to those who asked for forgiveness, but He didn't tolerate sin (that's why the Pharisees didn't agree with His teaching, because they were sinners and didn't realize it). God is forgiving to those who ask, too, and it is by God's mighty hand that Jesus came, that Jesus died, that Jesus was resurrected from the dead, that Jesus ascended into heaven, and that now Jesus offers us forgiveness when we ask. God and Jesus do not work independently of each other, they are totally and completely United, and One (along with the Holy Spirit).

In case you missed it, here is one man's Biblical account of what God is like. This excerpt of Scripture comes from 2 Samuel and it comes from the mouth of King David. If you're somewhat familiar with the Bible, you may recognize this King David as the same David who killed Goliath with a sling shot way before He became King. Read below for one description of God:

"And David spoke to the Lord the words of this song on the day when the Lord delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul. He said, "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold and my refuge, my savior; you save me from violence. I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies. For the waves of death encompassed me, the torrents of destruction assailed me; the cords of Sheol entangled me; the snares of death confronted me. In my distress I called upon the Lord; to my God I called. From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry came to his ears. He sent from on high, he took me; he drew me out of many waters. He rescued me from my strong enemy, from those who hated me, for they were too mighty for me. They confronted me in the day of my calamity, but the Lord was my support. He brought me out into a broad place; he rescued me, because he delighted in me. With the merciful you show yourself merciful; with the blameless man you show yourself blameless; with the purified you deal purely, and with the crooked you make yourself seem tortuous. You save a humble people, but your eyes are on the haughty to bring them down. For you are my lamp, O Lord, and my God lightens my darkness. For by you I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. This God—his way is perfect; the word of the Lord proves true; he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him. For who is God, but the Lord? And who is a rock, except our God? This God is my strong refuge and has made my way blameless. He made my feet like the feet of a deer and set me secure on the heights. He trains my hands for war, so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze. You have given me the shield of your salvation, and your gentleness made me great. You gave a wide place for my steps under me, and my feet did not slip; The Lord lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be my God, the rock of my salvation, the God who gave me vengeance and brought down peoples under me, who brought me out from my enemies; you exalted me above those who rose against me; you delivered me from men of violence. For this I will praise you, O Lord, among the

nations, and sing praises to your name. Great salvation he brings to his king, and shows steadfast love to his anointed, to David and his offspring forever."" 2 Samuel 22:1-7, 17-20, 26-37, 47-51 ESV

Did you catch this part: "With the merciful you show yourself merciful; with the blameless man you show yourself blameless; with the purified you deal purely, and with the crooked you make yourself seem tortuous. You save a humble people, but your eyes are on the haughty to bring them down. For you are my lamp, O Lord, and my God lightens my darkness."

Whatever your view of God may be, whether it is right, wrong, or indifferent, then that is how God will show Himself to you. Our brains are wired to look for what we expect to find. You'll know this to be true when you wake up some mornings and say, "This is going to be a hard day." Guess what? It usually is worse than you thought it would be... if you happen to see God as a mean dictator who waits anxiously to point out your wrongdoings, guess what? You'll see only that in Him. But if you open your mind and your heart and ask God to *truly* show you who He is and what He is like, I bet you'll begin to see Him differently, clearly, and purely. He is a rock to those whose trust is in Him; A light to those who seek Him; Salvation to those who pursue Him.

Father, I praise You that You do not reveal yourself to the proud, but only to the humble. Help me be humble so that I can see you clearly. You are good and your lovingkindness is never failing, your mercy is new every morning, and you are faithful - never giving up. Help me trust You and trust Who You say You are, letting go of lies I've believed. In the strong Name of Jesus, I pray.

"Way maker" by Leland https://youtu.be/iJCV_2H9xD0?si=n-D-joL0eAvMHiTp

Brittany Laing