

Daily Encouragement from Gordon – Saturday 9th May

Psalm 46

There were times when the world changing reformer, Martin Luther, felt in absolute despair, asking "Why, my soul, are you downcast?" (Psalm 42 & 43). Then he would say to his friend Melancthon, 'Come, let us sing the 46th Psalm.

1 God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.

'ever-present'! He never ever leaves us to flounder.

2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

3 though its waters roar and foam

and the mountains quake with their surging.

We are secure in the all powerful God, irrespective of circumstances.

4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy place where the Most High dwells.

5 God is within her, she will not fall;

God will help her at break of day.

God dwells in his church, the body of his people. His presence by his Spirit in our midst makes us deeply glad.

6 Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;
he lifts his voice, the earth melts.

7 The Lord Almighty is with us;

the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Our God is the God of Jacob, the God who loves sinners like Jacob and transforms them by his grace

8 Come and see what the Lord has done,
the desolations he has brought on the earth.

9 He makes wars cease
to the ends of the earth.

He breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.

...and see what he has done in the lives of those who trusted him, through the generations as well as today

10 He says, 'Be still, and know that I am God;

Motyer translates this as 'relax' - and realise just how mighty a refuge our God is

I will be exalted among the nations,

I will be exalted in the earth.'

11 The Lord Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

We need nothing more than this! Rest in Him.

The hymn, [A mighty fortress is our God](#) is a translation of Martin Luther's song, written as he stood alone for the basic truths of the gospel.

Enjoy it.

Gordon