

And if the bugler doesn't sound a clear sound, how will the soldiers know they are being called to battle? 1st Corinthians 14:8 NLV

First Love Ministries, Inc.

PRAYER STUDY # 176

In the Presence of Jehovah

How great is Your goodness, which You have stored up for those who fear You, which You have wrought for those who take refuge in You, before the sons of men! You hide them in the secret place of Your presence from the conspiracies of man. You keep them secretly in a shelter from the strife of tongues.

Psalm 31:19-20 New American Standard

What a stack of blessing you have piled up for those who worship you, ready and waiting for all who run to you to escape an unkind world. You hide them safely away from the opposition. As you slam the door on those oily, mocking faces, you silence the poisonous gossip.

Psalm 31:19-20 The Message

He who dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

Psalm 91:1

Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers and shut the doors about thee; hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation is past.

Isaiah 26:20

Thou wilt show me the path of life. In thy presence is fullness of joy. At thy right hand there are pleasures evermore.

Psalm 16:11

I personally know of no greater privilege on this earth or in the world to come, for a Christian believer, than to be in the Presence of Jesus. In a sense, we are always in His Presence when we are born again, by way of the Holy Spirit who comes to tabernacle in us when we accept Christ. According to Colossians 1:27, *Christ in you is the hope of glory.* Therefore, He is always in our hearts and present in a very real way. He is also there in a special way, according to Matthew 18:20, every time we meet in His name. There are times, however, when His Presence is so real that it causes an almost holy hush in His people. These are the times when Tenney

was referring to when he talked of “Presence Evangelism” as distinguished from “Traditional Evangelism” and “Power Evangelism.”

If His Presence brings joy, and *the joy of the Lord is our strength* (Nehemiah 8:10), surely we should seek after His Presence much more than we do so that we can be part of that end time company spoken of by Daniel in Daniel 11:32, who shall know their God and be strong and do exploits in these Last Days.

The scriptures indicate that manifestations of His presence or the Angel of His Presence are not that uncommon. There is no doubt in my own mind—and I certainly think this can be scripturally backed—that we can know His Presence in an extraordinary way if we walk in humility and obedience and are sensitive to His Spirit.

BIBLICAL REACTIONS TO THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD

- 1. THE BACKSLIDDEN BELIEVER:** Many backsliders follow the example of Adam and Eve and foolishly try to hide themselves and their sin from an omniscient God, thinking they are fooling Him and His Body. *And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: And Adam and his wife hide themselves from the Presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.* Genesis 3:8
- 2. THOSE WHO REFUSE GOD’S REDEMPTION:** Many people simply walk away from the Presence of God. They put off and put off accepting the provision the Father has made, the shed blood of Jesus, and brush off the conviction of the Holy Spirit, until their lives are wasted. *And Cain went out from the Presence of God and dwelt in the Land of Nod, on the east of Eden.* Genesis 4:16
- 3. BELIEVERS WHO KNOW GOD’S WILL BUT REFUSE TO DO IT:** Many Christians find themselves in the dark, controlled by circumstances, and having no Word from the Father because they walk in disobedience, grieving the Holy Spirit, even though they know Him and know what He has asked them to do. *Now the Word of the Lord came unto Jonah, the son of Amitai, saying, “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it for their wickedness is come up before me, but Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord and went down to Joffa, and he found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the Presenc of the Lord.* Jonah 1:1-3
- 4. CHRISTIANS HEAD OVER HEELS IN LOVE WITH JESUS:**

The Lord has always had a remnant who refuse to bow and who stay on their knees to be in His Presence. *Now it came to pass, as they went that he entered into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His Word. But Martha was cumbered about much serving and came to Him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Bid her, therefore, that she help me." And Jesus answered and said unto her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things. But one thing is needful, and Mary has chosen that good part, which shall not be taken from her."* Luke 10:38-42

Like Mary, we can choose the *GOOD* part and reap these benefits:

1. His Glory will come down: *Glory and honor are in His Presence; Strength and gladness are in His place.* 1st Chronicles 16:27
2. Our enemies will be turned back: *When my enemies turn back, they shall fall and perish at Your Presence.* Psalm 9:3
3. Times of Refreshing will come: *Repent therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing come from the Presence of the Lord...* Acts 3:19
4. No flesh shall glory: *That no flesh should glory in His Presence.* 1st Corinthians 1:29

I believe that the Lord God desires to be in your presence even more than you desire to be in His. Yet if you have ever been in the Presence of the Lord, it is something that you earnestly yearn for and will never be satisfied without. God also desires to speak to His people and have relationship with them.

8 WAYS THAT GOD SPEAKS TO MAN (taken from *Dake's Annotated Reference Bible*-“The Acts Notes”)

1. **By Prophecy** (Acts 3:21, 2nd Peter 1:21, Acts 11:27-28, Acts 21:10): *God, who at sundry times and in diverse manner, spoke in times past unto the fathers by the prophets.* Hebrews 1:1
2. **Tongues and Interpretation:** *Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of*

operations, but it is the same God who worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit. For to one is given, by the Spirit, the word of wisdom; to another, the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another, faith by the same Spirit; to another, the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; to another, the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another, discerning of spirits; to another, various kinds of tongues; to another, the interpretation of tongues. But all these worketh that one and the very same Spirit, dividing to every man severally as He will. 1st Corinthians 12:4-11

- 3. Still small voice:** *And he said, Go forth and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake, a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire, a still small voice. And it was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. And, behold, there came a voice unto him, and said, What does thou here, Elijah? 1st Kings 19:11-13*
- 4. Audible voice** (John 12:28, Acts 9:7, Deuteronomy 5:1, 1st Samuel 9:15): *While he yet spoke, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them and behold, a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased; hear ye Him, Matthew 17:5*
- 5. By angels** (Acts 12:8, Acts 27:23): *And an angel of the Lord spoke unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south, unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Garza, which is desert. Acts 8:26*
- 6. By visions** (Psalm 89:19, Acts 10:3, Acts 11:5, Acts 16:9, Acts 18:9): *And there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Behold, I am here, Lord." Acts 9:10*
- 7. By dreams** (Genesis 20:6, Matthew 2:12-22, Acts 2:17, Daniel 2:19, 28, & 45): *But while he thought on these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary, thy wife; for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 1:20*

8. **By impressions upon man's spirit** (Acts 17:16, Acts 19:21, 2nd Corinthians 2:13, Ephesians 4:30, 1st Thessalonians 5:19, Romans 8:16)-**This could be called intuition, impression, inner consciousness, inspiration. It can come in various forms and ways:** *And when Silas and Timothy were come from Macedonia, Paul was pressed in the spirit and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ. Acts 18:5*

In the Presence of Jehovah
Becky Davis and Geron Davis

*In and out of situations
That tug-a-war at me
All day long I struggle
For answers that I need
Then I come into His presence
All my questions become clear
And for a sacred moment
No doubt can interfere.*

*Through His love the Lord provided
A place for us to rest
A place to find the answers
In hours of distress
There is never any reason
To give up in despair
Just slip away and breathe His name
He will come and meet you there.*

Chorus

*In the presence of Jehovah
God Almighty, Prince of Peace
Troubles vanish, hearts are mended,
In the presence of the King.*