

### Psalms 116:3-4

"3 The cords of death compassed me, and the pains of Sheol found me. I found trouble and sorrow. 4 Then called I upon the name of the Lord: O Jehovah, I beseech you, deliver my soul."

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<table>
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<tr>
<th>26 July 2015</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Volume 16; Issue 30</td>
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### Where is God?

Zion had grown despondent while in their seventy years of Babylonian captivity. Judah had been crushed by Babylon. The people of God that were not slain by the sword, pestilence, or famine were taken captive by Nebuchadnezzar. Years and years go by with the remnant in a foreign land having lost many family members and their possessions. The people, at the height of their despair, cry "God has forsaken me and the Lord has forgotten me." Where was God?

Sometimes people today wonder where God is. Why would God permit over 20,000 people in Japan to die in an earthquake and tsunami? Where was God when the terrorist flew the airplanes into the World Trade Center towers? Why does God permit human sex trafficking of girls twelve, thirteen, fourteen, and fifteen years old right here in America? Where is God as millions upon millions of unborn babies are being aborted? Where is God while hate governs the hearts of so many the world over? Has God forgotten his created people?

The Apostle Peter reveals the modern thought of men, regarding God's whereabouts, as they live and die generation after generation. Peter writes, "Know this first, that in the last days mockers shall come with mockery, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming? For from the day that the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation" (2 Peter 3:3-4). Overanxious man desires to see and know the whereabouts of God.
The disciples of Jesus were anxious as well saying, “Tell us, when shall these things be? And what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?” (Matthew 24:3)

Yes the world continues to revolve around its axes in the universe. Time continues to pass. Man continues to suffer. Innocent people continue to die. Sickness, disease, war, and cruelty continue to take lives. Where is God?

After the people of God in Babylon conclude, "God has forgotten me!" The Lord replies, "Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yea, these may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me" (Isaiah 49:15-16). God was with his people in captivity and he cared for them.

Peter also answers the people's question, "Where is the promise of his coming?" The Apostle writes, "For this they willfully forget, that there were heavens from of old, and earth compacted out of water and amidst water, by the word of God; by which means the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: but the heavens that now are, and the earth, by the same word have been stored up for fire, being reserved against the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

But forget not this one thing, beloved, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some count slackness; but is longsuffering to you-ward, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? But, according to his promise, we look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.” (2 Peter)

Proverbs 12

"1 Whoso loves correction loves knowledge; But he that hates reproof is brutish. 2 A good man shall obtain favor of Jehovah; But a man of wicked devices will he condemn. 3 A man shall not be established by wickedness; But the root of the righteous shall not be moved. 4 A worthy woman is the crown of her husband; But she that makes ashamed is as rottenness in his bones. 5 The thoughts of the righteous are just; [But] the counsels of the wicked are deceit. 6 The words of the wicked are of lying in wait for blood; But the mouth of the upright shall deliver them. 7 The wicked are overthrown, and are not; But the house of the righteous shall stand. 8 A man shall be commended according to his wisdom; But he that is of a perverse heart shall be despised. 9 Better is he that is lightly esteemed, and hath a servant, Than he that honors himself, and lacks bread. 10 A righteous man regards the life of his beast; But the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel. 11 He that tills his land shall have plenty of bread; But he that follows after vain [persons] is void of understanding. 12 The wicked desires the net of evil men; But the root of the righteous yields [fruit]. 13 In the transgression of the lips is a snare to the evil man; But the righteous shall come out of trouble. 14 A man shall be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth; And the doings of a man's hands shall be rendered unto him. 15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes; But he that is wise listens unto counsel. 16 A fool's vexation is presently known; But a prudent man conceals shame. 17 He that utters truth shows forth righteousness; But a false witness, deceit. 18 There is that speaks rashly like the piercing of a sword; But the tongue of the wise is health. 19 The lip of truth shall be established for ever; But a lying tongue is but for a moment. 20 Deceit is in the heart of them that devise evil; But to the counselors of peace is joy. 21 There shall no mischief happen to the righteous; But the wicked shall be filled with evil. 22 Lying lips are an abomination to Jehovah; But they that deal truly are his delight. 23 A prudent man conceals knowledge; But the heart of fools proclaims foolishness. 24 The hand of the diligent shall bear rule; But the slothful shall be put under task work. 25 Heaviness in the heart of a man makes it stoop; But a good word makes it glad. 26 The righteous is a guide to his neighbor; But the way of the wicked causes them to err. 27 The slothful man roasts not that which he took in hunting; But the precious substance of men [is to] the diligent. 28 In the way of righteousness is life; And in the pathway thereof there is no death"