

THE GOD WHO KEEPS US EVERYDAY

Isaiah 27:3 *I the LORD do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day.*

The holidays are soon over, and we will all begin a new season at school, work etc. Some of you may be excited at the prospect of a new challenge – new friends, teachers, places and colleagues, for example, while others may feel some tension at the thought of new changes. Thankfully, Jesus is the God of the everyday. Speaking about Israel, which also extends to the Church, God says in Isaiah 27:3, “I the LORD do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day”. I want to comfort you with this promise of God today: God will keep you first. To keep something is to support it and ensure it endures despite the challenges that may lie ahead. Children and adolescents, God will give you new friends and good, kind teachers. He will further keep you from bad habits and bless your academic skills and results. Young people please say Amen! To those who are employed in diverse activities or are full-time stay-at-home parents, may the Lord Jesus keep you in your job. May you find a deep satisfaction in your labor, may you find favor with your employer and your colleagues!

Psalms 121:3 *He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.*

Psalms 121:4 *Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.*

This is why you should sleep peacefully at night. God is keeping us. He is the God of the every day. Your foot will not be moved because God watches over us. Thank God for sleep! Can you imagine how much more sins we would have committed had it not been for precious sleep! God gives created us with the need for sleep, while he never sleeps but keeps us while we sleep. Praise God! We should not think that the Lord is unconcerned with the day to day. Daily routines that may appear as monotonous and a chore have been blessed by God.

Gen 1:12 *And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.*

Gen 2:3 *And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.*

The above scriptures remind us that God was pleased with every day of the creation week and blessed them. He made all these days for us. Even the Sabbath, which is God’s day, was made in order for humans to rest in God from physical labor. So, go with this confidence

to the duties and commitments which lie ahead next week. God has blessed everyday, and he will keep you in your activities. Not least, we will return on Sunday, his Sabbath, to his house and give him thanks as we rest from our labors. This is why we go to Church – to acknowledge that God has kept us the rest of the days of the week. May the God of Israel, Jesus, keep you!

Isaiah 27:3 I the LORD do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day.

Next, God declares that he will water the Church. Not only will he keep us, but he will also water us. To water is to give life. “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6). The earth receives rain and produces grain, fruits etc. Humans need more than earthly water to flourish – we need the Spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Church receives rain from heaven so that we can overcome the challenges we face in this world. “These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world” (John 14:33).

Let us say you have a quarrel with a colleague and the quarrel remains unresolved. You realize after some time that this begins to sap your sense of peace and stability. It begins to affect your sleep and wellbeing. God declares in Isaiah, “I will water it every moment (Isaiah 27:3)”. Amen! The flames of discord, envy and hatred are quenched by the water of the God of Israel, Jesus Christ! Do not dwell on the source of the problem, turn to Jesus and say, “water”, Jesus! The longer a fire rages, the more damage it does. The quicker water is poured on the fire, the less the damage. God says he will “water it every moment”. Don’t wait too long before asking for the water of Jesus to extinguish the fire. His water is available every moment.

***Gal 5:22** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,*

***Gal 5:23** Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*

***Gal 5:24** And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.*

***Gal 5:25** If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.*

The above is the water of God. May he pour it abundantly upon our souls in the days and months to come! The Apostles were humans with their weaknesses as we are. When they preached Christ in Jerusalem, they were beaten and received such severe threats their faith was shaken. What did they do? They went back to their foundation, back to base! They called

an old-fashioned prayer meeting, and Jesus sent fresh water from heaven to quench their fear. Rather than be shaken by the threats of the enemies of the Gospel, Jesus' heavenly water shook off their fear.

Act 4:31 *And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.*

Finally, God declares through Isaiah, "... I will keep it night and day" (Isaiah 27:3). It is God who made the phenomenon of night and day. It is God who keeps them separate. Both are his servants. Like many children, I was afraid of the night. We reason, strangely, that the night is dangerous because we cannot see the danger – as if danger and the night are twins. God is our eyes! The God who made the lion with a night vision that is six times better than that of a human says, "If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me" (Psalm 139:11). The night is God's servant as is the day. It was at midnight that God killed the firstborns of Egypt, it was at midnight that Boaz found Ruth lying at his feet, God saved the Roman jailer in Philippi when Paul and Silas sang and it will be at midnight the world will hear the cry, "the bridegroom cometh go ye out to meet him".

Psalms 74:16 *The day is thine, the night also is thine: thou hast prepared the light and the sun.*

To sum up Isaiah 27:3, God wants us to know that he is watching over us and keeping us 24/7. It is very sad to read in the news that the author, Salman Rushdie, was stabbed multiple times in New York a few days ago. His would-be assassins were unsuccessful in killing him since 1988. He was given some of the best security in the world an individual could get. However, despite the presence of two policemen, the attacker succeeds in stabbing the author multiple times. Fortunately, Rushdie appears to have survived but will lose an eye and sustain other serious injuries. Not so with the God of Israel! There is no lapse in his security arrangements. He will watch over us night and day. The God whom none could arrest or apprehend without his permission will keep us.

John 18:6 *As soon then as he had said unto them, I am he, they went backward, and fell to the ground.*

The great "I am" says, "I the LORD do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day" (Isaiah 27:3). Go into the next week with this promise. Amen!