

LIFE GROUP APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Psalms Series

These questions are for the **March 20, 2022**, sermon, "God of the Battle." Please read the sermon passage (Psalm 46) together out loud.

Sermon Outline

IN TURBULENT TIMES, FOCUS UPON GOD'S SOVEREIGN PRESENCE . . .

1. Even when nature is in upheaval. (1-3)
 - a. God is our refuge and our strength.
 - i. Always available to help us ("very present") (note emphasis on "us").
 - ii. Reduces and eliminates fear. "Therefore, we will not fear."
 - b. Even if the environment and nature itself seems out of control.
 - i. The EARTH: gives way (we will not fear).
 - ii. The MOUNTAINS: are moved (we will not fear).
 - iii. The WATERS: roar (we will not fear).
2. Even when Jerusalem is being threatened. (4-7)
 - a. While Jerusalem is threatened, God provides for his people's every need (stream).
 - b. Zechariah 14:8. In the past, presently and in the future, God cares for his own.
 - c. While the nations "rage," God reigns. In faithfulness and with sovereign strength.
3. Even when war seems to be inevitable (8-11)
 - a. While wars may come, fix your eyes and attention ("Behold") on what God is doing.
 - b. One day, the LORD will bring an end to conflicts and any and every military weapon.
 - c. Be still. Let a deep conviction and knowledge of God reign in your heart.
 - d. One day all the rebellious nations will see that God is. He is here.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: Environmental upheavals have taken place since Genesis 3, 6 (the Flood), and they often take human life. How does the "We will not fear" work itself out in your life?
 - In what ways do you turn to God? (v. 1) How does he help?
 - In what ways do you turn to other believers? ("We" will not fear, v. 2) How do they help?
2. Based on #2, above: Jerusalem is a real location, and the Jewish people will experience protection in the last days. And we can apply this promise, claiming it in turbulent times. For instance, though Russia rages (or Somalia or North Korea), yet God is aware of the suffering of his people and will ultimately deliver them for his own name's sake. What impact does war and rebellious politicians have upon your confidence in the LORD's promise? How is your resolve strengthened when you consider that until he delivers us, he is "with us" (v. 7)?
3. Based on #3, above: When the wars come, God's people are here instructed to a) focus on what God has done and is doing ("Behold"); and b) "Be still and know that I AM God."
 - With chaos around you, are you developing the ability to look past all the trouble and focus upon "the works of the LORD" (v. 8)? What are some encouraging "works of the LORD" which you are focusing on today?
 - "Being still" is not "passivity," but an active and personal awareness and knowledge of God, "the LORD." Describe your still "know"ledge of God.