



# GOD, WHY?

TRUSTING GOD WHEN LIFE DOESN'T MAKE SENSE

9/22/2024

## GOD, WHY?

### PART II: "GOD, IF ONLY YOU HAD BEEN HERE..."

**John 11:17-21 (NLT).** *When Jesus arrived at Bethany, he was told that Lazarus had already been in his grave for four days. Bethany was only a few miles down the road from Jerusalem, and many of the people had come to console Martha and Mary in their loss. When Martha got word that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him. But Mary stayed in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died."*

**J.I. Packer:** *"'Wait on the Lord' is a constant refrain in the Psalms, and it is a necessary word, for God often keeps us waiting. He is not in such a hurry as we are, and it is not his way to give more light on the future than we need for action in the present, or to guide us more than one step at a time."*

**REMEMBER:** When God seems distant, when He seems late, I will be guided by truth and not feelings. This is the truth: His Presence is with me and God always arrives on time.

**Matthew 1:23 (NLT).** *"Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means, 'God is with us.'"*

### **BECAUSE HIS PRESENCE IS WITH ME:**

- I WILL FOCUS ON THE [MAJESTY] OF GOD AND NOT ON THE [MAGNITUDE] OF MY CIRCUMSTANCES.**

**John 11:21-22 (NLT).** *Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask."*

**1 Chronicles 29:11 (NLT).** *Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. Everything in the heavens and on earth is yours, O Lord, and this is your kingdom. We adore you as the one who is over all things.*

**Exodus 15:11 (NLT).** *“Who is like you among the gods, O Lord – glorious in holiness, awesome in splendor, performing great wonders?”*

## 2. I WILL SET MY EYES ON THE [POWER] OF GOD AND NOT ON MY PRESENT [PAIN].

**John 11:23-26 (NLT).** *Jesus told her, “Your brother will rise again.” “Yes,” Martha said, “he will rise when everyone else rises, at the last day.” Jesus told her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. Do you believe this, Martha?”*

**Psalm 121:1-2 (KJV).** *I look up to the mountains— does my help come from there? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth!*

**Jeremiah 32:17 (NLT).** *“O Sovereign Lord! You made the heavens and earth by your strong hand and powerful arm. Nothing is too hard for you!*

## 3. I WILL CHANGE THE [SORROW] OF MY CONFESSION TO A [SONG] OF EXALTATION.

**John 11:27 (NLT).** *““Yes, Lord,” she told him. “I have always believed you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who has come into the world from God.”*

**Exodus 15:2 (NLT).** *The Lord is my strength and my song; he has given me victory. This is my God, and I will praise him— my father’s God, and I will exalt him!*

**1 Peter 1:6-7 (NLT).** *So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So, when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world*



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