

THE NEARNESS OF GOD

Jeremiah 23:24

Introduction: "The nearness of God." Now that can be good or that can be bad. It all depends on what condition the person is in at the time. There are times when we need help from anybody and there are times when we hope nobody is looking. When we mess up, do something we shouldn't, we hope for impunity from God and others who might hold us accountable. If we can deceive, fool others, then there's no danger from them, so we're alright, for nobody knows what we've done. But with God? That's another matter.

I. IDOL WORSHIP IS LOCATED IN A SINGLE PLACE

1. If a god of man, an idol is placed in a "temple" or some type of building, then it is possible to commit wrong apart from that false god's presence.
 - However if Almighty God is not limited to a specific location, then that's another thing.
2. As creator of all things, how can Almighty God be absent from any part of His creation?
 - As ruler of all things, how can God be limited in time or space in managing the affairs of His creation?
3. As God, He is perfect, not bound by time or space.
 - God dwells in heaven, yet is not limited to heaven.
 - God exists on earth, yet is in no particular place as He fills all in all.
4. Man's own mind reveals the fact of God and that God is aware of his/her innermost thoughts.
 - People try to persuade themselves that God does not see their evil deeds, but in serious reflection, their conscience tells them differently.
 - God indeed dwelt in the Temple, apart from the wicked, but was still present everywhere.

II. ONE CANNOT KEEP ANYTHING FROM ALMIGHTY GOD

1. It is complete idiocy to commit sin under the idea of total secrecy.
 - The thief steals by slipping about.
 - The adulterer waits for night.
 - Sin is committed by every description in secret but would not dare to do so if anybody else could see.
2. To commit such sin with the ever seeing eyes and with the ever nearness of God present is utter foolishness.
3. There is no darkness too dark for God not to see. God will one day bring to light every evil deed so that fair judgment can be made upon the committer of such deeds.

4. How empty are the hopes of those with such thoughts:
 - deceive men, yes.
 - deceive own selves, yes.
 - deceive God, NO!
 - No matter how much care is taken to deceive, God sees and will bring fair judgment.
5. There is only one way for evil deeds to be missed by God and that is to have them covered with the blood of Jesus Christ. Blotted out as far as the East is from the West, Cast into the depth of the sea, etc.
6. It is vain to hope that by any other means than the blood of Jesus Christ that man can escape the wrath of God.
7. The Christian has many enemies hidden from view, yet in God's eyes they are not concealed nor is God deceived.

CONCLUSION:

1. God is everywhere at all times and aware of all of our thoughts at all times. There is nothing secret from God.
2. Christian, if God is everywhere all the time, then He can very well care for us, His Children.
 - If God be for the believer, who or what shall be against them?
3. Let us acknowledge God in all our ways and depend upon Him in all our trials.
4. Remember, God knows all, sees all, hears all, all the time and in His time, every one of us will stand before Him and give an account of our life.