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NEWS & EVENTS – July 2026

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In my journeys along a particular road I travel frequently, there's a landmark I see when I pass by. I never fail to consider its silent testimony. The landmark looks like this. Maybe you can see what I'm saying. There is an older house closest to the road. It appears that the house has weathered many storms over time and enjoyed both the shelter and shade of some strong old oak trees that have bent in the wind for many years. A couple of swings and a tree house still attached to the trees give evidence that children must have played there. Today it doesn't appear that the old house is inhabited. I never see cars in the driveway that provides access to it. The driveway is in the shape of a semi-circle in front of the house, and it branches off beside the house and then splits to deliver travelers to two other houses. One of the houses behind the old house is a larger, two-story house, newer than the old house by the road, but not as new as the third house. The newest house is built on one level but has a garage for multiple vehicles, usually parked on the driveway. Maybe the garage is used for storage space, filled with things that people find hard to discard. Assuming these houses represent the domiciles of generations of the same family, I wonder why the old house is still standing. The Old House blocks the view of the more modern homes, at least in the opinion of realtors, who evaluate the resale value. Not being privy to knowing the history of these assumed generations, or the reason the Old House is still standing, I have a theory. Let's consider this Scripture that has endured the test of time.

*1 In the Lord I take refuge; How can you say to my soul, "Flee as a bird to your mountain;
2 For, behold, the wicked bend the bow, They make ready their arrow upon the string
to shoot in darkness at the upright in heart.
3 If the foundations are destroyed, What can the righteous do?"
4 The Lord is in His holy temple; the Lord's throne is in heaven; His eyes behold, His eyelids test the
sons of men.
5 The Lord tests the righteous and the wicked, And the one who loves violence His soul hates.
6 Upon the wicked He will rain snares; Fire and brimstone and burning wind will be the portion of
their cup.
7 For the Lord is righteous, He loves righteousness; The upright will behold His face. Ps 11:1-7*

In my understanding, this Psalm is attributed to a young King David, in his flight from Saul's relentless pursuit. David was faced with a decision of how to live while Saul wanted him dead. Verse 3 asks the question all righteous people can ask in a world bent on destruction. We become righteous people when we pursue the righteousness of God. He's the Source of Righteousness. He looks for it. He gives it.

In the Lord I take refuge...In the Lord I place my trust. Here is a declaration of life. A strategy of not only surviving but thriving. To live in this world, fallen, tainted, and twisted with sin, is a hopeless endeavor without the hope of God in us. The choice run away and hide on a mountain, or any man-made shelter is not God's choice for us. He is with us as He builds us as a family that can always rely upon Him, Living out a legacy of faith for the generations to see. In my landmark story above, I contend that the generations behind the Old House cannot bear to destroy the Old House because of the foundation upon which it stands. The younger generations are reminded of that reality day in and day out as they pass by the Old House morning and evening. People who lived there passed on life to them.

At the time this Scripture was taught to God's people, the generations of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had multiplied into fruition. The House of Jacob had endured. It still does. The King greater than David lived, died, and rose from the dead...the foundation of our eternal home has been laid...and the people of God can be reminded every day who we are and where we live...now in the world, not of the world. One day we will be privileged to live as a family, loving God forever, in the place Jesus went to prepare. He is coming...so get ready. Every day, morning and evening, remember the King who cares.

He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end. Luke 1:32-33

Blessings to you,
Pastor Sam