



• Psalms 118:5-7 (ESV)

- 5 Out of my distress I called on the LORD;
- the LORD answered me and set me free.
- 6 The LORD is on my side; I will not fear.
- What can man do to me?
- 7 The LORD is on my side as my helper;
- I shall look in triumph on those who hate me.



- A Hedge Around: Job 1
- What kind of man was Job? (1,8)
 - Job 1:1 (ESV) 1 There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job, and that man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.
 - Job 1:8 (ESV) 8 Then the LORD said to Satan, “Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?”
 - Job 1:8 (ESV) 8 And the LORD said to Satan, “Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil?”



- Satan's Accusation (10)

- Job 1:10 (ESV) **Have you not put a hedge around him and his house and all that he has, on every side?** You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.
- What was the hedge?
 - BDB: 07753 to hedge or fence up or about; to fence about, hedge up
 - Strongs: to entwine, i.e. shut in (for formation, protection or restraint):-- fence, (make an) hedge (up).
- What is a fence for? Protection



- Had God put a hedge around Job?
 - Was Satan telling the truth?
 - Was there really a hedge?
 - Had God blessed Job?
 - Did God take care of the man who honored him?
- Does God put a hedge around us?
 - Yes and no: still face trials that help our faith to grow!
 - Not face more than we can handle: 1 Cor. 10:13
- Does God bless us? More than we know!



- I Understand His Purpose: Joseph
- Joseph's Story: Vicissitudes of Life
 - Favorite son of Jacob: special coat
 - Dreams from God: brothers hate him
 - Brothers:
 - Attack
 - Almost Kill
 - Sell as a slave
 - Tell Jacob he's dead



- Potipher's Steward: trusted in all things, running household
 - Genesis 39:2: The LORD was with Joseph, and he became a successful man, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master.
 - accused by lustful wife of Potipher.
 - Sent to Jail (King's prisoners)



- Keeper of the Prison
 - Genesis 39:21: But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison.
 - Genesis 39:23: The keeper of the prison paid no attention to anything that was in Joseph's charge, because the LORD was with him. And whatever he did, the LORD made it succeed.
- Interprets Pharaoh's Dream: raised to second in kingdom (30 years old)
- Famine brings brothers to Egypt for food.



- Genesis 45:4-11

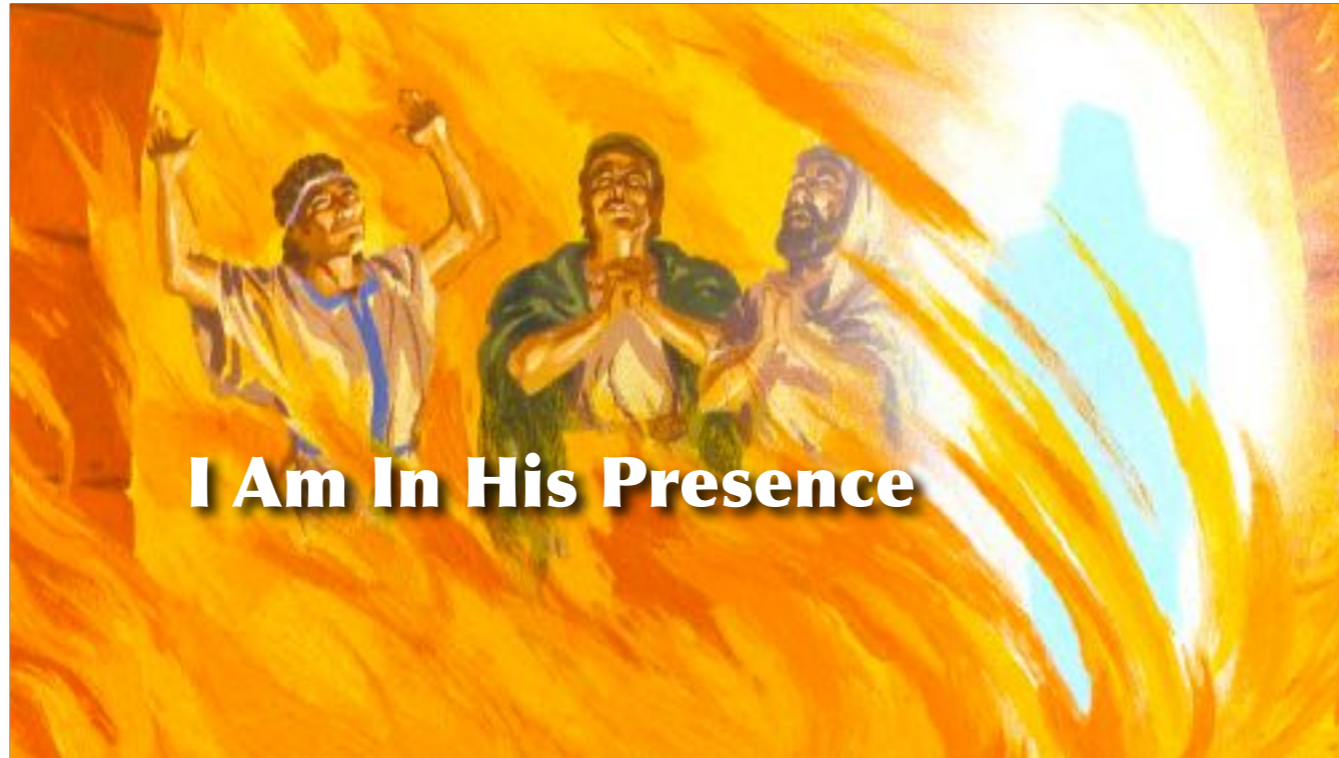
- 5 And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for **God sent me** before you to preserve life.
- 7 And **God sent me** before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors.
- 8 So it was **not you who sent me here, but God**. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.
- 9 Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, **God has made me lord of all Egypt**.



- Genesis 50:15-21 (ESV)
 - Jacob dies; brother's think Joseph will hate them and repay them
 - Please forgive!
 - 19 But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God?
 - 20 As for you, **you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about** that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.
 - 21 So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones."
 - Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.



- I am in His Presence:
- Daniel 3:14-15 (ESV) 14 Nebuchadnezzar answered and said to them, “Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the golden image that I have set up? 15 Now if you are ready when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, to fall down and worship the image that I have made, well and good. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace. **And who is the god who will deliver you out of my hands?”**



- Daniel 3:16-18 (ESV) 16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. 17 If this be so, our God whom we serve is **able to deliver us** from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. 18 **But if not**, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.”



I Am In His Presence

- Courage
 - We do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter.
- Confidence
 - God is able to save us, will rescue us.
- Commitment
 - Are you ready for the “IF NOT...”?



- Daniel 3:24-25 (ESV) 24 Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up in haste. He declared to his counselors, “Did we not cast three men bound into the fire?” They answered and said to the king, “True, O king.” 25 He answered and said, “But I see four men unbound, walking in the midst of the fire, and they are not hurt; and the appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods.”



- Daniel 3:28 (ESV) 28 Nebuchadnezzar answered and said, “Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his angel and **delivered his servants, who trusted in him**, and set aside the king's command, and yielded up their bodies rather than serve and worship any god except their own God.
- Daniel 3:29 (ESV) 29 Therefore I make a decree: Any people, nation, or language that speaks anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego shall be torn limb from limb, and their houses laid in ruins, **for there is no other god who is able to rescue in this way.**”



- Romans 8:31-39 (ESV) 31 What then shall we say to these things?
 - If God is for us, **who can be against us?**
 - 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?



- **33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect?**
 - It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn?
 - Christ Jesus is the one who died
 - —more than that, who was raised
 - —who is at the right hand of God,
 - who indeed is interceding for us.



- **35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?**

- Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?
- 36 As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."
- (Like James: Acts 12:2: He killed James the brother of John with the sword)



- 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.
 - 38 For I am sure that
 - neither death nor life,
 - nor angels nor rulers,
 - nor things present nor things to come,
 - nor powers,
 - 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation,
 - will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.



- Psalms 118:5-7 (ESV) 5 Out of my **distress** I called on the LORD; the LORD answered me and set me free. 6 The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me? 7 The LORD is on my side as my helper; I shall look in triumph on those who **hate** me.



- Trust
 - 8-9: It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. 9 It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.



- Songs of Salvation

- 14-16: The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. 15 Glad songs of salvation are in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD does valiantly, 16 the right hand of the LORD exalts, the right hand of the LORD does valiantly!"



- Give Thanks

- 19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.
- 21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.
- 28 You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you.



Jehovah Is My Helper

- Rejoice
 - 24 This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.



- Contentment

- Hebrews 13:5-6 (ESV) 5 Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." 6 So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"
- Don't be afraid!!!



- A hedge around me
- I understand his purpose
- Him who loved us
- Jehovah is my helper
- Jehovah is on my side!
 - Don't be afraid... trust, obey, rejoice

**We implore you on
behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.**

2 Corinthians 5:20

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Jehovah Is On My Side

Psalm 118:7

Synopsis: During difficult days men of faith like Job, Joseph, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, Paul, and the Psalmist remind us that Jehovah is on our side. We don't have to live in fear; rather we are to trust in God, obey Him, and rejoice.

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”