

Devotional on God's Attributes

As I started my quiet time today, I could not stop thinking about the attributes of God and how now more than ever, I have found great comfort in them. *An attribute is a quality or feature regarded as a characteristic or inherent part of someone.* A few of God's attributes that come to mind are His sovereignty, goodness, mercy, kindness, compassion, grace, generosity, and His faithfulness. I don't know about you but as I look over this list, I have seen them actualized in God's Word and in my personal walk with Him over the years over and over again.

One example of God's compassion that comes to mind occurred during the onset of the corona virus outbreak. I had ventured out to get "supplies," and was totally blown away by God's concern with my personal needs. I know each of us have our *things* we consider most "important" to exist comfortably in our day to day lives. A few of mine are toilet paper, dishwashing liquid, hand soap, and prunes (those who are not "regular" know what I mean!). Anyway, I set my alarm for a time that I usually never see, let's just say it was still dark outside as I headed off to Target to see what I could find. Much to my surprise half of Pasadena had the same idea. I hurried, with all the other people, back to (as you can guess) the toilet paper and paper towel aisle. And there it was, like a pot of gold, toilet paper and paper towels! You would have thought I had found \$1,000. And when I found Clorox wipes and ajax dishwashing detergent too, I almost starting crying from joy. I just looked up to heaven and smiled because He knows me, and He knew this would give me a ray of sunshine to keep me going. I absolutely love how He is so personal and intimate with us, don't you? I'm sure you could tell me some amazing stories of how He met you at your exact point of need during the Corona virus influx and during the recent freeze we experienced as well.

In Matthew 8:23-27 we read about Jesus getting into the boat with his disciples, when out of nowhere comes a violent storm. Now if you have ever been on a lake when a storm rolls in unexpectedly, it is very unnerving, to say the least! We are told that the very desperate disciples wake Jesus from his slumber, begging Him to save them, for they were surely going to drown at this rate! Jesus simply replies, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" I am going to have to admit, I can really relate to the disciples in this story right about now and I want to cry out to Jesus, "Look here! Things are getting out of control by the minute! I need you to rebuke the winds and calm this storm before we all *drown*." Then I stop and remember; God is ever present in our day to day circumstances, even when the circumstances seem "out of control," HE IS STILL IN CONTROL. And I also remember that He will never act inconsistently with His character. He is worthy of our trust and our adoration because He is faithful and full of love.

Charles Spurgeon, who was a very influential English Baptist preacher, once said, "God is too good to be unkind and He is too wise to be mistaken; and when we cannot trace His hand, we must trust His heart." God is good all the time! I know we all know these truths; but sometimes we just need to be reminded in order to replenish and refresh our strength. Recently I admitted to God that I am feeling very weak; but before the words left my mouth God's spirit was bringing 2 Corinthians 12:10 to my mind . . . "That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecution, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong." Whew! Praise God that He shines brightest when I feel my weakest!