

SOHL
WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS



"A JOURNEY OF THE HEART"

Divine protection under the umbrella

October 2, 2017

GENESIS 12:3 NKJV – (3) I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Israel is a country about the size of the state of Oregon. Yet they are so powerful! How? All those countries surrounding it as well as the outside countries can't stand the Israelites! Yet, these other countries can't do nothing about it. Did God make a mistake for the covenant He made with Abraham?

Critics assert that Israel's history demonstrates the weakness of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, in that their God could not keep His promises. Is that so? We need to set the record straight. The Old Testament is a chronicle of Israel's repeated failure to obey God, of its refusal to keep His commandments and statutes. God punished Israel for its disobedience by deferring the fulfillment of His promises to the patriarchs. This deferment did not make Him unfaithful to the people, because His promises to them were conditional, based on their obedience to His revelation.

In fact, it is not perverse to assert that God was completely faithful to the children of Israel, doing to them exactly what He promised He would do if they persistently sinned against Him. At the right time and for the right people, God will honor His unconditional promises to the patriarchs. Israel's sad history is the consequence of peoples' faithlessness, not of their God's weakness.

This applies to the church today. We are under His "Divine Umbrella" if we have accepted Him as our Savior, but we face the same consequences for our disobedience as well. Nobody gets away with nothing! We are His children, but we will be chastised for doing what is ungrateful in His sight! God protects what is His, but just like a child, He chastises. Do we (The church) have a covenant to follow? Yes, we live in the New Testament, but the purpose of the Old Testament is to remind us that we have principals to live by. (**1 Corinthians 10:1-13**). Therefore, God's word (The Bible), is inspired and complete! Our Divine protection is in His word.

SCRIPTURE READING

GENESIS 15:1-3

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

To worry about tomorrow is to forfeit your peace today.