



10/14/25

God told Adam that he wasn't to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Good AND evil. I was thinking about this. Romans 16:19 calls us to "be wise as to what is good and innocent as to what is evil." Good and evil. It seems that Adam and Eve's choice to eat the fruit gave mankind a deeper desire to make its own definition of what is good so that we can embrace what is evil. Jesus came to set us free from that curse. And the good news is, "The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you" (Romans 16:20).

*Blessings,
Jonna*

Psalm 104:16-35 ~

Today, I continue looking at my God of creation and why acknowledging who He is causes me to say, "Bless the Lord, O my soul." He is ALL good and absolutely holy. Evil cannot dwell with Him. If my soul is not blessing Him for His goodness and holiness and power and wisdom and glory, it's because my eyes are focused on something else, something less.

Vs. 16-18 ~ "The trees OF THE LORD YAHWEH are watered abundantly." Who does creation belong to? The Lord Yahweh! Who provides what it needs to survive and thrive? The Lord Yahweh. He cares about every detail. He planted the cedars of Lebanon, which are considered to be excellent building material. They symbolize strength, majesty, and eternity. Of course, they do. The eternal one with all strength and majesty planted them! Birds make their nest in them.

The powerful and majestic God who created wild goats and rock badgers also provided high mountains and places of refuge for them to live. He cares about every detail of ALL His creation.

Vs. 19-23 ~ On the 4th day, God spoke the sun and the moon into existence... the greater and lesser to rule day and night... to be signs for seasons. He made nocturnal beasts of the forest

to creep around at night. He made young lions who roar for their prey but seek their food from God who provides their prey to walk around in the day. He cares about every detail, every creature. He provides. Not even the mighty lion can stand in his own strength. It all comes from the Lord. "In the jungle, the mighty jungle, the lion sleeps tonight." The lion can lay down in his own den at night and sleep. God provides sleep.

I think of that statement that God, in His goodness, provides freedom AND boundaries. Sleep is a great example of that. He gives man the freedom to work and serve... to worship the Lord by fulfilling the Lord's purpose for him... all day long. And at night, man can rest. God gives freedom to work and the boundary of sleep... No man can function without sleep. Sleep is a beautiful example of His boundaries being FOR us and NOT AGAINST us. God does NOT need sleep. He is always rested. But He gives us sleep to help us learn that we cannot be in control all the time. He rejuvenates us through sleep. He heals our sick bodies while we sleep. He is good to us!!!

Vs. 24-26 ~ "O LORD YAHWEH, how manifold, abundant, are Your works." Every single thing God has purposed, He has accomplished. Every single thing that has not yet occurred, He WILL accomplish. How can He be so perfect in all He does? Everything He does is done in wisdom. God does not have to learn wisdom like I do. God is the SOURCE of wisdom. If I truly believe this, I will live in absolute peace... trusting that He who is all powerful and wise, and who is intimately involved in every detail of my life, knows exactly what He's doing, what I need, and what is best... and He knows how to accomplish it. I will trust that I don't have all the facts, but He does... so even with what I don't know, I can rely on Him. He is faithful. O Lord, please grow my trust! It is not You who fail to accomplish Your purpose. It is I who fail to trust You.

Both the earth and the sea are full of God's creatures. The Hebrew word for creatures also means "possessions." We all belong to HIM! Why does He get to decide where the boundary lines are drawn? They all belong to Him.

God is so aware and involved that He can let the sea be filled with sea creatures that are too many to count. At the same time, ships are able to sail across the sea. And God has placed a sea creature He calls Leviathan to play in the water. God directs them all. Job 41 describes this God made creature, Leviathan. Job 41:8 says, "Lay your hands on him; remember the battle—you will not do it again!" Yikes!!! And vs. 10 says of him, "No one is so fierce that he dares to stir him up. WHO THEN IS HE WHO CAN STAND BEFORE ME?" God is fiercer in power than Leviathan. Man cannot put a leash on Leviathan, so certainly man cannot put a leash on God!

Vs. 27-30 ~ Trees, birds, goats, badgers, nocturnal beasts of the forest, lions, man, sea creatures, Leviathan, and ALL God's creatures look to the Lord. He is the source of our food. If I go to the grocery store and He hasn't provided, I don't eat. But He opens His hand and fills us with GOOD things. "Every good and every perfect gift comes from the Father" (James 1:17). Whatever it is, if it's from Him, it's for my ultimate good... and if it's not from Him, it's not good.

Without God's involvement, I have no hope. If He hides His face from any of His creation, there is trouble and dismay. If He removes our breath, we go back to the dust of the ground. God is the source of all life and hope. O Lord, please help me to live with that trust! YOU are the source of all life and hope. I am not the source. I cannot be the source. My purpose is not to glorify ME. It is to glorify YOU. You are the only one who is worthy of my worship.

Vs. 31-35 ~ O Lord, I praise You that Your glory DOES endure forever. No one can take Your splendor and honor away from You. No one is more powerful or wise than You. I pray that You will celebrate all Your works. I pray that I will live in a way that pleases You... that I will not fear man, but have reverent awe of You. Proverbs 29:25 says, "The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is safe."

O Lord, let my trust be wholeheartedly in You who can make the earth tremble and the mountains smoke... and You are the one who we can sing about as long as You give us breath. Our praises go to You because, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling" (Psalm 46:1-3).

O Lord, I pray that the thoughts I dwell on will be pleasing to You. Let all my joy and celebration be rooted in You and in the hope of the gospel. You are the beginning of life... both physical (in Genesis) and spiritual (through Jesus). You are ALL my hope. I look forward to the day You take me home and You put an end to sin and evil. It is Your creation, Your plan. My job is to trust You completely. Everything I do must start with faith. O Lord, may it be so... so that I can continually say, "Bless the Lord, O my soul! Praise the Lord!"