

Psalm 46 (NASB)

**God is our refuge and strength,
A very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change
And though the mountains slip into the heart of the sea;
Though its waters roar and foam,
Though the mountains quake at its swelling pride. (Selah.)**

**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
The holy dwelling places of the Most High.
God is in the midst of her, she will not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.
The nations made an uproar, the kingdoms tottered;
He raised His voice, the earth melted.
The LORD of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Selah.)**

**Come, behold the works of the LORD,
Who has wrought desolations in the earth.
He makes wars to cease to the end of the earth;
He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two;
He burns the chariots with fire.
"Cease striving and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."
The LORD of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Selah.)**

Are you afraid when your world seems to be falling apart? Do trials, tragedies, and turbulent days ever tempt you to question God's love or His presence? Or do you feel safe like this psalmist because God is always near? This psalmist finds security in Jerusalem because it was the city of God. No natural disaster nor invading army could thwart God's plans or overthrow His dwelling place. After all, if God's voice could bring about creation, it could also cause the destruction of His enemies. In light of his faith in God's power, the psalmist calls people to examine the works of the Lord to see if his words are true.

Is there reason to believe that God's power is effective and reliable? Surely there is. Not only can God destroy, but He can also put an end to destruction. He can use the weapons of the enemy to achieve His own righteous purposes. He is never outgunned, outmanned, or outmaneuvered. He is always just what we need Him to be. God no longer claims a special city for Himself. Instead, He has made it clear that the whole world is His, and His people can worship Him and call to Him from anywhere in the cosmos.

He is with us. He is aware of what is happening in every moment of our lives. And He is never, ever going to lose control. If He has promised to be with us, He is and always will be. If He has promised to come back someday to take us home with Him, He will. This is why we have confidence to claim that "The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our stronghold."