

Friday, December 25, 2015

# Christmas Day

*His huge outstretched arms will protect you--under them you're perfectly safe; His arms fend off all harm.*

***Psalm 91:4 (The Message)***

*Yet I am always with you; You hold me by my right hand.*

***Psalm 73:23***

There are many sweet things in life that God has given us to enjoy! There are two that I especially cherish and believe that through them I am able to see glimpses of God's glory! One of these is kneeling down and having a child run as fast as they can into your arms with pure love and excitement in their eyes and the loving embrace that follows! In the very same way, I think that God loves to have us run into His outstretched arms with that same love and excitement that an innocent child does. We can experience an overwhelming sense of love, trust, and security when we allow God to hold us in His loving arms! You can even feel Him hug you if you only let Him! Too often we rush in and rush out of our prayer time, or "quiet time", with Him, not allowing Him to get too close or we just do not take the time to sit, "be still" and savor our time with Him. His arms also offer us protection from harm. Just as a child feels safe in your arms, we, too, can experience the safety and security that God offers us!

The second glimpse of God's glory that is dear to me is holding a child's hand in mine! I often say to Sara Jane and Wylie, "Have I told you just how much I love holding your hand?" To have their little hand in mine is such a sweet reminder of the connection and love that we share! In the same way, God loves to hold our hand in His which shows His love for us and our trust in Him! Many times we hold our child's hand as we cross the street or to keep them from falling. There are several scriptures that remind us that God also holds us with His hand to uphold us, guide us, and to keep us from stumbling. There are times, as it says in the "Footprints" poem, that He carries us through the more challenging times in our lives!! Are you holding His hand??

God gives us glimpses of His glory in so many ways each day and throughout our lives...we just need eyes to see them!

*Thank You, Lord, that You are always with us, holding our hand or holding us in Your loving arms. Thank You for the simple pleasures that You give us in life through which we can see glimpses of Your love and glory! Help us to take time to savor these, as well as our time with You, during this Advent season! Amen.*

**Suzie Inman**