

Sleepless in Susa Esther 6:1-13

2 Chronicles 16:9, "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him..."

The BIG Question

Do you believe that God is totally, fully, completely, and entirely committed to the _____ of His people ... even when He seems silent, and distant, and inactive?

The BIG Temptation

When God seems silent and distant and inactive, we are going to be tempted to believe that God has _____ us, and forsaken us, and _____ us.

Hebrews 13:5, "I will never leave you or forsake you."

2 Corinthians 6:18, "'I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me,' says the Lord Almighty."

God is doing something _____ in the midst of the ordinary (verses 1-5).

God's hand becoming visible ...

- "On _____ night" ...
- A king _____ sleep ...
- And asks for a _____ to be read.
- The servant reads a _____ story ...
- That highlights the king's failure to _____ Mordecai.
- Meanwhile, _____ arrives at the palace ...

Zechariah 2:8, "For thus said the LORD of hosts ... 'He who touches you touches the apple of my eye.'"

Two Applications:

- 1) God is always at work in the _____. Ephesians 1:11, "He works all things according to the counsel of his will."
- 2) God is always at work in the _____. Psalm 31:15-17, "I trust in you, O LORD; I say, 'You are my God.' My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors. Make your face shine on your servant, save me in your steadfast love."

God will _____ His people by exposing those who oppose His people (verses 6-13).

Two Applications:

- 1) When God is _____, I don't have to. 1 Corinthians 13:5, "Love keeps no record of wrongs."
- 2) God has the _____; I don't. Romans 12:19, "... 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay,' says the Lord."

1 Peter 3:18, "Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God ..."