

## *God is in Every Place*

**Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write: These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks; I know thy works. Revelation 2:1, 2. {UL 207.1}**

These words fall from the lips of One who cannot lie. The picture reveals eternal vigilance. Christ is in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks, walking from church to church, from congregation to congregation, from heart to heart. He that keepeth Israel neither slumbers nor sleeps. If the candlesticks were left to the care of human agents, how often the light would flicker and go out. But God has not given His church into the hands of men. Christ, the One who gave His life for the world, that all who believe in Him may not perish, but have everlasting life, is the true Watchman of the house. He is the Warder, faithful and true, of the temple-courts of the Lord. We have reason to thank God that we are not dependent on the presence of earthly priest or minister. We are kept by the power of God. The presence and grace of Christ is the secret of all life and light.... {UL 207.2}

**A holy Watcher notes every work and action of our lives and weighs every motive that prompts to action.** The hand that traced the characters on the wall of Belshazzar's palace is everywhere writing, "God is here." God is in every place. **All our words, all our plans, all our secret motives, are weighed in the balances of infinite justice and truth.** {UL 207.3}

Shall the compassionate, self-sacrificing Saviour find us wanting in tenderness, love, sympathy for those for whom He gave His life? God has granted us gracious opportunities for service. He has provided us with precious talents, and we are answerable to Him for the use we make of them. If we use them wisely, God will call us laborers together with Him. If we cleanse ourselves from every impure, selfish principle, we shall one day hear the benediction, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:21). {UL 207.4}

Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Hannah, the mother of Samuel, said, "The Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed" (1 Samuel 2:3). David says, "Men of low degree are vanity, and men of high degree are a lie: to be laid in the balance, they are altogether lighter than vanity" (Psalm 62:9). Isaiah declares, "Thou, most upright, dost weigh the path of the just" (Isaiah 26:7). And Solomon writes, "All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the Lord weigheth the spirit" (Proverbs 16:2). {UL 207.5}

**There is not a motive in the heart that the Lord does not read. He reads every purpose, every thought.**—Manuscript 99, July 12, 1902, "A Holy People." {UL 207.}

## **YOU ARE MY HIDING PLACE**

You are my hiding place  
You always fill my heart  
With songs of deliverance  
Whenever I am afraid  
I will trust in You

I will trust in You  
Let the weak say  
I am strong  
In the strength of the Lord

You are my hiding place  
You always fill my heart  
With songs of deliverance  
Whenever I am afraid  
I will trust in You

I will trust in You  
Let the weak say I am strong  
In the strength of the Lord  
I will trust in You

You are my hiding place  
You always fill my heart  
With songs of deliverance  
Whenever I am afraid  
I will trust in You

I will trust in You  
Let the weak say  
I am strong  
In the strength of the Lord  
I will trust in You

You are my hiding place (I will trust in You)  
You always fill my heart (Let the weak say)  
With songs of deliverance (I am strong)  
Whenever I am afraid (In the strength of the Lord)  
I will trust in You

## 15 Things the World Needs More of Right Now



The world is not quite the utopia humanity is hoping for.

But we can still work toward something better.

All we need is more of these things...

### 1. **Action**

**There are challenges out there that are not going to solve themselves.**

They need action - *real* action - if they are to be overcome.

**The world needs action on poverty, climate change, the mental health crisis, war, famine, and so many other things.**

People need to take action.

Communities need to take action.

Companies need to take action.

Politicians need to take action.

Nations need to take action.

More action is desperately needed if we are to avert the many crises looming on the horizon.

## 2. Unity

Those challenges are not going to get solved if we don't come together as a planet.

**We do not have to be the same in order to have a common goal.**

We can remain our own independent selves, we can be proud of who we are and where we come from.

All the while, we can look to our brothers and sisters across the world and recognize that we are, in many respects, one.

We are the same, but different. We are unique, but **part of a greater whole.**

We have to join hands and work together for the greater good.

## 3. Tolerance

If we are to come together, we have to learn how to work with people who may be very different to us.

This requires us to be tolerant of those whom we might not always see eye to eye with.

This is valid in both our personal lives and in the relations between our leaders and countries.

It seems like the world is more divided than ever into **"us" and "them" tribes** where each side looks at the other with **contempt and even hatred.**

Tolerance means putting aside those loyalties.

## 4. Acceptance

Going one step further than tolerance is reaching a true acceptance of who someone else is.

Even if you disagree with many of their opinions or life choices, it is better to accept that these are just as valid as yours.

We have to accept that beneath everything, there is **a human being** who is deserving of our care and kindness.

And we need to accept people for who they are, not who we may want them to be.

## 5. Understanding

People are complicated balls of thought, emotion, and act.

When they do something that gets on your nerves or upsets you, the **first step is to try to understand why they did what they did.**

**Most people are facing struggles daily** - you just are not aware of most of them. But we can extend our understanding to others by looking at ourselves and the turmoil that we may be facing.

I am sure you'd ask for a little understanding when your behavior is a bit out of character.

Well, we can offer the same thing to others.

## 6. Compassion

When we see someone suffering - even if we are not aware of the cause of that suffering, we should show our heartfelt concern for that person.

**A little compassion goes a long way** in helping a person who is facing **hardship, misfortune, or hurt.**

A shoulder to **cry on**, an ear **to listen**, and some **warm words of comfort** - the world certainly needs more of these.

## 7. Forgiveness

We all do things that we later come to regret.

Often, those things can hurt others in some way.

But forgiveness is not given easily in this day and age.

This comes back to the understanding and compassion above. When someone is dealing with issues or suffering in some way, **they may not think straight**. They may do things that cause us harm, but they rarely do so out of spite.

Forgiveness does not mean we have to forget what happened, nor does it mean we have to condone what they did.

It means we move on and **not let the act affect our present**.

Forgiveness is also something we need between cultures, nations, generations, and more.

Wherever there is conflict, anger, and resentment, the world needs forgiveness.

## 8. Kindness

There are countless people suffering right now.

There are many more who have experienced a misfortune recently - perhaps right in front of your eyes.

**Will you walk on by on the other side of the road, or will you be the Good Samaritan and show kindness to those in need?**

Kindness transcends all faiths, all ages, all backgrounds, all languages, and can even reach across vast distances.

An act of kindness, no matter how small, makes the world a better place in immeasurable ways.

The world needs a lot more kindness.

## 9. Trust

Many people have become cynical of the world.

They believe that everyone is out for themselves and that no one can be trusted.

**But trust is a cornerstone of human relationships - without it, things quickly fall apart.**

Not only should we place more trust in the people in our lives, **but we can be more trusting of everyone.**

Strangers are not out to hurt us. Companies are not out to take advantage of us. Politicians are not out to swindle us (though you may think they are).

**Most people can be trusted.**

Sure, there are those who would seek to do us harm - but these are a tiny, tiny majority and we should not let them stop us from trusting people.

### **CLOSING THOUGHTS**

Shall the compassionate, self-sacrificing Saviour find us wanting in tenderness, love, sympathy for those for whom He gave His life? God has granted us gracious opportunities for service. He has provided us with precious talents, and we are answerable to Him for the use we make of them. If we use them wisely, God will call us laborers together with Him. If we cleanse ourselves from every impure, selfish principle, we shall one day hear the benediction, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant".

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

A holy Watcher notes every work and action of our lives and weighs every motive that prompts to action. The hand that traced the characters on the wall of Belshazzar's palace is everywhere writing, "God is here." God is in every place. All our words, all our plans, all our secret motives, are weighed in the balances of infinite justice and truth. Father let not this earth but the treasures in Heaven be our only desire. Forgive us I pray, in Jesus precious name. Amen.