

Walking Uprightly

“For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly” (Psalm 84:11).

For several years, we have enjoyed watching a group of wild turkeys feed around our house. Recently a mother turkey brought her ten little ones through the yard. You could hardly see them following her in the taller grass. Wherever she went they went; whatever she did they did; when she jumped off the small end of the wall, one at a time, each one of them jumped off the wall. They were walking in her world, in her ways, in her paths.

As believers, we have been introduced to a new world. “Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Cor. 5:17). In this spiritual sphere, we are called upon to walk with the Lord Jesus. There are no promises which imply that His road is an easy road. But as we walk in His ways and paths we discover that His blessings are our blessings, and His provisions are our provisions.

In his excellent studies on the Psalms, J. J. Stewart Perowne rendered the term “uprightly” as “perfectness.” We are confronted, then, with the responsibility of living a life that is in alignment with the God of perfection and properly representing Him in a world of imperfect people. Thankfully, we are not left to ourselves, but the Perfect One will work in us.

The God of heaven and earth is working in those who walk uprightly! The statement, “For the LORD God is a sun,” directs us upward to the God Who provides for us from Heaven. The words “For the LORD God is a . . . shield” point us to the God Who protects us on earth. As our “sun” and “shield,” He enables us to know Him as the God of two spheres. In both realms He is our sufficiency, our fullness.

The God of time and eternity is working in those who walk uprightly! In the line “The LORD will give grace,” we are made aware of God’s gift in time. The added emphasis, “The LORD will give . . . glory,” reveals His gift in eternity. Because our God is “the God of all grace” (1 Pet. 5:10) and “the God of glory” (Acts 7:2), both gifts—grace and glory—are His to give. In this world and in the world to come, He is the great Giver.

The God of supply and excess is working in those who walk uprightly! We are assured that “no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly.” The question is legitimate: “He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?” (Rom. 8:32). Jehovah Jireh! “God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus” (Phil. 4:19).