

# He's Watching Over You!

## Psalms 34

God is watching for you. *That's right!* If you'll read the Bible, you'll see that ever since the world began He's been looking for and watching over people who by faith and obedience would allow Him to bless them right here on the earth. He's been looking for people who would allow Him to demonstrate His power on their behalf. People whose supernaturally abundant lives would make them a walking advertisement of the mercy and the power of God.

God is watching over you! *That's right!* Don't let "The Giants" in your life scare you into hiding. Don't let those giants defeat you! *Stand up and let God see you through!* Let Him know you'll be *faithful* and *obedient*. Let Him know you'll *trust* His Word no matter how big your giant or what he may have to say. Then *worship* Him knowing you'll see Him demonstrate His power and faithfulness on your behalf!

*2 Chron 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.*

1. God has been looking and God has been patiently waiting for us. For example, look at the children of Israel in the Old Testament. God wanted them to be this kind of people.
2. He prepared a marvelous land for them to enjoy. It was a land flowing with milk and honey (Exodus 38.) It was a land of rest and abundance where no enemy could stand before them and no sickness or disease could stay on their bodies, (Exodus 25.)
3. In fact, as soon as they came out of slavery in Egypt, God wanted them to go to that land. It was a short journey. *But, they wouldn't go!* Instead, they spent 40 years wandering around in the wilderness, both struggling and getting absolutely nowhere.
4. All this happened thousands of years ago, but guess what? *God hasn't changed at all since then.* He still wants to lead His people out of the wilderness, beyond their giants and into a place of blessing and prosperity.
5. The problem is that in many ways His people haven't changed that much either. The same thing that kept the children of Israel out of the Promised Land is keeping most believers out of their personal Promised Land today. The problem is: Trusting in God, not believing in His power and battling those mighty giants.
6. *God was looking for you.....*Now what are you going do? *His eyes are on you*

*Is 34:15-16 The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their cry. 16 The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, To cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.*

1. A critical step in healing is to address our helpless cries to God. He does not despise our grief; He welcomes its expressions as He watches over us.
2. Yes, the face of the Lord is against those who do evil and rejecting God and His program can ultimately bring disaster. But, accepting His plan for our life will ensure that we finish life on the right path without having to wander in the wilderness for another 40 + years while doing battle with our giants.
3. Believing in a loving God is quite a leap for some of us, for many reasons. The thought of turning our will and lives over to the care of someone or something we think might hurt us is sure to fill us with reluctance.
4. Many came into recovery with the understanding that that God was a condemning God and He was both judgmental and unforgiving. If that were so than is the Bible (The Word of God) a lie?

*John 3:16-17 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.*

1. This verse reveals the heart and purpose of God. God's love is wide enough to embrace "all persons."
2. When we walk down the wrong path in life, we end up in bad places and experience devastating losses. If we go far enough down that path, we may endanger our very life.
3. There is hope for everyone who turns from sin and makes amends to man and God. Through Christ our past sins can be overshadowed by a new life that lies ahead. *John 8:11 And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more."*
4. "He so loved the world," "He found us." and He asks that we "go and sin no more." Once you grasp all that, you won't ever have to believe you don't deserve to be healed, blessed or delivered from active addiction.
5. Allow the Holy Spirit to "fetch" you and place you in the middle of the abundance of God Himself. Alone, our failures and their terrible consequences have already been accomplished, but with obedience and God's love for this world we can be assured of victory, new life and healthy living.

*Num 13:32-33 The land through which we have gone as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature. 33 There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight."*

1. When the spies Moses sent into the land returned with knees knocking and reported that the descendents of Anak were in the land the children of Israel became scared.
2. If they believed God, it wouldn't have mattered how big those giants were, they would have marched right in there expecting God to make those giants scatter in every direction. *But, they didn't believe God!* and they did not trust in God and His promises concerning their future.

*Anak:* Sounds like a giant, doesn't it? Anak means "long-necked" in Hebrew. The spies said they were like grasshoppers compared to the giants. (*Numbers 13:33*) The last race of giants called the Rephaim was Og, the King of Bashan. His bed was \_\_\_ are you ready for this? \_\_\_ Thirteen and a half feet long and six feet wide! (*Deut. 3:11*). And who can forget Goliath whose nine-foot frame struck fear into the entire army of Saul? To put it bluntly, the Israelites were terrorized by giants in the land. We probably would have as well. But, ask yourself this: How many Anak's or Goliath's have you seen walking around lately? That's right \_\_\_ Those giants are all dead and gone. But, before you put your slingshot and stones away, realize there is a whole new breed of giants alive and well in our world today.

1. Unfortunately, we cannot see face to face the giant's we do battle with. In fact, they're sort of like the wind. You only know they're around when things start to shake because they sneak in on cat's paws. These giants can be walking right beside you before you know it.
2. What kind of giants are we talking about? They're the kind that can convince you you're a trespasser in the spiritual land God has promised you. They're the kind that can make you feel like God isn't watching over you and God isn't going to keep His promises to you.

*The Giant of Fear:* Fear distorts God's purpose in your life. When fear dominates our life everything gets out of perspective and everything gets distorted. When fear begins to control your life, you don't think correctly; rationality goes out the window. You may even believe that God has brought you into a terrible situation just to harm you.

*The Giant of Discouragement:* We live in potentially discouraging day. If you are struggling with recovery and life in general you are a prime candidate for discouragement. You're tired from what you've done and wondering if the end is actually attainable.

*The Giant of Loneliness:* The poet once said, "No man is an island," yet we often feel as though we are. Life has a way of setting us aside or separating us from others at times. Our challenge is to learn to take the needed steps back to connectedness, steps that keep us from being lonely for any length of time. *We need people!*

*The Giant of Worry:* Worry is concern for the future. But, the future is not here. Only God sees the shape of it. And according to the Bible, worry is concern over the unknown \_ the uncontrollable future.

*The Giant of Temptation:* There is one thing that is common to every human being regardless of race, age, religion or culture: *Temptation*. Unfortunately, the victory over temptation is far less universal. There is a key to unlocking the secret of victory—a key called the "Way of Escape."

*The Giant of Guilt & Shame:* We would rather call sin anything except sin. But, if we fail to call sin what God calls it—if we rationalize it or excuse it—we will lose *the joy* of our salvation. Confession, cleansing and restoration are the only way to remove the guilt and shame of sin.

*The Giant of Anger...* Is there someone today at whom you are angry? Slay that giant. A tender action of forgiving love is a weapon the giant of anger cannot withstand.

*The Giants of:* Resentment...Doubt.....Procrastination...Failure...Jealousy....And all these giants and more can keep us from going on in Recovery and going on in God.

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and you'll be obedient. Let him know you'll trust Him and His Word no matter what the circumstances say  
of what your giants may be.*