

Before the THRONE

The Devotional

Volume 1

Books of the Law & History

2 Chronicles 32:31

“How be it, in the business of the ambassadors of the princes of Babylon, who were sent to Hezekiah to inquire of the wonder of the land, God left, to test him, that He might know all that was in his heart.” 2 Chronicles 32:31

Let’s be honest with one another. The LORD already knew what was in Hezekiah’s heart, didn’t He? The problem is, Hezekiah didn’t know what was in his heart! The toddler never liberates cookies from the cookie jar when Mom is watching! And furthermore, let’s understand clearly that the LORD never “leaves” anyone or any place, yet at times, He does withdraw His manifest presence from us, so that we might discover what is in our hearts!

The Lord called, “Adam, where are you?” (Genesis 3:9) Of course, the LORD knew where Adam was hiding! But now, both Adam and Eve understand something about themselves that they didn’t know before the LORD had “left” them alone in the Garden the last time! This time they discovered something they hadn’t known before – no, not that they were naked, what they really discovered was that they were both rebels!

It has been said a person’s real character is what they are when they are alone. When no one is watching, when they believe no one can see – that is the moment when genuine character is revealed. “What is man... that You should visit him every morning and test Him every moment?” (Job 7:17-18)

How will you fair? What will be the outcome when you are left alone – on trial – before the Spirit of Grace? Fear not, for we have an Advocate – but Fear God, for He is a consuming fire. (1 John 2:1; Hebrews 12:25-29).

In holy awe may we humble and desperately cry, “Father, lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.” (Matthew 6:13).

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