



“You shall hide them in the secret of Your presence from the pride of men; You shall keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues.” Psalm 31:20

This psalm surely expresses the pain of anyone who has been lied to and slandered. The pain of gossip runs deep but the Lord’s upholding hand reached deeper still. The strife of tongues pierces the heart and there is really no refuge but the Lord’s secret place. Never allow the words of men to usurp the Word of God within your heart. To give greater weight to a man’s words that you do to God’s Word is to set yourself up for much pain of heart and insecurity and fearfulness of thought.

Should you find yourself in the place of this Psalmist with words hitting strongly against you it is important to take an offensive posture – not necessarily against the person speaking such things per se, but against the spiritual dynamics that are transpiring. Rather than submitting to those hurtful and hateful words you must learn to “turn the other cheek” while you are immediately raising faith’s shield by saying, “No weapon formed against me shall prosper, every word that rises against me in judgment, I condemn, for that is my heritage, and my righteousness is of the Lord.” (Isaiah 54:17).

Next, out of your reservoir of hidden, memorized Bible verses, begin to speak what the Word of God says about you, “I am the accepted in Christ”; “I am the loved of the Father,” “if God is for me, who can be against me?” (Ephesians 1:6; John 16:27; Romans 8:31).

Finely, it is helpful to begin to bless those who curse you. No doubt it can be very difficult to do this, but it will shut the mouth of the devil if not the one he has been using to attack you. Stay “sweet” – if only by faith. The genuine character of Christ will rise to the surface of your life and personality.

“Hide me Lord from the pride of men and keep me in the secret place.”

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