"Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands (obey), ye sinners; and purify your hearts (meditate on God's Word day and night), ye double minded." James 4:8 no2 KJV

The tighter we cling to the God of the impossible, the safer we are. We draw near through knowledge of and faithful obedience to His unchanging Word. His Word was so *"in the beginning,"* and it is so, now, and will be so, forever. *"For ever, O LORD, Thy Word is settled in Heaven."* The sun still comes up and sets every day. Rain still falls from the clouds, and the rainbow still adorns the moistened sky. The stars are still in the orbits God placed them millennia ago, while the North Star never moves! We cannot go anywhere God is not, yet we can leave God by simply disobeying His Word. God is not near the heart of wickedness or worry! *"THOU (God and his Word are one) wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind (thought) is stayed (fixed) on Thee, because he trusteth in Thee."* It's not a mental mantra of God's Word in thought that draws one near to God, but the trust and obedience of it by faith! Satan knows it well, but disobeys! Jesus said, *"The Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."* God is omnipresent; so is the Holy Spirit of Truth. They are one and the same! He is as close to us as our thoughts are to Truth, Jesus, who is God's Word! If we feel forsaken by God, it's because we have forsaken His Truth! He is ever present with us. *"I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."* If He is in our thoughts constantly like a lover obsesses over their beloved, we are with Him! It is the mutual reach of thought to thought that brings the intimate heart clasp of the omnipotent God! If we submit to His Word, obey its precepts through faith and trust, He is near. God is omnipresent, but we feel alone, because we exclude Him from our thoughts; letting the cacophony of worldly philosophy, pressures, and pleasure veil His presence! We become too busy to *"be still and know that [He] is God!"* His Thunder is reserved for His enemies, but it is in the quietness of thoughtful meditations where His children "hear" His gentle whispers of Truth. Have we known the *"still small Voice?"* Is His whisper familiar to us? We should stay so close to God His Breath warms our cheek when He whispers!

Hands reaching for the other's touch,
The hearts of lovers needeth such,
A plea for this is not required,
When hearts by love are so inspired. *~CGP*

When we reach out for God, He always reaches out for us. You need not vocalize every prayer; God knows your every thought! Like friends on the front porch or lovers in the moonlight, when was your last rendezvous with God? *"God is a Spirit and those that worship Him MUST worship Him in spirit AND in Truth. We love Him because He first loved us."* God always waits for you: He's, even now, as near as your next thought!

> *"Howbeit when He, the Spirit of Truth (whisper of God), is come, He will guide you into ALL Truth: for He shall not speak of Himself (the Holy Spirit); but whatsoever He shall hear (think), that shall He speak: and He will show you (declare) things to come. He shall glorify me (magnify Christ): for He shall receive of mine (God's Word), and shall show (explain) it unto you." John 16:13, 14 KJV*

C. G. Palmer