

“What if the Lord had not been on our side? Let all Israel repeat: What if the Lord had not been on our side when people attacked us?” Psalms 124:1-2 NLT

[lectio] // PSALM 124

listen to the text by reading out loud slowly and repeat up to 3x if desired

David asks a great question from a different perspective. He does the “what if...” Yeah, what would have happened if the Red Sea had NOT opened up, giving safe passage and decimating Pharaoh’s mighty, angry army? Israel would have been wiped out! Every last one of them. Pharaoh would not have re-captured and re-enslaved them - they would no longer exist. David reminds the nation - what would have happened if God had not intervened? Is that counter-intuitive question is still prevalent today? Have we looked at the church, culture, or any socio-political climate and asked, “What if God had NOT been involved?” We act as though he’s not! But he IS at work. He is making his kingdom come, reflecting heaven on earth. He is raising up leaders, bringing others down. He is shaking the earth, the church and even our lives as he forms the image of Christ in those who believe and either wooing or hardening the hearts of those who don’t. People can make up their own beliefs, even their own religion. They can declare no religion at all - like atheism or darwinism. They can play, pretend, promote and persuade what ever they want. Does it matter? Not one bit. Does our (their) beliefs and behaviors make ONE bit of difference in the truth of who God is and how he will bring about the end? No it does not. He is God, we are not. He is in control, we are not. We cooperate with his plans, he does not bend to ours!

[oratio]

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

If I were to ask the question, like David did, in my own life and current culture of my world, what would be the answer? “What if God had not put a guy like Trump in power?” What if God had not saved me from being devoured by a succession plan gone awry?” What if God had not revealed the abuses of the power pastors who lead thousands?” What if? God is always working. He is always true, right and just. He IS saving us. He IS saving me!

[contemplatio]

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root