



“The Secret Place”

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Love UnVeiled
Transforming Women into God's Image of Beauty

**He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High,
will abide under the shadow of the Almighty. Psalm 91:1**

What comes to mind when you think of “the secret place”?

Do you have anyone who loves and cares for you?

Do you have a source of joy?

Are you experiencing peace today?

Have you experienced depression in the last 2 weeks?

The secret place is where my soul connects with God.

In the secret place, the Spirit of God immediately bears witness in my spirit to the truth deep in my heart.

- **Truth & Wisdom are in the Secret Place**

You desire truth in the inward parts, and in the hidden part You will make me know wisdom. **Psalm 51:6**

Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place. **Psalm 51:6 (NIV)**

Behold, You desire truth in the innermost being, and in the hidden part [of my heart] You will make me know wisdom. **Psalm 51:6 (AMP)**

But when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. **Matthew 6:6**

It is not necessarily a physical place, but a secret place of our lives, set aside for a one-to-one relationship and time with God, a place of solitude. It says of Jesus that He went out to a special place to pray. He went out to a solitary place, and there He prayed. **Mark 1:35**

The Unheeded Secret – Oswald Chambers. *Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world.” John 18:36. Jesus said, “The kingdom of God does not come with observation....**For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you**” (Luke 17:20-21). It is a hidden, obscure thing. An active Christian too often lives to be seen by others, while it is the innermost, personal area that reveals the power of a person’s life.*

- **An Invitation to Rest in The Secret Place**

Life, family, and ministry are rewarding, fulfilling, joyful, eternal – but it can also be demanding, overwhelming, exhausting, depleting, and draining. We need time away to rest and replenish in the secret place, to heal, to renew, to receive vision, purpose, and direction, to hear God’s voice, His comfort and truth.

Why was Israel taken into Captivity for 70 years?

1. They scorned God’s love by continually serving false gods;

Ashtorah goddess of sensuality
Moloch god of prosperity
Baal god of intellect
Mammon god of money

2. They disobeyed God’s law to let the land rest. The law required they let the land rest every seventh year, a year not to till it or sow crops on it. But they ignored the law for 490 years.

In the seventh year there shall be a sabbath of solemn rest for the land, a sabbath to the Lord. You shall neither sow your field nor prune your vineyard...for it is a year of rest for the land... **Leviticus 25:3-7**

God took them into captivity for 70 years, one year for every 7 years they had disobeyed – and the land rested for 70 years.

The Lord will take us into captivity in the secret place, to restore intimacy and to give us the rest He knows we need!

The bible can be summed up in 2 words - "COME" & "GO" - An invitation to COME and a command to GO.

Do we focus on the "GO" more than the "COME"?

Go into all the world **Mark 16:15**, Go and make Disciples **Matt 28:18**,
Go and bear fruit **John 15:16**

He said to them, *"Come aside by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while."* For there were many coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat. **Mark 6:31**

From "Reckless Faith" by Beth Guckenberger

There is a rhythm of coming and going. If we just COME and don't go, we miss the opportunity to fulfill God's purpose and will in our lives. But if we just GO and don't come, we miss the opportunity to be filled by God and to know Him and experience His power and leading in our lives.

Rest and renewal (in the secret place) are an invitation to fully experience all He offers us.

Sometimes when we are struggling to deal with a situation, with our children, our relationships, our ministry, our health, finances, anything – we need to step back, sit down (in the secret place) and breathe. This principle of resting (in the secret place) strengthens us for the conflict we face and the sin that wants to rule over us.

Filling up (in the secret place) is important because then it allows us to pour out. We can give away what we have just received (mercy, grace, wisdom, joy, love, forgiveness) because we know how to tap into the unending source.

Retreating in Him prevents us escaping - Escape leads to disconnection. Retreating in Him leads to growth.

From the rest we receive we serve and give to each other, and to the world lost without Him.

*Saying Yes to “STILL” is not the same as “stop.”
It’s yes to purpose and priority, rather than bustle and busy.*

The secret place is not a monastic lifestyle. We need the body of Christ in worship, fellowship in the word, community, prayer – but the secret place is an intentional decision to establish a routine that includes time with God. Reading the bible to get to know Him, praying and listening to Him, spending time with Him just to be with Him. He will meet you there.

“Come to Me all you who are weary, and I will give you rest”
Matthew 11:28

O God, You are my God, early I will seek You, My soul thirsts for You, my soul longs for You in a dry and thirsty land. **Psalms 63:1**

What distractions, idols, projects, emotions, activities keep me from the Secret Place?

- **Protection and refuge in the Secret Place**

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust. **Psalm 91:1-2**

He will cover you with His feathers and under His wings you will take refuge... **Psalm 91:4**

Abiding under the shadow of the Presence of God – under the covering and protection of His Holy Spirit.

A kinsman redeemer - one who delivers, rescues, or helps a relative in trouble. Boaz, Ruth's kinsman redeemer told her *The LORD repay your work, and a full reward be given you by the LORD God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge.* **Ruth 2:12**

Ruth had come to the God of Israel for protection and care. Perhaps an allusion to the wings of the cherubim covering the Mercy seat, the place of atonement, (Exodus 25:20) above which was God's symbolic presence, and His dwelling place on earth – Ruth was sheltered under His *Shechinah* glory.

Jesus is our Kinsman Redeemer Bridegroom. We have come to Him for refuge from sin and the enemy. At the cross He has covered us with His blood and hides us from all harm and danger.

that by two immutable things, in which it *is* impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before *us*. This *hope* we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the *Presence* behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, *even* Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek. **Hebrews 6:18-20**

THE HUPPAH - A bridal chamber or covering - The traditional Jewish wedding Huppah which covers the bridegroom and the bride, is a symbol of authority and protection.

Then the LORD will create above every dwelling place of Mount Zion, and above her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day and the shining of a flaming fire by night. For, over all the glory there will be a covering (*huppah*). **Isaiah 4:5**

We have been taken into the intimate place of His bridal covering. While we are waiting for Jesus' return, His word assures that we continue to live under His unbreakable covenant and His intimate covering of love, peace, authority, and protection in the secret place.

For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion, the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me. He shall set me high upon a rock. And now my head shall be lifted above my enemies around me, therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle **Psalm 27:5-6**

Berean bible - For in the day of trouble He will hide me in His shelter; He will conceal me under the cover of His tent;

Tent: Hebrew - "cether" - a place to hide or be concealed – a secret place.

I will abide in Your tabernacle forever; I will trust in the shelter of Your wings **Psalm 61:4**

Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name. He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him My salvation. **Psalm 91:14-16**

- **Desperation can drive us to the Secret Place.**

There is no such thing as a storm free voyage.

Trust in Him at all times you people, pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. **Psalm 62:8**

We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God. Acts 14:22

2 Corinthians 1:8-11 (NIV)

8. We did not want you to be uninformed brethren about the troubles we experienced in Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself.
9. Indeed, we felt we had received the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves, but in God who raises the dead.
10. He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and He will deliver us again. On Him we set our hope that He will continue to deliver us,
11. as you help us by your prayers. Then many thanks will be given on our behalf for the gracious favor granted us in answer to the prayers of many.

Lord, you find me in the fire. All that is wood and straw, burns up in the shaking. As the vessel shakes, the only unshaken place is in the secret place! I call 911!

For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion, in the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me. **Psalm 27:5-6**

You shall hide them in the secret place of Your presence from the plots of man; You shall keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife (accusation) of tongues. **Psalm 31:20**

You *are* my hiding place; You shall preserve me from trouble; You shall surround me with songs of deliverance. **Psalm 32:7**

You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in your word.

Psalm 119:114

Because You have been my help, therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice. My soul follows close behind You; Your right hand upholds me. **Psalm 63:7 -8**

- **Intimacy in the Secret Place**

We are accepted and desired by Him. He longs to be with us in the secret place.

Oh, my dove, in the cleft of the rock, in the secret places of the cliff, let me see your face, let me hear your voice, for your voice is sweet and your face is lovely. **Song of Solomon 2:14**

When you said “*Seek My face*”, my heart said, “*Your face Lord I will seek.*” Do not hide your face from me; **Psalm 27:8-9**

“Face” describes intimacy in the Bible. It is not the outward appearance of intimacy, it’s the secret of the heart. What’s in the heart is reflected in the face. In the secret place we can take off our veil, our mask and look in the face of Jesus who has unveiled Himself to us and who has removed our veil of sin.

Do not be concerned about the outward beauty of fancy hairstyles, expensive jewelry, or beautiful clothes. You should clothe yourselves instead with the beauty that comes from within, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is so precious to God. **1 Peter 3:3-4 (NLT)**

He allures us to the secret place, often a wilderness, to ignite intimacy with Him.

I will allure her, will bring into the wilderness, and speak comfort to her...on that day she will call Me “*My Husband,*” and no longer call Me “*My Master.*” **Hosea 2:14-16**

One of the secrets of darkness is intimacy and revelation. He imprisons those He loves in order to awaken and mature their affections for Him.

Your wilderness is a secret place.

Never waste a good prison sentence. Use the confinement to go deeper with God.

Intimacy grows with consistency.

As you spend consistent spend time alone with God in the secret place you will long for that time alone with Him. Out of those times of intimacy, your relationship with Him will continue to flow into and through your daily life.

Jane Downing – *“The secret place doesn’t have to be alone in a busy life - He is in my heart - I can speak to him all day long and He can touch me and minister to me in the secret place all day long.”*

Lysa Terkheurst – *“I want the kind of soul-satisfying closeness that can only come from daily keeping pace with Him. A rich and deep level of intimacy that frantic attempts at rule-following will never produce.”*

- **Revelation in the Secret Place**

But when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. **Matthew 6:6**

But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. **Hebrews 11:6**

Jeremiah was shut up in prison when God spoke to him a second time “*Call to Me, and I will answer you and show you great and mighty things which you do not know*” **Jeremiah 33:1-3**

What are your chances are of getting through on the phone to a President or Prime Minister? Yet regardless of education, sophistication, ethnic background, or financial status you can talk to God and He will talk back to you. But often it is in the secret place that we hear Him.

As for you, O king, thoughts came *to your mind while* on your bed, *about* what would come to pass after this; and He who reveals secrets has made known to you what will be. But as for me, this secret has not been revealed to me because I have more wisdom than anyone living, but for *our* sakes who make known the interpretation to the king, and that you may know the thoughts of your heart.

Daniel 2:29-30

God can speak to you anywhere, anytime, through anyone, but He often shares His greatest insights with you when you're alone, with Him.

To hear God's still small voice two things must happen –

- 1) you must have silence and solitude.
- 2) You must get close to Him.

The secrets of the Lord are with those who fear Him. Intimacy is being a friend of God who shares His secrets with you - it starts in the secret place.

I will give you the treasures of darkness and hidden riches of secret places, that you may know that I, the LORD, Who call you by your name, Am the God of Israel. **Isaiah 45:3**

The secret of the LORD is with those who fear Him, And He will show them His covenant. **Psalms 25:14**

“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. **1 Corinthians 2:9-10**

“Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light, and what you hear in the ear, preach on the house tops.” **Matthew 10:27**

“He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest (reveal) Myself to him.” **John 14:21**

***Shut in with God in a secret place,
There in the Spirit beholding His face,
Gaining new power to run in the race,
How I long to be shut in with God.***

(Everett W Sugg)

- **Secret place of the heart**

If we had forgotten the name of our God, or stretched out our hands to a foreign god, would not God search this out? For He knows the secrets of the heart. **Psalm 44:20-21**

*“Anyone who is thirsty may come to Me! Anyone who believes in Me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, ‘Rivers of living water will flow from his heart.’” **John 7:37-38***

Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. **Colossians 3:2-3**

The hidden life of the believer is laid out in Colossians 3:3-17

Hidden dangers for the heart - Rebellion, resistance, doubt, fear, unbelief, pride, self-righteous, self-pity, anger, jealousy, envy, hatred, bitterness, resentment, unforgiveness, shame, deception, disappointment...

Without rest (in the secret place) we are more at risk of being overcome - by sin, the world, our flesh, and the devil.

Healing from sin, pain, injury, and wrong thinking happens in seasons of rest (in the secret place).

Rest (in the secret place) is critical in our Christian life. When I live without rest, I risk burnout, and lack motivation to stay in step with the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Transformation and Healing takes place in the Secret Place.

Abuse often takes place in secret. We can carry hidden wounds and pain for a lifetime without dealing with it.

Cocoon seasons are often when the Holy Spirit reveals the condition and issues of our heart - those things that keep us in bondage, pain and separation from experiencing freedom and intimacy with Him.

- **The Word in the Secret Place**

Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks **Matthew 12:34**

...yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while, so when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles. **Matthew 13:20**

The seed of God's word is intended to take root in the secret place of our hearts to cleanse and heal us.

The entrance of your word gives light, it gives understanding to the simple. **Psalms 119:130**

Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against you. **Psalms 119:11**

If you seek her as silver, and search for her as *for* hidden treasures; Then you will understand the fear of the LORD AND find the knowledge of God. **Proverbs 2:4-5**

When they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak, for it will be given to you...for it is not you who speak but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you. **Matthew 10:20**

- **“Shalom” - Peace in the Secret Place**

Hebrew - wholeness, completion, restoration, well-being.

After experiencing imprisonment, loss and hardship as a missionary in Asia, Darlene Deibler Rose shared this:

“There is a peace that comes after sorrow, of hope surrendered not of hope fulfilled.

It is a peace that looks not upon tomorrow, but calmly on the tempest that is still.

A peace that lives not now in joy's successes, or in the happy life of love secure, that in the unerring strength, the heart possesses from conflicts won, while learning to endure.

It is a peace that is in sacrifice, secluded, a life subdued from will, and passion free.

It is not the peace that over Eden brooded, but that which triumphed in Gethsemane.

There is a peace, through the comfort of the Holy Spirit, that no one can understand until you pass through. “

For God is not the author of confusion but of peace **1 Corinthians 14:33**

Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. **Romans 5:5**

- **God's will in the Secret Place**

Sometimes knowing and doing God's will can be confusing - a battle with our own will, especially in matters of the heart, our health, finances, relationships, and our future. Seeking God in the secret place is where we will find His will and peace.

George Mueller, known for his great faith said;

In trivial matters, and in those involving the most important issues, I have found this method always effective to ascertain the will of God:

1. *I seek at the beginning to get my heart into such a state that it has no will of its own regarding a given matter. 9/10ths of people's trouble is right here. 9/10 of the difficulties are overcome when our hearts are ready to do God's will whatever it may be. When one is truly in this state it is usually only a little way to the knowledge of what His will is.*
2. *Having done this, I do not leave the result to feeling or simple impression, or I am liable to great delusions.*
3. *I seek the will of the Spirit of God through the word of God. The Spirit and the word must be combined. If I look at the spirit alone without the word, I leave myself open to great delusions of feelings and emotions. If the Holy Spirit guides at all, He will do it according to the Scriptures, and not against them.*
4. *Next, I consider providential circumstances. These often plainly indicate God's will in connection with his word and Spirit.*
5. *I ask God in prayer to reveal His right will to me.*
6. *Through prayer, the study of the word and reflection, I come to a deliberate judgment, according to the best of my ability and knowledge and if my mind in this is at peace and continues so after two or three more petitions, I proceed accordingly.*

- **Contentment in the Secret Place**

Philippians 4:11-13. Not that I speak regarding need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content. I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things, I have learned to be full and to be hungry, to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me.

Fulfillment comes in the secret place when we come to ultimate place of *“nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will.”*

In the secret place we learn only God can and wants to meet our unfulfilled longings. Husband, children, job, money, house, drugs, alcohol none of these fulfill. Only God can fulfill our deepest longings and desires. It is meant to be that way. He tests our hearts to see what's in them. (Deuteronomy 8:1-2) To draw us to the secret place.

When we reach the end of our own strength and self-sufficiency, when we let go of control and stop relying on our own efforts, when we let go of all our earthly possessions and desires and choose to love God with all our heart, when we thirst to know Him more – then we step deeper into the secret place of His presence and meet Him there, there we experience the fullness of all He promises for healing, freedom, wisdom, comfort, peace, and joy.

- **AN INVITATION TO THE SECRET PLACE**

Prepare yourself, be desperate for Him, to know Him, to hear His voice. There is no time to be consumed with self-pity. We must be strong and find all our hope in Him. We must know, love, and trust Him. We must ask for His grace to keep us in the secret place, hidden from the evil heart and thoughts of the evil one. To guard us from all temptation - run to the secret place. Ask for grace to take you there! The Holy Spirit will meet you in the Secret Place.

In Your Presence there is fullness of joy. **Psalm 16:11**

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths. **Proverbs 3:5-6 NKJV**

The LORD will guide you continually, giving you water when you are dry and restoring your strength. You will be like a well-watered garden, like an ever-flowing spring. **Isaiah 58:11 NLT**

Trust in Him at all times you people, pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. **Psalms 62: 8**

Be Still and Know That I AM God Psalm 46:10

“Be still” - Hebrew - To cast down - to let fall - to let hang down, then to be relaxed, to slacken – especially the hands - not making an effort, not putting forth exertion, leaving matters in God’s hands, being without anxiety.

Reflection Questions

1. What hidden things keep me from experiencing intimacy in the secret place with God?
2. Where do I need healing in the secret place?
3. What desires, fears, distractions are causing stagnant, empty, lonely places in my heart that block entrance to the secret place?
4. Do I trust in God in the secret place?
5. Do I long to meet with Him in the secret place?
6. What scripture will I take away today to hide in my heart?

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Love UnVeiled **YouTube Channel** at *Let's Get Real* playlist.

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