



NO OTHER gODS

— 30 Days of Worship —

DAY 16

— Asherah / Fruitfulness / Hands —

READ

Psalm 21

¹ O Lord, in your strength the king rejoices,
and in your salvation how greatly he exults!

² You have given him his heart's desire and have not withheld the request of his lips. Selah

³ For you meet him with rich blessings;
you set a crown of fine gold upon his head.

⁴ He asked life of you; you gave it to him,
length of days forever and ever.

⁵ His glory is great through your salvation;
splendor and majesty you bestow on him.

⁶ For you make him most blessed forever;
you make him glad with the joy of your presence.

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*⁷ For the king trusts in the Lord,
and through the steadfast love of the
Most High he shall not be moved.*

REFLECT

This is a song of thanksgiving to God for answering the prayers of the king: prayers for protection, support and help. You can see it echoed throughout today's reading: God has given the king strength, salvation, his heart's desire, his requests, rich blessings, a crown of fine gold, a long life, glory, splendor and majesty. The king is blessed.

So often we find ourselves running around in circles, scurrying to provide all of these things for ourselves, our families or our ministries.

We pray and ask God for a fruitful ministry or even a productive day...and rather than abiding in

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him and staying connected to the Source of Life throughout the day, we so often close our Bible, say “amen,” and begin the mad scurrying that we have become so accustomed to.

RESPOND

Where do you sense Asherah trying to lure you into believing that your value is tied to your level of productivity, and that if you want to feel important, you'd better fill up that calendar?

When is the last time that you experienced the rich blessing of simply enjoying the Lord's Presence?

Go back and read Psalm 21 once more, but this time, as you read, take a specific posture. Fold your hands to symbolize that you are trusting in the Lord to accomplish his work in and through you.

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Or read this Psalm with your hands behind your back, or in your pockets, or with palms up, symbolizing your willingness to wait and receive from the Lord rather than grasping for yourself whatever you think you need. Take some time to rejoice in the presence of the Lord, like King David does. This day, determine that you will not rejoice in the day's accomplishments, but rather, rejoice in the steadfast love of the Lord. This day, determine that you will not be moved from this posture, no matter what. This day, rejoice in who you *are*, rather than in what you *do*.