

Visible verse™

Psalm 42:1-2



*As the deer pants
for streams of water,
so my soul pants for
you, O God. My soul
thirsts for God, for the
living God. When can
I go and meet with
God?*

Body

Without Excuse

A firefighter with the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, took our Visible Verse™ image on August 6, 2000, when several forest fires converged near Sula, Montana. The combined blazes turned into a firestorm that overran 100,000 acres and destroyed 10 homes. Temperatures in the flame front were estimated at more than 800 degrees Fahrenheit! Yet, the two elk in our image found refuge in the cool waters of the East Fork of the Bitterroot River. If not for the water, they would have perished.

So it is in our lives. When life becomes especially difficult, when we are oppressed, persecuted, lonely or scared, we often gain spiritual clarity and see God for who He really is; our refuge in the firestorms of life. It is interesting that when times are good, or even just okay, we can lose this critical perspective and allow our hearts to grow distant from God. The psalmist encourages us to thirst for God as a deer thirsts for water. A heart thirsting for God finds God a refuge in good times as well as bad.

May you be reminded to pursue God each time you find yourself thirsty!

Photo: Raging Forest Fire and Elk; Sula, Montana
Photo Credit: John McColgan

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