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GOD'S PROMISE ON THE ROAD

By Janet Clements

The gentle wind was blowing in my face and the sweet fragrance of newly mown hay was wafting through the air, as I gently rested my chin on the open window of our car. As we drove from village to village, I saw rows and rows of corn tassels dancing in the breeze. We were on our family's summer vacation.

Every year we would take off for a different part of the country and experience new sights and sounds. We drove between majestic peaks, past shining seashores, and under a double rainbow arched across the highway. But wherever we were, in big city traffic or in a sudden hail storm, we always felt the comforting safety of God's presence.

Since those wonderful childhood summers, I have traveled beyond my homeland to places around the globe, and time and again I have gained wonderful peace through glimpsing the presence and universality of God's allness.

One spiritual insight that has been helpful to me in my travels is a verse from the Bible that describes how Jesus traveled: "And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee" ([Luke 4:14](#)). I've often pondered what traveling in the power of the Spirit could mean. One Bible commentary explains that Jesus knew that his only space, his only place, and his only sphere of action, was of Spirit. I've come to see that Spirit empowers

us all to move in accord with God's law of order and harmony. In the realm of Spirit, there can be no harmful weather conditions, no collisions or delays, no inconvenience or oversights, and no destructive action. The omnipresence of good precludes the possibility of any adverse experience. Wherever we are, there is God. There is the presence of Love to shelter us; the presence of Mind to guide us; the presence of Principle to keep us, and everyone, safe and sound. When we are conscious of this power of God with us, we can look forward to seeing how things work together in a beneficial way.

Recently, my work took me to a place in New Zealand—18 time zones away from my home. The first flight of my trip was on time, but when I reached my second destination along the way, the plane was grounded because of a mechanical malfunction. It was questionable whether the mechanics on duty could finish the work before the flight attendants were scheduled to walk off duty. If this happened, we wouldn't be able to leave until the next day, which would mean that I would completely miss the meeting that I was scheduled to address. There were no other options.

It seemed so right for me to be at that meeting, having spent a year preparing the talk I was to deliver, and I had taken so many coordinating steps with its sponsors. Instead of being panicked about the situation though, I prayed, confirming in thought that God, the divine Mind, was in total control of everything. Just thinking about the stars in the sky and seeing how they all move in harmony, helped me realize that God's law of order is universal, and that nothing can operate outside of it. That meant that Mind was governing and guiding all, including the mechanics trying to fix the plane. I saw it would be natural for them to locate the problem and to repair it expeditiously.

As it turned out, the mechanics completed the needed repair with 15 minutes to spare, and we were on our way. The delay, however, meant that I would miss the connecting flight to my final destination. The next flight was not scheduled to leave for nine hours. I

suggested to an airline attendant an alternative route. The attendant agreed, and actually walked me through customs and to a waiting plane. The airline even upgraded me, and I arrived at my final destination with ample opportunity to prepare for the address.

In conversation with the taxi driver who took me to my hotel, I found out that he was keenly interested in spiritual topics. In fact, he had been trying to find books to help him understand God better. I was able to share *Science and Health* with him, which he was excited to read. "I've been searching for a book like this. You have made my day. Thank you!" he said, as I closed the taxi door. I smiled and thought, "So this was one connection I was to make on this trip!"

I didn't experience the expected jet lag of 18 hours. *Science and Health* says, "Time is a mortal thought ..." ([p. 598](#)). I reasoned that I wasn't traveling through different time zones of mortal thought, but rather forever living and moving in the infinite Mind, God. I could never fly outside of the divine energy and strength of Spirit. I felt refreshed, and required no more time for rest.

Later, my family joined me in that beautiful country. All aspects of the trip evidenced the presence and power of divine law adjusting, harmonizing, and enveloping us in safety. We felt we moved in the gracious power of the Spirit.

I love the promise that God gave to Moses before his 40 years of traveling: "I will make all my goodness pass before thee" ([Ex. 33:19](#)). That promise echoes to each one of us as we set about our journeys—whether down the street or around the world. |css

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