



HE WILL QUIET YOU

October 2013

*The Lord your God is with you
he is mighty to save.
He will take great delight in you,
he will quiet you with his love
he will rejoice over you with singing.*

Zephaniah 3:17

Imagine! Holy God, Creator, the One who is above all, our Father in heaven. Imagine Him rejoicing over us with all our shortcomings. I have trouble finding adequate words to describe how amazing this is and what it means for God to sing, so will quote what John Piper said in one of his commentaries:

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“Can you imagine what it would be like if you could hear God singing?
Remember that it was merely a spoken word that brought the universe into
existence. What would happen if God lifted up his voice and not only spoke but
sang!”

I held this verse close during a particularly severe depression years ago. But I only hung
onto the first and fourth lines: *“The Lord your God is with you . . . he will quiet you with
his love.”* I read these lines over and over, finding solace in them. From those words I
drew the sustenance I needed.

I couldn’t fathom the part about God rejoicing over me—not the way I was feeling. In
that dark place I wasn’t in any mood to have anyone, not even God Himself, sing over
me. I needed quiet. I needed a soothing of the spirit.

It was tremendously reassuring to hear that there was an awesome God loving me and
holding me close. The solace I found in His arms during those painful times was a
wonderful relief.

But things are different now that I’m no longer in such deep depression. I’m more able
to seek the Lord. I’m able to absorb the full message.

And I stand in awe-filled wonder at how God can take delight in us and rejoice over us
with song. Who are we, after all, to be considered precious enough for that? But God
thinks we are.

How He loves us! Every one of us.

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