

Be Still

12-13-20

Psalm 46:1–3 (ESV)

- ¹ God is our refuge and strength,
 “a very present help” in trouble.
- ² Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
 though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
- ³ though its waters roar and foam,
 though the mountains tremble at its swelling. *Selah*

These are great words for us, in these times of upheaval, uncertainty, and fear. By proclaiming in the worst-case scenario of the world in extreme turmoil by the earth giving way and the mountains falling into the depth of the sea, we are then encouraged not to have any fear. The reason we do not fear in these tumultuous times is because, “God is a very present help.” **As God’s people, there is not any reason to fear.**

God is “a very present help” to the church, to believers. In verse 4, God refers to HIS people without fear as the City of God.

Psalm 46:4 (ESV)

There is a river whose streams make glad the City of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

Context - World in upheaval!

Surrounded by a world aflame is the people of God; “the City of God”. **We need not fear but have reason to be glad because God has made his dwelling with us.**

The OT City of God is a type of the NT church which is a guarantee against chaos. This is where the waters of life flow. Jesus declare this truth.

John 4:10 (ESV)

“If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.”

Believers make up the City, represent the Temple, which is the church. Living water, the Holy Spirit, flows in the City of God, the church.

1 Corinthians 3:16 (ESV)

Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you?

News Flash! The gathering of the church is the safe place in the world! *Look at this from God's perspective.*

Psalm 46:5 (ESV)

God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.

God is protecting the church. Remember, God’s voice created the world and God’s voice will dissolve the world.

Psalm 46:6 (ESV)

The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
HE utters HIS voice, the earth melts.

God’s voice tells HIS church to not be afraid. ☆

Psalm 46:7 (ESV)

The LORD of hosts is with us (The church);
the God of Jacob is our fortress. *Selah*

Literally the Hebrew says: God is for us and with us. The LORD of Hosts means God and all HIS heavenly Army which are for us and with us.

With the knowledge of God, we have clear instruction. ☆

Psalm 46:10 (ESV)

Be still and know that I am God.

I will be exalted among the nations,

I will be exalted in the earth!

The exhortation “Be Still” calls for people to stop doing one thing in favor of something else. This relates directly to the first two verses: “Therefore, we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.” The whole world is falling apart and instead of choosing fear, the people of God **“distinguish themselves”** because their action is **“Be still and Know that I am God.”** The “knowledge” of God includes a factual knowledge about HIM. However, the life of faith takes this knowledge and lives it out confident in God’s sovereignty, rule, and ultimate exaltation over all the nations.

God’s instruction is clear!

#1 Be Still #2 And Know #3 Know what? That I am God!

Therefore, we have absolute confidence and security that God “Will BE EXALTED” among the nations and in the earth.

Church, we are the powerful presence of God! We are the guarantee against chaos. We are where the Holy Spirit, the waters of life flow! Be Still and Listen! As we listen and shut our ears to every sound around us, there is a “still small voice” in the depths of our being that begins to speak! **That “still small voice of the Holy Spirit” in our heart is God speaking directly to us.** This is the living GOD Himself, who leads the Army of God. **HE is the substance of all knowledge and power!** Therefore, Scripture repeats!

Psalm 46:11 (ESV)

The LORD of hosts is with us!

Be still, don't be afraid because God is “for us” and “with us”. He is for and with the church! The reason we do not fear is because “God is a very present help.” With the power of God, we proclaim:

John 3:16 (ESV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.