
BEACON 23RD MARCH 2020

BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD!



On Sunday, we had a time of reflection and prayer whilst social distancing.

It was strange at first, but we soon began to realise the truth of the statement 'Be still and know that I am God' found in Psalm 46:10

If you look at the rest of the Psalm, it is hardly a peaceful and quiet scenario, what with mountains trembling, waters surging, God's voice thundering!

'the nations are in chaos and their kingdoms crumble!
Gods voice thunders and the earth melts! (Psalm 46 : 6 NLT)

In all of this God tells His people
' be still and know that I am God!
I will be honoured by every nation
I will be honoured throughout the world' (Psalm 46 : 10 NLT)

Being still isn't being quiet – it a state of complete rest and peace deep within. An utter dependency upon Gods provision and promises, even as all around us the world is in chaos.

Philippians is a letter written by Paul when he was in prison.
He wrote to the believers at Philippi, the first church established by Paul on the European continent. (You can read about how it came about in Acts 16 : 11-40).

Why am I drawing our attention to Pauls letter? Well it is simply this:
The epistle to the Philippians is well known for its emphasis on joy.

My bible is sub-headed:

- Chapter 1 - 'Joy in suffering'
- Chapter 2 - 'Joy in serving'
- Chapter 3 - 'Joy in believing'
- Chapter 4 - 'Joy in giving'

How can Paul have such joy and encourage us to have this same joy, when his circumstances are far from what we would consider 'joyous'? Sat in prison, freedom restricted, visitation controlled.

... and yet, Paul tells us in Philippians 4 : 6
 'Don't worry about anything, instead pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank Him for all He has done...' (NLT)

Don't worry – Be still.

These are the same thing. Take your eyes and mind away from the things that trouble us. Refocus on what God has done, where He has lifted you from, what He has saved you from, what He is making you!

The verse carries on in verse 7:

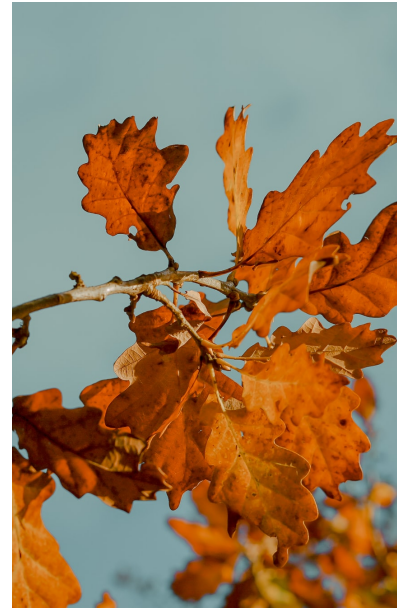
'...Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand' (NLT)

And there it is focus on what God is doing and everything else drops into its true place. God is in control and our sure knowledge of this brings us peace that we cannot understand or fathom. It just is!

In these times of seeming trouble, we are encouraged to lift our eyes to where our help comes from, to refocus our attention on the Creator of this world, to thank Him for the provision He has made for us in Jesus and to praise Him for all He has done and will do.

We are in the safest place possible. God hold us, even in the chaos of this world.

Be Still and KNOW that I am God.



“Don't worry about anything, instead pray about everything.”



Pastor Andy Jackson



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