

BEING STILL IN THE MIDST OF TROUBLE

(Part 2: Psalm 46)

It is a common experience for every Christian to become fearful when earth-shaking trials and monumental troubles rise up. The storms of life often seem so imposing and overwhelming that our hearts faint within us. In the midst of the raging storms of life, we must focus our gaze upon the Lord who says, *"Be still and know that I am God"* (Psalm 46:10). Psalm 46 teaches us that the security of a believer is not the absence of danger or trouble. Instead, our absolute security as believers of Christ lies in the presence, the power and the purpose of God.

1. We have absolute security in the power of God.

- a. God's power protects and strengthens us (Psalm 46:1).
- b. God's power drives away our fear (Psalm 46:2-3).

2. We have absolute security in the presence of God.

- a. God's presence sustains us (Psalm 46:4).
- b. God's presence helps us when we are at our weakest (Psalm 46:5).
- c. **God's presence delivers us from all opposition and affliction** (Psalm 46:6-7).

The Psalmist declares, *"The nations rage, the kingdoms totter. The Lord utters His voice, the earth melts"* (Psalm 46:6). When God speaks and gives a divine command, all His enemies are crushed and defeated like a wax before the melting sun (2 Kings 18:31; 19:14-19, 35-37). This sovereign God who promises to be with us is the Lord of Hosts and the God of Jacob (Psalm 46:7). Our God is the conquering Lord of the armies and the faithful covenant keeping God who is utterly committed to uphold us and deliver us from all opposition and affliction (Isa. 41:10).

3. We have absolute security in the _____.

In verses 8 to 11, the Psalmist calls us to contemplate and reflect on the glory and greatness of God in light of His divine purposes.

a. God's purpose in _____ gives us absolute security.

God subdues His enemies not through compromise but through conquest. He conquers and defeats His enemies by the sheer outworking of His power and might. He brings desolations on the earth by judging and destroying His foes (Psalm 46:8; 2 Kings 19:35-37). He also puts an end to wars by breaking and shattering the weapons of His enemies (Psa 46:9; Col. 2:14-15; 1 Cor. 15:55-57).

b. God's purpose in _____ gives us absolute security.

The divine command *"Be still and know that I am God!"* is primarily addressed to the raging nations and unbelieving people who persist in their rebellion against God (Psalm 46:10). This is a call to cease fighting against God and to surrender to His authority (Psalm 2:12). God will certainly be exalted among the nations and in all the earth through the believer's eternal salvation in heaven or the unbeliever's eternal judgment in hell (Psalm 46:10; Phil. 2:10-11).

c. God's purpose in _____ gives us absolute security.

The divine command *"Be still and know that I am God!"* is also a message of hope and encouragement to undeserving and unworthy sinners who trust in the God of Jacob as their saving fortress (Psalm 46:10-11; Rom. 8:38-39).
