

Be Still To Know God

Psalms 46:10 *“Be still and know that I am God...”*

The spirit world in which God dwells is linked with quietness in our physical world.

We **cannot** experience our Creator God and Saviour in the tumult of civic or religious activity.

Psalms 23:2-3 [King James] *“He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.”*

The Hebrew word translated “still” is “*manowach*” meaning quiet resting place, from root to be alone, or withdrawn.

It was in this environment that King David received guidance and a restored confidence in his Creator God.

Psalms 4:4 [NIV] *“In your anger do not sin; when you are on your beds, search your hearts and be silent. Selah”*

The word “*Selah*” means to pause and meditate on what you have just read.

God can be known in the tumult of this world but He is known best in the quiet silent place of rest when we withdraw from this noisy world.

It is interesting that God’s command to be still in **Psalm 46:10** is in a psalm that talks about noise and violence.

We need to find a place in our daily lives to be in a quiet environment in which we can hear the voice of God as we study His Words as found in the Christian Bible.

Some things can be learned in the din of modern life.

We may learn to become engineers, scientists, architects, fly a jet plane or manage a noisy department store.

However, when we seek the Creator God, something strange and wonderful happens.

We draw nearer to the ancient source of our being, we find we are no longer in a world of artificial distinctions, but stand again where Adam and Eve stood after their rebellious sin, a frightened, whimpering human being in desperate need of a Saviour.

There before us the judgement seat of Jesus Christ becomes very real. [**2 Corinthians 5:10**]

No modern rebellious techniques avail, none of the carefully thought out methods work.

The civilised human surrounded by their lately invented and noisy gadgets is taken back through centuries of “*progress*” to a one on one with their Creator God.

A terrifying experience.

In much of modern evangelism, every effort is made to smooth away this guilt and embarrassment when faced with our real self before the judge of all humanity.

One of the most popular current errors, one that springs out of a noisy blustering religious activity is the notion that as times change in the culture of this world that the Church must change with it.

Give the people what they want and enjoy.

Ten minute sermons full of pictures and stories, religious instruction, if wanted, through drama, advocating compromise.

The mentality which mistakes Sodom for Jerusalem and Hollywood for the Holy City is so gravely astray to be explained otherwise than judicial madness, thrust upon professing Christians, an affront to the Holy Spirit.

Isaiah 6:9-10 [NIV] *“He said, ‘Go and tell this people: ‘Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving.’ Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.’”*

This was given to Isaiah when he responded to a request from God to go to teach the people. [v8]

Isaiah wondered how long this response would continue.

Isaiah 6:11-13 [NIV] *“Then I said, ‘For how long, O Lord?’ And he answered: ‘Until the cities lie ruined and without inhabitant, until the houses are left deserted and the fields ruined and ravaged, until the LORD has sent everyone far away and the land is utterly forsaken. And though a tenth remains in the land, it will again be laid waste. But as the terebinth and oak leave stumps when they are cut down, so the holy seed will be the stump in the land.’”*

It will take traumatic worldwide events to bring most humans to see exactly where they stand in their relationship with their Creator God. [Proverbs 1:7]

What certain religious teachers fail to understand is that true Christian experience takes place in the human spirit, [Job 32:8] far in and beneath the changing surface of things.

It is only the surface that responds to noise and agitation.

The deep part of a human being lies in primeval silence that is waiting for the quickening word given by the Holy Spirit to bring that person to repentance and a second birth. [John 16:8; John 3:3-6]

Because this far-in spirit in a human is separated from God because of sin [Isaiah 59:2], the whole life is without wise direction.

Humans are left to their own thinking and unwise decisions when their spirit is **not** in contact with the Holy Spirit of God.

It must be remembered that the great essential part of life has **not** changed since the days of Adam and Eve.

Humans can still be deceived by Satan and his ministers. [Revelation 12:9; 2 Corinthians 11:14-15]

Using the language of New Testament theology, Jesus Christ is **only** offered as something that is added, a friend up there, a guarantor against when we face death.

Isaiah 42:1-2 [NIV] *“Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets.”*

Jesus Christ our only Saviour [**Acts 4:12**] will **not** be heard in the excited shouting of a nervous world, but in quiet times we spent in worship, prayer and meditating on His words as recorded in the Christian Bible..

Only then can the Holy Spirit reveal to our inner human spirit the truth of how we can receive the gift of salvation and eternal life from our Saviour Jesus Christ.