

Melva's Corner

AWAKENING!

February 5, 2007

(Psalm 46:10)

Central Truth: Do you really think ours is the first generation of humankind to feel the pressure of noise, tension, and uncertainty?

Ever feel guilty when somebody quoted this Scripture: **“Be still, and know that I am God”?** (Psalm 46:10). I’ll bet you’d like to find a quiet time today. Maybe you are even planning on it. Wonderful things can happen in times of solitude, stillness, and silence before God. But they are hard to come by — and simply aren’t available on some days or in certain life experiences.

There’s precious little time for stillness when production deadlines are close. A report is due in three hours. An inspection is in progress. If you live in a big city, there are voices and horns. There is constant motion. Shared living space has someone else’s music; someone else’s TV, and someone else’s voice. Where are you supposed to find God in the midst of all the noise?

Then there is “noise” of a different kind altogether. Pain from an injury screams at you. The pressure of finding a new job or putting life together after a death takes away your tranquil sense of God. Sadness, disappointment, and loss crash over you with the roar of an angry sea.

Strange as it may seem to say, the greater need for some of us may be less for stillness than to learn how to hear God’s voice smack in the middle of all the noise and chaotic activity.

“They reeled and staggered like drunken men; they were at their wits’ end. Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress. He stilled the storm to a whisper; the waves of the sea were hushed. They were glad when it grew calm, and he guided them to their desired haven. Let them give thanks to the Lord ...” (Psalm 107:27-31).

Do you really think ours is the first generation of humankind to feel the pressure of noise, tension, and uncertainty? Of course it isn't. And the experience of some of those people can guide us in eliminating stress.

Whoever the subjects of Psalm 107 were, they were reeling and staggering under their load. There was no serene stillness before God for them. To the contrary, they were "at their wits' end." So right in the middle of their frenzy and distress, "they cried out to the Lord in their trouble" — and God heard them.

If your life has more tumult than stillness, more crash than tranquility, God has not eluded you. He beckons you to cry out to Him, and He will show Himself to you. Amidst the noise, you will find Him with you in the middle of it all.

You can discover — or recover — the salty tang of life and faith, the vigor and potency of believing and, consequently, of really living. You can let God reawaken all the worlds of your being and ever so gently shape out a rich, full faith. Maybe you feel clumsy at first. But you can learn to dance these first few steps in the midst of it all. And as you experience His presence, you are changed, never to be the same again. What an awesome thought. What an opportunity for transformation. In His Presence.

Scriptural References:

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