

Stand Still

Go, Go, Go! It seems as though everybody is in a hurry to go somewhere or to do something. The days seem so busy we barely have enough time to do the things we have to do, much less the things we would like to do. So often those of us who call ourselves children of God have the same approach in our relationship with God. We want what we want now and we want it in the way we think is best for us. We think that if God has not done it in our time frame, we must take matters into our own hands. We think that if God has not done it in the way that we think is best, that God must not care for us or see the situation as desperate as we do. How very wrong we are.

First, we must come to know that God's thoughts and ways are not like ours and that His thoughts and ways are immeasurably higher than ours (Isaiah 55:8-9). Simply put, God is God, we can't possibly know better than He. What is done, why it is done, how it is done, or when it is done does not matter. God is God. He knows what is best for us and He deeply desires the best for us. Psalm 84:11 says, "For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless."

Second, we must learn to stand still and see the salvation of the Lord. In Exodus 14, the Israelites had their backs to the sea as the Egyptians were advancing to destroy them. Although they knew God and had seen His mighty hand move on their behalf many times before, they were terrified and began to cry out against God and Moses. In their time of trouble, they assumed God did not know what He was doing, that He had failed them, that His plan was deficient. Oh, how very wrong they were. After all they had seen, they still did not realize that having nowhere to turn to but to God, is the most perfect place to be. For it is there that we see the salvation of the Lord. The hand of God always moves perfectly. His dealings on our behalf are always perfect in timing, method, purpose and outcome. In Isaiah 40: 25-31 we read "'To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?'" says the Holy One. Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and complain, O Israel, My way is hidden from the Lord; my cause is disregarded by my God? Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

When you find yourself in the day of trouble with your back against the sea, do not grumble or complain and take matters into your own hands but lift your head toward the heavens and stand still and see the salvation of the Lord.