

November 26, 2023

The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.

1 Kings 19:11-15a *Then He said, “Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord.” And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice. So it was, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. Suddenly a voice came to him, and said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” And he said, “I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life.” Then the Lord said to him: “Go, return on your way to the Wilderness of Damascus*

The prophet Elijah was on the run. He thought he was running for his life from King Ahab and his wife Jezebel. What he found out is that he was running to his life. The LORD set an example before him to explain His omnipotence. He wasn't speaking through the mighty wind, the earthquake, or the fire. He was speaking in a still small voice. Why would our mighty LORD speak in such a way? Someone once told me that if you are in a crowded room where it seems everyone is talking, there is no comprehension of what is being said. But, if someone then walks up to you and begins to whisper, you can immediately hone in on what they are saying. The Hebrew term for *still small voice* is **dakkah** which means *a gentle blowing, a light touch or a whisper*. Elijah didn't need the LORD to yell out His instructions for him, he just needed to hear the gentle voice of his loving Father. To do this, Elijah had to spurn the strong wind, the earthquake and the fire. These were the things of this world that shout for his attention.

For us, it is the media, the crowd, the critics, the experts, the well-meaning friends. They all cry out to be heard; and might I add, with great veracity. But in the midst of all the voices, the Psalmist reminds us of God's admonition in **Ps. 46:10a** *He says, “Be still, and know that I am God.”* We don't need to listen to every “news” report or worry about the things that this world says are so important. Elijah was so worried about his life that he was missing real life. Let's tune into the still small voice today. It's the only voice that really matters.

Dear LORD, help us to listen for Your voice today. To do that, we need to be still. Help us to turn off the TV and spend some quality time in Your presence today. You are really the One that matters. In Jesus Name, Amen