

Sermon: **“At Peace in Our Fortress While the Earth Melts – Part 2” (Psalm 46)**

Date: **March 29, 2020**

We are back in Psalm 46 this week, studying the second half of the psalm. Last week we studied the following two truths from the first seven verses: (1) We will not fear and (2) We will not be moved. We are hidden in God, who is our immovable fortress. This week, as we study verses 8-11, we will move from two truth statements to two commandments. First, we will be called to quietly watch the destruction. As the nations rage and the virus spreads, the people of God are commanded to quietly behold the power of God and the impotence of man. Second, we will be called to quietly wait for the Lord to be exalted. As Christians, we can be still and know that He is God. We can be still because we know what there is coming a day when Christ’s redemption will reach the end of the earth, where peace will triumph, and where disease will come to an end. So we wait with patience and expectation, knowing that God is with us.

What you need for this study: Bible, Notebook, Pen

Individual Bible Study

1. Please read Psalm 46 and ensure that you’ve listened to Sunday’s sermon.
 - a. Briefly summarize what we learned last week in verses 1-7.
 - b. In verse 8, we’re told to “Come, behold the works of the Lord.” What kinds of ‘works’ are we called to ‘behold’? Why does God want us to behold them?
 - c. What should our general disposition be as we behold these works of the Lord?
 - d. God has “brought” desolations on the earth. This phrase is in the past tense. As you look back through biblical history, what are some examples of desolations that the Lord has brought on different civilizations?
 - e. Explain verse 9. What is the significance of the references to broken bows, shattered spears, and burnt chariots?
 - f. How are (1) the ability to “be still” and (2) the knowledge of God correlated with each other? Can you have one without the other? Why or why not?

- g. As we are called to be still and to know God, what do we patiently wait for (see v. 10, v. 9a)?

- h. What does the phrase “LORD of hosts” mean in verse 11? What does the phrase “God of Jacob” mean in verse 11?

- i. Psalm 46 ends with a reminder of God’s presence. Why is it important that we remember the presence of God?

Group Discussion Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the sermon and the Bible study this week?

2. As you think about all that is going on in the world right now, how have you beheld God’s power on display? How have you seen man’s weakness on display? Give examples.

3. Why is it important to remember and to consider the supremacy of God, especially in times of crisis? How is God’s supremacy put on display in this psalm?

4. What does it look like to wait patiently for the Lord during seasons of trial? How does the hope of exaltation and of glory help us persevere?

5. How would you encourage a Christian who is fearful and anxious about current events? How would you help a Christian who is downcast and sorrowful over what is going on in the world? How would you counsel someone who is bitter about this situation?

Church-Wide Prayer Requests

- Pray for God to supply every need of the saints in our church according to his riches in glory in Christ (Phil. 4:19)

- Pray for our leaders and politicians, that God would give them a fear of the Lord and wisdom from above (1 Tim. 2:1-2)