



RESURRECTION CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

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EVANGELIZING THE HEART OF THE BELIEVER

Letters of Faith

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**“Be silent before the Lord, all humanity,
for He is springing into action from His holy dwelling.”**

Zechariah 2:13 NLT

Dear Beloved,

These awesome words were released to God’s people by the prophet Zechariah as an explanation point to his declaration that God was going to bless his people: **“Jerusalem will someday be so full of people that it won’t have room enough for everyone! Many will live outside the city walls, with all their livestock—and yet they will be safe. For I, myself, will be a wall of fire around Jerusalem, says the LORD. And I will be the glory inside the city!”** (Zech. 2:4-5)

This most assuredly does not describe the Jerusalem of today. In fact, I don’t believe there has yet ever been a day in the history of God’s people where these words would accurately describe their life in the City of Zion. But then, I don’t think there has ever been a time in the history of the world when all humanity was silent before the Lord either! So these words of Zechariah are perhaps yet to be fulfilled.

We humans seem to have a great propensity to be vocal and boisterous and make all sorts of clamor no matter what our circumstances or our situations. It is a painful fact of Church life today that even the briefest moments of corporate silence before the Lord are extremely rare.

How often have you experienced a worship session approach high praise, and then felt the increasing anointing of the presence of God’s Holy Spirit or His ministering Spirits (His angels), only to be rudely interrupted on your spiritual path into His presence by a shift to loud proclamations or furious handclapping? Whether intentionally (as practiced in some major conference-oriented centers) or by ignorance (or at the very least lack of discernment) amongst the worship team leadership, the result is that you are hustled back to the “outer court” instead of continuing sweetly into the Holy of Holies and God’s mercy-full presence.

So many of God’s people are fervently crying out to our Heavenly Father in the name of His Son, Jesus, for His **“springing into action”** on behalf of His people! In fact, whole ministries are established and prospering by leading conferences and churches into fervent, loud, and emotional outcrying prayer for God to move with power and might.

We certainly don’t want to indicate that anyone should stop crying out to God to bring revival in our time, but is it possible that we are missing a key

ingredient to His movings and shakings? Is being silent before the Lord what is missing?

What happens when we grow silent? We should become more aware of the reality of His presence than when we are “performing” in some way to “bring” Him. We might even become aware that He is drawing us up to enter into His throne room instead of His coming down to be with us. What a different perspective of the world and of ourselves we would get from His throne room instead of from our man-made earthly sanctuaries!

But we can also become afraid that He won't come, or if He does come, we won't know it or feel it like others do. Or maybe we have to face and deal with thoughts and feelings of our own inadequacy to be in His presence. Is it perhaps some fear like these that keeps us from drawing aside from all of our activities and serving to just be silent before the Lord?

If that is so with you, and honestly we are not strangers to these thoughts and emotions, it would be profitable to make a quick review of the many times and the many ways God's Word instructs and commands and exhorts us to: **“Be silent, and know that I am God!”** (Psa. 46:10a NLT) **“Cease striving and know that I am God...”** (Psalm 46:10a NASB)

From Exodus to Revelation we see God telling His people this! **“...Moses said to the people, ‘Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the LORD which He will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again forever. The LORD will fight for you while you keep silent.’”** (Exodus 14:13-14 NASB) **“When the Lamb broke the seventh seal, there was silence throughout heaven for about half an hour.”** (Rev. 8:1 NLT)

What would happen in your church if there was silence for a half hour during your Sunday morning service? Would you see God do a miraculous thing as God's people did when Moses spoke and raised his rod of authority over the Red Sea? Or would you be so filled with the awe of what was going on in the Spirit realm that you couldn't even make a peep?

In December we corporately celebrated the greatest gift that has ever been given: the birth of the man child Jesus from the virgin womb of Mary. With the heart-warming strains of “Silent Night, Holy Night” ringing in my emotions, I can imagine the cattle gently lowing while this miracle was taking place in the shut away quiet of that lowly manger. All the hubbub of reuniting families was taking place in the town and the inn that had no room for this particular couple, but in that remote stable there was no celebration: just the silence between the birthing gasps of God's faithful handmaiden, Mary. And the earnest prayers of God's chosen son, Joseph.

It must have been like the whole spirit world held its breath.

Surely that is the description of the shepherd's experience out in the quiet fields surrounding Bethlehem until: **“...an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened.** (Luke 2:9 NASB) **“And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased.’”** (Luke 2:13-14 NASB)

The greatest miracle of all time took place as God's chosen witnesses were still and quietly tending their flocks.

Maybe we are trying too hard.

Maybe, if we really believe that God is about to move on this horribly turbulent world, we should learn to: **"Be silent before the LORD..."**

Let's dare to try it. Let's set some time aside to get quiet before the Lord our God, who by the birth, life, death, resurrection, and glorious ascension of Jesus Christ we are privileged to call Him, the one True, Almighty, and Everlasting God, our Father who is in heaven.

In prior months we encouraged you to dare to Do the New!

Now we recommend you do what our earliest leaders did; wait silently for the Lord to speak, move, and touch. This old discipline would be so unusual in our mad-dash-about world that it would be like new.

The spiritual fact remains that **"Be(ing) silent before the LORD..."** is the time-tested and saint-tested way to enter sweetly into the Holy of Holies to experience God's mercy-full healing presence.

Let us enter His presence, listen, pray, and honestly expect Him to **"...spring(ing) into action from his holy dwelling..."** to bring forth a new outpouring of His Holy Spirit in our hearts, and in our churches, and in this hyperactive world all around us that so desperately needs to experience the Prince of Peace and Lord of Lords. And let us enter His presence so He will prepare us to fully re-present Jesus in His fullness to hungry and jaded hearts.

July 7th (07-07-07) is a special day of prayer for the whole Body of Christ. Join the Call to prayer in Nashville (www.thecall.com), in your local church, or in your home. Join the Body of Christ as we cry out to our Heavenly Father for our country, our civilization, our very lives. And be sure to keep a time of silence before the Lord.

Dare to see what happens when we all obey the simple scripture: **"Be silent before the LORD..."**

Holy hugs,

