

BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD. PSALM 42:10

There are moments in life when Heaven stoops so low that you could almost touch God. Have you ever had such tangible moments of God's presence in your lives? When we look back on our life there are certain periods of our life where we can see ourselves being so close to Heaven. Like the Michealangelo's famous picture the finger of God almost touches ours. But such moments when we felt so close to God, in my life personally were times of intense pain and a total envelopment of despair. Then I had almost reached out and touched God. He's really really been so real more than all those whom I've known in flesh and blood.

To know God, and to be still, goes together. To be still in the presence of God. Not to try but let God do everything. Like Abraham waiting, waiting for long... When Isaac was born and when Sarah named him laughter, Abraham knew His God.

Moses wandered aimlessly and suddenly in the stillness of the vast wilderness a bush was burning without being consumed.

Moses went up to the mountain, waited on the Lord for forty days and nights and He met God, but he also wanted to see God's Glory. God put Moses in a cave and covered him. In the stillness of the cave Moses heard and saw the Great God passing by him.

David had to be still when he could have easily killed Saul who was pursuing him. But one day God Himself put David on the throne.

David the great king, goes into the temple and sat before the Lord, being still and asks the Lord again and again, "Who am I Lord, that you have brought me thus far?"

Elijah in the cave sat still and heard the still voice of God.

Oswald Chambers who had such incisive insight into the heart of God wrote these words, "If God has made your cup sweet, drink it with grace; if He has made it bitter drink it in communion with Him. God chose the crucible for Abraham and he made no demur, he went steadily through...**in the crucible you learn to know God better.** God is working for His highest ends till His purpose and man's purpose become one.

(<http://www.myutmost.org/11/1111.html>)

Are you sitting so desolate, so alone, clutching your head and asking , "Why me Lord?" Let me tell you why. Strange it may sound, but the very thing that hurts you deep is the expression of the love of our Father. It is the crucible He has for you, so that you know Him more and more. He also hurts with you, when you, and you know Him. You know God better in stillness, in pain, in loneliness, in sickness, in uncertainties and in nothingness.

Looking back my life was rudely shattered when daddy died some ten years ago. I thought I could not survive, I'd just disappear into myself. It was a very hard crucible, but it was there God literally took me by my hand and led me so far. Looking at myself I wonder how could I've come this far. It was all grace and mercy of God and the way He took me so close to His heart is so undeserved and unbelievable.

My dearest friend whoever you are and whatever you are going through, remember this that it is God and God alone who has put you into the crucible, so that you become like Him, so that you know Him more and more. Thank through the tears that it is His love which puts you through fire. Yes my brother, yes my sister it is only His love, haven't you read that He perfected His own blemishless Son, Jesus Christ through suffering. (Hebrews 2:10)

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when His glory is revealed. I Peter 4:12-13

Dear Jesus give us the grace to be still when we have to be in the crucible and drink the bitter cup. Help us to go on with that, strengthen us so that we may not turn away from the way you have chosen for us. Lord for only you know what lies at the end of the road. Help us to follow your footsteps through fire or through the valley of the shadow of death. We know we can trust you Lord. Love you Lord. In Jesus Name. Amen.