

Elder Bobby Willis



A Time To Be Still

In grade school, I was not one to always be as still as my teacher would have liked. There were a few occasions when several of my classmates and myself were taken to the “cloak room” and reminded of our wayward ways. Having asthma as a child meant that I had to sleep at times with one of my parents. The phrase “be still” was commonly heard soon after the lights would go out. (Their reasoning was that if I would be still, I could breath better and not have an attack - it did not always work)

There were times when the Lord told Israel to **“Be still”** for a profound reason. David spoke of this in Psalm 4:4 when he said, **“Stand in awe, and sin not: commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still. Selah.”** At least my parents were quoting directly from the Bible even though I don’t think that’s what they intended.

To **“be still”** and pay attention to what the Lord commanded was a duty and responsibility of God’s children and has never changed. While our common usage today may be to *“not move about”*, this is not what the Lord intended. It rather means it to be a spiritual condition of a Child of God when commanded of the Lord to pay close attention to God’s commandments, His teachings, and His guidance. We are to **“stand in awe”** of the power, the holiness, and the wonderment of the love of God. To **“be still”** is to recognize and be respectful of what God has done, is doing, and promises yet to do for His children.

Have you ever noticed that when we are still, we are better able to see and recognize what is going on around us? We miss so much when we do not stop all along and just **“be still.”** Moses, by the inspiration of the Lord, told the Israelites in the wilderness of Sinai to **“Stand still, and I will hear what the Lord will command concerning you”** (Numbers 9:8). He told them when they were coming out of Egypt to **“Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord..”** (Exodus 14:13). They would soon learn that it was not by any action which they would do, any salvation they could accomplish, of any might of their own, which

would be able to save them from Pharaoh and his pursuing army. To “**stand still**” or “**be still**” meant to wait patiently on God.

So, no matter if the Lord tells you to “**be still**” or “**stand still**”, it would be well to do so and see “**the salvation of the Lord.**” David again spoke of this in Psalm 46:10, “**Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.**” How wonderful it is to be able to slow down and meditate on the wonderment that is God. But, we must “**be still**” to do so. “**Think About It!**”