— Psalm 46 —

Our Royal Refuge

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah. A Song For Alamoth.

[1]God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble.
[2]Therefore we will not fear,
Even though the earth be removed,
And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;
[3]Though its waters roar and be troubled,
Though the mountains shake with its swelling.
Selah
[4]There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God,
The holy place of the tabernacle of the Most High.
[5]God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved;
God shall help her, just at the break of dawn.
[6]The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved;
He uttered His voice, the earth melted.

[7]The LORD of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our refuge.
Selah

[8]Come, behold the works of the LORD,
Who has made desolations in the earth.
[9]He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two;
He burns the chariot in the fire.

[10]Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!

[11]The LORD of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our refuge.
Selah

► This psalm addresses head on the hard realities of living in a world marked by sin, death, and decay. The question is not _____ storms will hit, but how to respond when they do, or are on the horizon.

► We are not ultimately in control. The good news is that we belong to the one who is in _____ control of not only every storm, but every movement of every single atom in existence.

> *"In one word, not to dwell longer on this, give heed, and you will at once perceive that the ignorance of God's providence is the greatest of all miseries, and that the knowledge of it the highest of happiness."*
> -Calvin's Institutes, 1.17.10-11

► Though everything around us be shaking in turmoil, even the earth itself, we must not _____ in fear, for we stand upon and are sheltered within a Rock which cannot be moved.

> *2 Ki 18:28-32 - Then the Rabshakeh stood and called out with a loud voice in Hebrew, and spoke, saying, "Hear the word of the great king, the king of Assyria! Thus says the king: 'Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he shall not be able to deliver you from his hand; nor let Hezekiah make you trust in the Lord, saying, "The Lord will surely deliver us; this city shall not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria." ' Do not listen to Hezekiah; for thus says the king of Assyria: 'Make peace with me by a present and come out to me; and* ***every one of you eat from his own vine and every one from his own fig tree, and every one of you drink the waters of his own cistern; until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and new wine, a land of bread and vineyards, a land of olive groves and honey****, that you may live and not die. But do not listen to Hezekiah, lest he persuade you, saying, "The Lord will deliver us."*

► This what a living faith looks like. It _____ to God for help and security. It does not fret and lose all control. It asks God to do the thing which we _____. And it simply says, "Save me. Save us."

> *2 Ki 19:21 - The virgin, the daughter of Zion, has despised you,* ***laughed you to scorn****; The daughter of Jerusalem has shaken her head behind your back!*
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> *2 Ki 19:35-37 - And it came to pass on a certain night that the angel of the Lord went out, and killed in the camp of the Assyrians one hundred and eighty-five thousand; and when people arose early in the morning, there were the corpses—all dead. So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and went away, returned home, and remained at Nineveh. Now it came to pass, as he was worshiping in the temple of Nisroch his god, that his sons Adrammelech and Sharezer struck him down with the sword; and they escaped into the land of Ararat. Then Esarhaddon his son reigned in his place.*
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> *Psalm 50:13-14 - Offer to God thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High.* ***Call upon Me*** *in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me."*
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> *Isaiah 30:1-3 - Woe to the rebellious children," says the LORD "Who take counsel,* ***but not of Me****, and who devise plans,* ***but not of My Spirit****, that they may add sin to sin; who walk to go down to Egypt, and* ***have not asked My advice****, to strengthen themselves in the strength of Pharaoh, and to trust in the shadow of Egypt! Therefore the strength of Pharaoh shall be your shame, and trust in the shadow of Egypt shall be your humiliation.*

► Hezekiah goes to the _____, believes what God says, prays to the Lord, exulting in God's glory and His strength, and asks God to _____ him.

Proverbs 31:25 - Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come.

► God wants us to _____ at the threats that often make us shake.

*Psalm 48:1-2 - Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised in the city of our God! **His holy mountain, beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth, Mount Zion**, in the far north, the city of the great King.*

*Micah 7:18-19 - Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in mercy. He will again have compassion on us, and will subdue our iniquities. You will **cast all our sins into the depths of the sea**.*

► By far, the most repeated command in all of Scripture is this: Do not _____. Our fear is owed to God and God alone.

*Mark 4:37-39 - And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! **Be still**!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.*

*Job 38:8-11 - "Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, and said, **'Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed**'?*

► This is the faith that angels long to look in to. It's the faith that puts on display for the world, and the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places, the manifold _____ of God (Eph 3:10).