

⁵ In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named **Zechariah**, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife **Elizabeth** was also a descendant of Aaron. ⁶ **Both** of them were **upright** in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commandments and regulations blamelessly.

⁷ But they had **no children**, because Elizabeth was barren; and they were **both well along in years**.

Numerous commentaries Say that they were both **over sixty**. "for old age" and a man of these years, was accounted an old man: and the word for **old** age in Job 30:2 is by "**gematry - sixty**"

⁸ Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, ⁹ he was **chosen** by **lot**, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go **into the temple** of the Lord and **burn incense**.

10

***Once in a Lifetime** honor because of the number of priests.*

And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside.

¹¹ Then an **ANGEL** of the **Lord** appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² When **Zechariah** saw him, he was startled and was **Gripped** with **FEAR**

¹³ But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John.



¹⁴ He will be a

JOY and

DELIGHT to

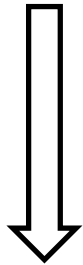
you, and **many** will
rejoice because of his
birth, ¹⁵ for he will be

GREAT in the

sight of the Lord.



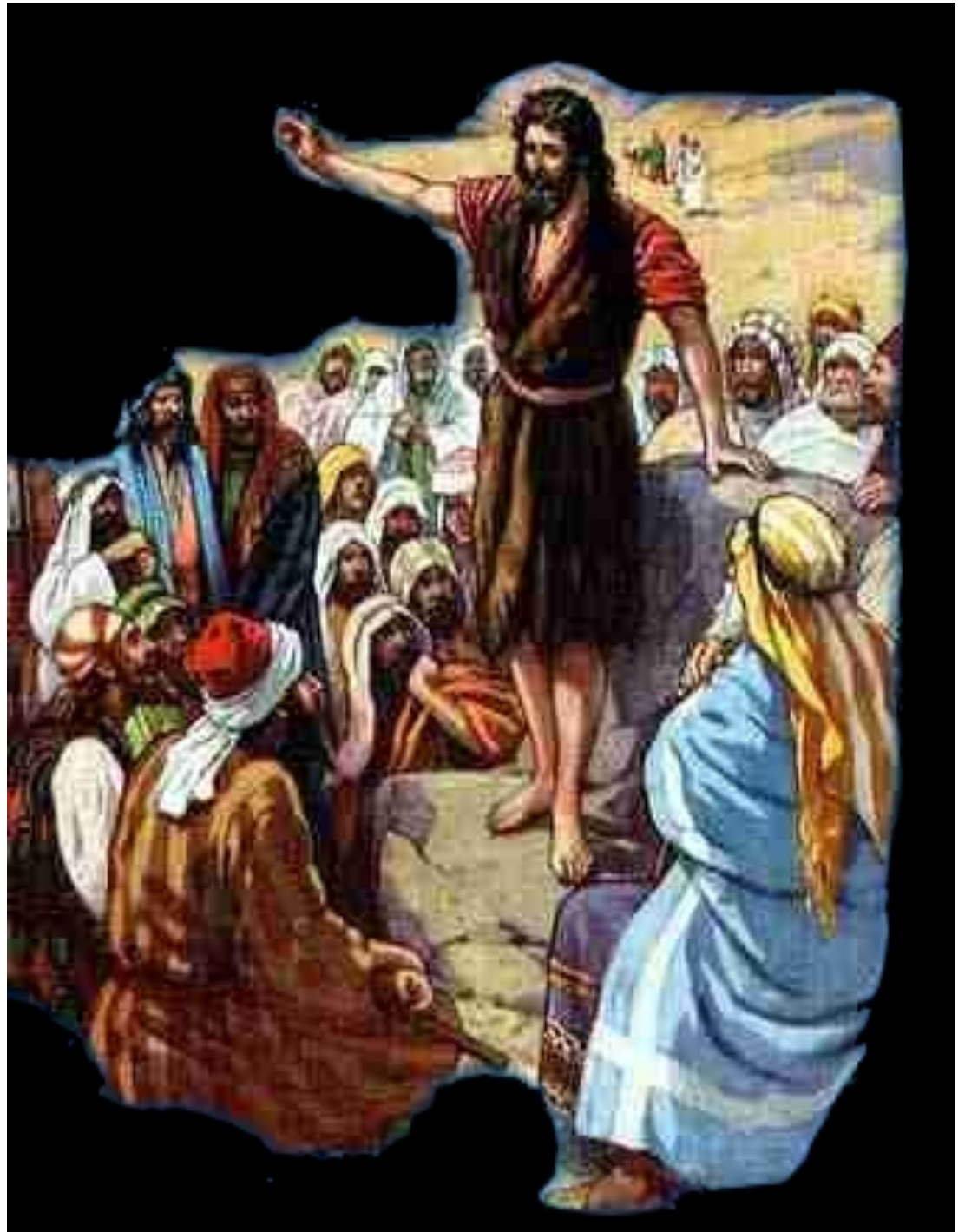
He is **NEVER** to
take wine or
other fermented
drink,



and he will be
FILLED
with
the **Holy Spirit**
even from **birth.**



¹⁶ **Many** of the people of Israel will he bring **BACK** to the **Lord their God.** ¹⁷ And he will go on before the Lord, in the **spirit** and **power of Elijah**, to turn the **hearts of the fathers to their children** and the



**disobedient
to the
wisdom of
the
righteous -
to make ready
a people
PREPARED
for the
LORD.”**



¹⁸ Zechariah asked the angel, “**How** can I be **sure** of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years.” ¹⁹ The angel answered, “I am **Gabriel**.

I stand in the presence of God
and I have been sent to speak
to you and to tell you this
good news. ²⁰ And now

you will be **SILENT** and **Not Able to Speak**
until the day this happens,

A close-up, grayscale image of a computer keyboard key labeled "MUTE". The key is rectangular with a slightly raised, textured surface. The word "MUTE" is printed in a bold, sans-serif font. The background is dark and out of focus, showing other keys of the keyboard.

**because you did not believe
my words, which will come
true at their proper time.”**

**²¹ Meanwhile, the people
were waiting for Zechariah
and wondering why he
stayed so long in the temple.**

**²² When he came out, he could not speak to them. They realized
he had seen a vision in the temple, for he kept making signs to
them but remained unable to speak.**



23 When his time of service was completed, he returned home.



Effects on Zechariah

Effects on his Son

today - silence

Silent Retreats



4 Applications

1. Silent **Retreat**

2. Silent on an Individual **Personal** issue

Write

Most
Common

To get **PAST** things *or* To **WAIT** for things.

3. **Media** Silence *last weekend with Bishop*

4. Silence on **Talking** about your **SELF**

Write Learned
Love & Leadership

2 quotes

According to Richard Foster,

“LONELINESS is inner EMPTINESS.

SOLITUDE is inner FULFILLMENT,



A full moon is centered in the upper half of the frame, glowing against a deep blue night sky filled with stars. Below the sky, a dark silhouette of a forested shoreline is visible. In the foreground, a body of water reflects the moon's light, creating a shimmering path that leads from the bottom center towards the horizon.

Dallas Willard, in Hearing God,

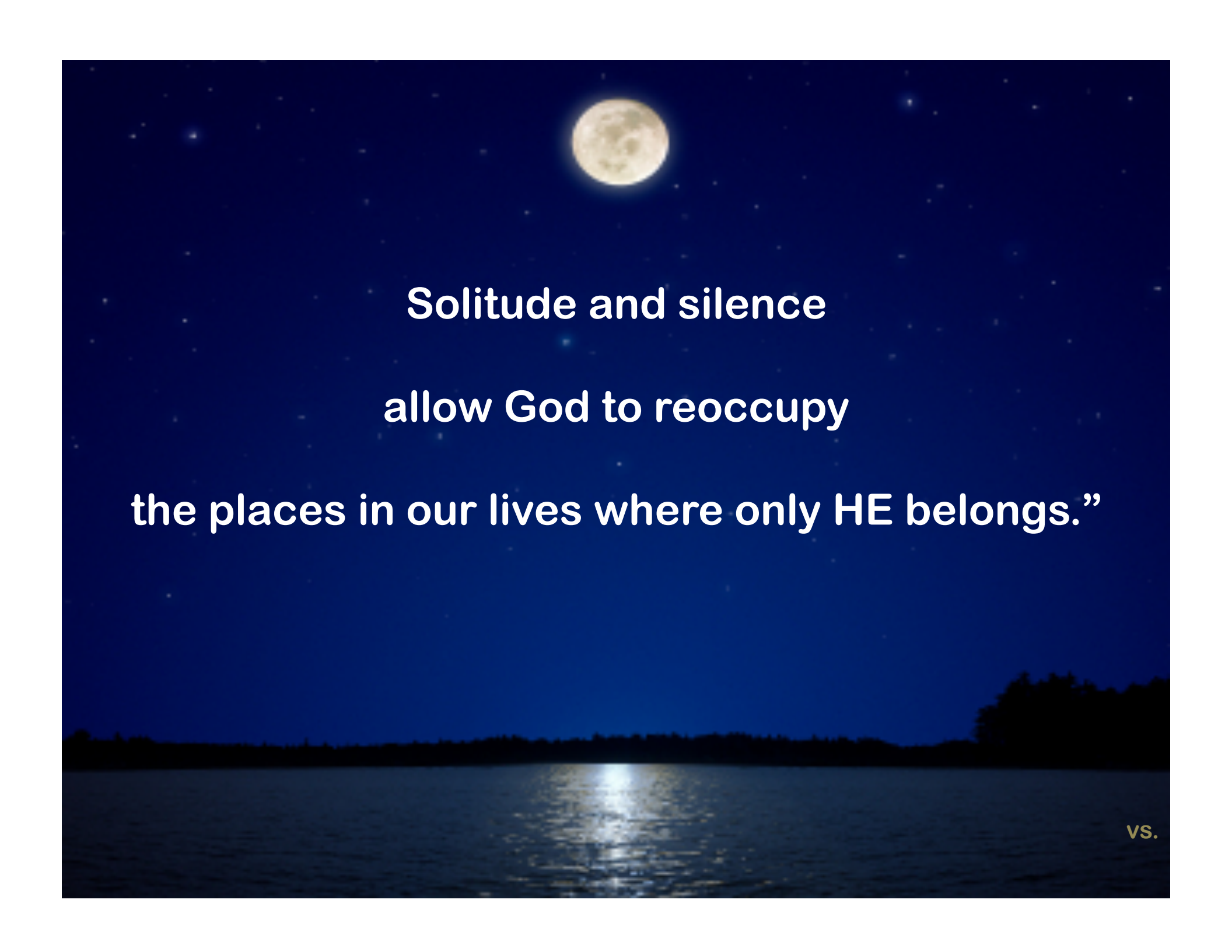
"Silence means to eliminate noise,
including the noise of our own mouth.

It further frees us to
move into the life that is eternal.

A full moon is positioned in the upper center of the frame, glowing against a deep blue night sky filled with numerous small stars. Below the sky, a dark silhouette of a forested shoreline runs across the middle ground. In the foreground, a calm body of water reflects the moon's light, creating a bright, shimmering path that leads from the horizon towards the viewer.

Our world is wordy and noisy and pause-less.

In our world-system there is
no rest for our souls.

A full moon is positioned in the upper center of the frame, casting a bright, shimmering reflection onto the surface of a calm body of water in the foreground. The sky is a deep, dark blue, densely populated with numerous small, bright stars. The horizon line is visible in the lower third of the image, showing the dark silhouettes of trees and land. The overall atmosphere is serene and contemplative.

**Solitude and silence
allow God to reoccupy
the places in our lives where only HE belongs.”**

vs.

Ps. 39:2-4 But when I was

Silent and still, not even saying anything good,

¹ my **Anguish Increased.**

² My **Heart** grew **Hot** within me,

³ and as I **Meditated,**

⁴ the **Fire Burned;**

then I spoke with my tongue:

“**Show me, O LORD,** my life’s **END**

and the **Number** of my days;

let me know how **Fleeting** is my life

1 Kgs 19:12 **still small voice** *N/V* a **gentle whisper**

Is. 53:7 He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did
Not Open his Mouth; he was led like a lamb to
the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is
SILENT, so he did **Not Open his Mouth**.



NEXT week Nov. 25-27 **Elizabeth & Mary**

Group # 1

Seekers



Is your
life
Medicated?

Group # 2

Ready **TODAY**
to Give
Everything
to Jesus



He will
FILL
you

Group # 3

ALREADY
Sold out to

Jesus

I will
Cultivate
a
Quiet heart