

---

# BE STILL

---

## Considering the Context of Psalm 46:10

---

### Observing the Context

---

1. Know the genre - Hebrew poetry
    - Written in parallelisms
      - synonymous (Ps 33:2)
      - antithetical (Ps 1:6)
      - synthetic (Ps 147:16-17)
    - uses structure rather than rhyme
      - Acrostic (uses Hebrew letters)
      - Chiastic (our Psalm)
      - Strophic (Thematic lines)
  2. Understand the historical context
    - It is a Psalm of deliverance
    - It is a Psalm of God's power over His people's enemies.
    - It is a Psalm of God's rule
  3. Read the surrounding context
    - What does the rest of it say?
    - \* How does it fit in the book?
    - Does the author repeat these phrases elsewhere?
  4. Read the book context
    - What themes run throughout?
    - What is the purpose/occasion?
    - Who is it written to?
- 



## Sermon Review Notes:

---

### Be Still and Know That I Am God (Gregg Matte)

#### First Baptist Church, Houston

---

- ◆ He kinda puts the Psalm in context by saying it is about God being our refuge. That's true but it's not really the context in its fullest.
- ◆ His focus is on verse 10. Verses 5=6 are the actual focus of this Psalm. See the Chiastic Structure below
- ◆ 9:31 - "You have to get free from distractions to see/hear from God."
- ◆ 10:05 - he states that "Be still" means removing the distractions from our lives. This is a typical Evangelical interpretation that does not take into consideration ALL the context of this Psalm.

## Quick Facts: First Baptist Church Houston

---



Gregg Matte

- Pastor of First Baptist Church, Houston
- Southern Baptist
- As of 2007 there were 23,000 members

### *1st Point: Stillness Deepens Our Relationship with God*

✦ 10:47 - "Stillness deepens our hearts and our lives." Again, this is not the context. The context of the Psalm has to do with God's deliverance, not finding God in our distractions.

"Deep people are still people." Huh????? (Head-scratching moment.)

✦ 12:25 - he makes the application about what we are feeling. Thus far, he has not made one exegetical point from the sermon. He has only read the verse and commented about what it "means" without giving other Scriptural support.

✦ 19:02 - he uses Exodus 14:14. Many translations have the word 'still' but the actual Hebrew word is be silent.

### *Point 2: Missions Begins with Stillness*

✦ 20:28 - he seems to insinuate that God could do more if we would just follow His plan. Although he may not have meant it this way, it can be construed as limiting God's sovereignty over mankind. In other words, if we cooperated with God, He would be able to accomplish more.

### *Application*

#### Desire it

- ✦ 25:45 - he begins to make the application of how to be still. (1) desire it (to know the "stillness.")
- Stranger - you desire more solitude (to be still)
  - Enemy - you're worried you will miss out
  - Friend - you embrace the solitude (stillness)

#### Discipline

- ✦ Daily - 29:13 just fifteen minutes
- ✦ Move to weekly, then monthly
- ✦ Exterior pace will rob your interior peace

TITLE TO THE CHOIRMASTER. OF THE SONS OF KORAH. ACCORDING TO ALAMOTH. A SONG.

A — God is a refuge

<sup>1</sup> God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

B — No fear

<sup>2</sup> Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,  
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

C — God rules over natural calamities

<sup>3</sup> though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble at its swelling. *Selah*

<sup>4</sup> There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.

D — God is present

<sup>5</sup> God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;  
God will help her when morning dawns.

E — Nations rage

<sup>6</sup> The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;

E — God speaks

he utters his voice, the earth melts.

D — God is present

<sup>7</sup> The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress. *Selah*

C — God rules over political calamities

<sup>8</sup> Come, behold the works of the LORD,  
how he has brought desolations on the earth.

<sup>9</sup> He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;  
he burns the chariots with fire.

B — Be still

<sup>10</sup> "Be still, and know that I am God.  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth!"

A — God is a refuge

<sup>11</sup> The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress. *Selah*

The focus of the Psalm

