

Deeper Christian Life Ministry  
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Quietness in a Noisy World

Isaiah 53:7; Matthew 26:62-63; Luke 23:8-9

...Christ into your life, making you the man or the woman you ought to be, perfecting His work of grace in your heart and your life. The privilege of the believer will be available for you, not only (for) a short temporary time... (but) all through your life... God making the benefits and the blessings of Calvary to come your way... permanent blessing coming on your life. In Jesus' name we pray... and everybody said...

Almighty God, we do bless your name today. Thank you because of what you are leading us to. And, thank you, Lord, because of the wonders of Calvary, of the cross, that you have provided, made available for everyone. Lord, we pray we will obtain, we will receive everything in Jesus' name. Lord, in this turbulent world, in this noisy world, in this world of contention, Lord, we pray that spirit of Christ, the mind of Christ, you'll grant to every one of us in Jesus' name. Walking through life with that mind of Christ... every one of us will have the victory in Jesus' name. We thank you because we know you have answered. In Jesus' name we pray. Give me another *amen* before you sit down. Thank you very much. God bless every one of you. Now you can have your seat.

We're looking at an aspect of the life of Christ, an aspect of the ministry of Christ. Those of us who have been to Calvary, and those of us who have tasted of the goodness of the Lord, of the grace of God at Calvary, and we have spoken about righteousness, about redemption, about restoration, about reconciliation because of Calvary - there is an aspect of that Calvary we need to understand.

We're looking at Isaiah, chapter 53, verse 7. ***"He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth."*** At the time Jesus Christ was led to the cross, from the time of the betrayal, a great tumultuous multitude came. They came to arrest Him. The noise was so much... "Crucify Him, Crucify Him. Away with that man. We don't want anything to do with Him." In the midst of it all, in the midst of all the noise, in the midst of all the oppression, in the midst of all the tumultuous multitude shouting and crying, the Bible has it on record: "Yet He opened not His mouth."

As all those accusers came, and they brought contrary and conflicting things that they said, lies that they told, the things that were not correct - contradicting one another - that they said. But the answer of the Lord Jesus Christ was quietness. "Yet He opened not His mouth." The Bible says even when the persecution, the oppression, the attack, the affliction was so much, there is this that made them to marvel: the quietness, the silence, the very fact that He would not open His mouth in all the accusation. That's why the Lord wants us to see that aspect of the life of Jesus

Christ...that we, too, in this noisy, tumultuous world, we will know when to talk and when not to talk.

We're looking at Matthew, chapter 26, reading from verse 62. ***"And the high priest arose, and said unto him, 'Answerest thou nothing? What is it which these witness against thee?'"*** The tumult was high, the noise was almost deafening. The things they said were obviously wrong and contrary to the truth. Jesus, the personification of the truth, the way, the life, and the truth...yet, we're told in verse 63: ***"But Jesus held his peace."***

That means He was quiet...in the midst of the noise, in the midst of the contradictions, in the midst of the tumult, in the midst of the contrary things the wind that blew. Yet we're told Jesus was quiet. How I pray that spirit in Christ, how I pray that peace in Christ, peace as deep as a river, the quietness He manifested, the silence He manifested... how I pray every one of us will have that in Jesus' name. Give me a good *amen* there.

In Luke, chapter 23, and we're reading from verse 8: ***"And when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceeding glad."*** He had been waiting for that chance for a long time, waiting for that opportunity for a long time, wanting to question Him, wanting to know about everything He had heard about Jesus Christ...about those miracles, those signs and wonders, and about the reports he had been gathering all over the years, thinking it was John the Baptist that rose from the dead. Now the chance came. Now the opportunity came. ***"And when Herod saw Jesus, he was exceeding glad: for he was desirous to see him of a long season, because he had heard many things of him; and he hoped to have seen some miracle done by him."***

What was the response or the reaction of the Lord Jesus Christ in that situation? I'm sure you're ready. In the midst of the tumultuous, noisy crowd He held His peace. In the midst of the people that gave contradictory evidences by their false witnessing, He also held His peace. Now He came before the king. The king...Herod even wanted to see some miracles done by Him. "Everything we have heard that you have done, repeat that. Reproduce that here."

In verse 9: ***"Then he questioned with him in many words..."*** Tell me the rest. ***"...but he answered him nothing."*** Oh the grace that comes from Christ, that He can give unto us in this noisy world, to understand the value of quietness, and to understand the victory that comes as a result of quietness - the calmness in your soul, the peace in your spirit, when the world around you is so noisy, that we can follow after the footsteps of the Lord Jesus Christ, have that same mind of Christ!

We're looking at Philippians chapter 2, verse 5: ***"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus."*** The time of noisy accusation - be calm: Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus. The time of contradictory false witnesses - be calm: Let this mind also be in you that was also in Christ; that at such a time, the grace to be quiet - the grace to hold your peace, the grace not to be dragged into conversation with the devil, with the enemy, with the persecutors, with the liars - that grace will come upon every life in Jesus' name.

1 Peter, chapter 2...I'm reading from verse 21: ***"For even hereunto were ye called."*** "Even hereunto"...as the grace of God called you. "Even hereunto"...as Calvary showed you the

example and He has called you now to this style of living. ***"Even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps."*** The Lord has called us unto that example, and He has shown us how we need to exercise that quietness at a time when the world around us is very noisy.

Isaiah, chapter 32, reading from verse 17 and verse 18. Power flows through the quiet mind, and power flows through the quiet spirit. Quietness in a noisy world. ***"And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever."*** If we have the righteousness of Christ, if we have the righteousness as a gift coming from Calvary, the work it will do in our heart will be the work of quietness and assurance forever.

In verse 18: ***"And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places."*** ...Quietness and rest, and peace in the heart, and peace in the soul, because of the grace that flows from Calvary. It shows us the perfect example of the Lord Jesus Christ...quietness in a noisy world.

As we look at the message, we're going to divide it into 3 points:

1. *Peace for a Quiet Spirit in a Quarrelsome World.* Peace for a quiet spirit in a quarrelsome world.
2. *Power for a Calm Spirit in a Confused World...* quarrelsome world, confused world, and yet through it all, and in it all, calmness and quietness.
3. *Protection for a Contented Spirit in a Contentious World.* Protection for a contented spirit in a contentious world.

We come to number 1. Can you remind me of number 1? *Peace for a Quiet Spirit in a Quarrelsome World.* First Peter, we're looking at chapter 3 and verse 4. ***"But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit..."*** What an ornament that is! What beauty that is! What glory that is - a quiet spirit, a peaceful spirit! And it says over here, "It is the hidden man of the heart and it is that which is not corruptible. It is an ornament, a meek spirit, a gentle spirit, a quiet spirit ***"...which is in the sight of God of great price."***

In the sight of God, that quiet spirit is a very great price. Jesus Christ demonstrated that and everybody knew (and you know and I know and Jesus knew) that all those witnesses were false witnesses. Even they themselves knew that the witnesses they had against Christ were all false. Those Pharisees and Sadducees and members of the Sanhedrin knew it was all false.

Yet, Jesus did not try to prove anything. He did not try to justify Himself or defend Himself. The grace to do that when false accusation comes against you...the grace to be calm, gentle, meek, and quiet when the world around you is heaping upon you all those lies. I pray God will give it to us. That's when we have peace, serenity, and quietness and rest in the soul.

Isaiah chapter 48, reading from verse 18. ***"O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! Then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea."*** If we listen to the Lord, if we visit Calvary once again - while the devil might be screaming, while the demons might be shouting, and while the cohorts of the devil (that is, his emissaries, his messengers, servants, and his followers), while they might be shouting at us, shouting lies and making a noise - in this noisy, quarrelsome world the calmness of soul, the quietness of spirit, the rest and peace in your soul as deep as a river even though the world is tumultuous.

Look at verse 22: ***"There is no peace," saith the LORD, unto the wicked.*** That's the kind of world in which you are. Yet to understand in the midst of it all, the peace of God can reign supreme in your heart.

We're looking at John, chapter 14. ...The grace to be meek...the grace to be quiet...the grace to hold your peace...that grace the Lord will grant to every one of us even this day in Jesus' name. Then we don't get into noisy conversation with the world anymore. Neither do we attempt to prove any point to Herod anymore. Neither do we want to face those false accusers and begin to argue with them.

When this quiet spirit takes hold of your life, there will be no argument in your life anymore. There'll be no kind of argumentative discussion with the people of the world anymore. Whatever they say, and whatever accusation they level at you, and whatever their master the devil makes them to shout and scream at you, you understand you're to hold your peace. The same mind that was in Christ will be in every one of us in Jesus' name.

In John, chapter 14, verse 27. ***"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."*** In the quietness, you're not keeping quiet because you are afraid. You are not keeping quiet because you are timid. There is the quietness of the bold heart, of the courageous life. There is the peace and the quietness of the one that has the mind of Christ.

Christ wasn't timid. His quietness wasn't because of fear. His quietness was not because of timidity. His quietness was because he was showing the perfect example to the disciples and to the brothers and sisters, children of God that will follow...so that He will say, "I have left you an example; here is how to live in a tumultuous world, in a quarrelsome world." The grace of God is to be so much in your life that quietness will be the very mark and the watchword and the characteristic of your life. It will be so in Jesus' name.

We're look at John, chapter 16. ...The peace that God gives us...that peace keeps us spirit, soul and mind very quiet in the midst of all those contrary accusations against your life. John, chapter 16, verse 33. ***"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have..."*** What? "You'll have peace." I said, "You'll have peace." In Christ we have peace. Visiting Calvary once again, we have peace. We have peace so deep like a river flowing in the heart, keeps the soul and it keeps the mind. Then it says, ***"In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."*** We will overcome. I said, "We will overcome."

You might be asking the question, "If they accuse us and we're quiet, if they lie against us and we're quiet, if the quarrelsome world will bring a tumult against us and we're quiet, what hope do we have in this world then?" Let me show you that it's the peaceful man, it's the meek man, it's the gentle man it's the quiet man, the quiet woman that will have the victory. You will have the victory.

2 Kings, chapter 18, I'm reading from verse 29. You'll see this example and you might get into such a situation in your life. It might be the home, in the family. You are the believer and the rest of the people are unbelievers. They want to shout you down. They want to have a shouting game, a shouting battle. It's at that time you will show you have been to Calvary. It's at that time you'll show you are identified with Christ, and whatever the shouting, conflict, or battle they may raise up, you want to show that the mind of Christ abides and dwells in you. That quietness will give you the victory in Jesus' name.

2 Kings, chapter 18, I'm reading from verse 29. *"Thus saith the king, 'Let not Hezekiah deceive you: for he shall not be able to deliver you out of his hand: Neither let Hezekiah make you trust in the LORD, saying, 'The LORD will surely deliver us, and this city shall not be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria.'"*

*Hearken not to Hezekiah: for thus saith the king of Assyria, 'Make an agreement with me by a present, and come out to me, and then eat ye every man of his own vine, and every one of his fig tree, and drink ye every one the waters of his cistern: Until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of corn and wine, a land of bread and vineyards, a land of oil olive and of honey, that ye may live, and not die:' and hearken not unto Hezekiah, when he persuadeth you, saying, 'The LORD will deliver us.'"*

You see here they were threatened. It was the king of Assyria coming against them. Their king, Hezekiah, had told them, "Let's trust in the Lord. The Lord will deliver us." These people came, the messengers of the king of Assyria, and in their tumultuous way, in their noisy manner, in their quarrelsome manner - ready for battle, ready for conflict, and ready for war - they were saying, they were announcing to the people (making a noise), "Don't allow Hezekiah to deceive you, because I'm going to come and take you to another land. I've conquered you already. There's no power. There's nothing Hezekiah can do."

What was the attitude? Look at verse 33. *"Hath any of the gods of the nations delivered at all his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria? Where are the gods of Hamath, and of Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah? Have they delivered Samaria out of mine hand? Who are they among all the gods of the countries, that have delivered their country out of mine hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of mine hand?"*

Here he was bragging, and when you hear that sometimes as a child of God (if we're not careful), the devil might drag us into an argument with the people of the world. We say, "Can you shout? I can shout, too. Can you quarrel and fight? I can quarrel and fight." No. You cannot do that.

Here the king of Assyria sent the messengers, and they made a great noise. They said, "Now this is what will happen." Look at verse 36. *"But the people held their peace, and answered him not*

*a word.*" That's the example the Lord has shown us. That's the quietness we need to manifest in a quarrelsome world when they shout at you, when they want to shout you down, when they want to fight and quarrel.

When it appears that that same scene, that we saw, and the time of Jesus is coming back again. And they feel that they're going to conquer you by their noise. You're not going to shout above them and beyond them. The Word of God says, "It is in quietness, and peace, and rest you are going to find the victory." It says, *"But the people held their peace, and answered him not a word: for the king's commandment was, saying, Answer him not."* We will not answer them. I said, "We will not answer them."

Ah, but you say, "If we don't answer them and they are battle-ready, will they not conquer us then? Will they not crush us? Will they not say, 'Those meek people, gentle people'? Will they not say, 'Those weak people'? Will they not interpret our quietness for weakness?" Don't worry about that. The Lord will fight for you. You will still overcome in Jesus' name.

Let's see the outcome of this. 2 Kings, chapter 19, I'm reading from verse 35: "And it came to pass that night..." That night. It's good to be quiet. It's wonderful to be quiet. That same night, the day when that man sent the blasphemers, when he sent the people that were battle-ready and they made all that noise, and they wanted to draw the people of God into making noise like them...that same night, *"And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the LORD went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand."* 185,000 people...the Lord smote them.

*"And when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses."* Quietness pays. I said, "Quietness pays." If you'll be quiet, the Lord will fight for you. Don't fight for yourself. Don't compete with the world. Don't argue with the world. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus. He held His peace.

That's the lesson we're getting from Calvary, that when Jesus Christ went to Calvary and they accused Him, and they betrayed Him (and all the things they said that were obviously wrong)...He could have proved everyone wrong point by point. Yet He would not defend Himself. He would not argue with them: "No, that cannot be true. Were you not there, Peter? Were you not there, John?"

This appears to be like the time when many people who call themselves Christians, they cannot allow a sentence to pass, they must defend themselves, they must argue it out, they must prove the point that "No. I didn't do that." There is a time to be quiet. In fact, we learn from verse 36: *"So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh. And it came to pass, as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons smote him with the sword: and they escaped into the land of Armenia. And Esarhaddon his son reigned in his stead."*

That's the one that bragged, that boasted, that wanted to fight, that wanted to engage the people of God in battle. But the people of God remained quiet. I pray that when your own time comes, you'll be quiet, and the Lord Himself, the Lord alone will fight for you in Jesus' name.

Psalm 39, I'm reading from verse 1. ***"I said, 'I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me.'"*** Too much talking, too much noisemaking, and too much argument, and too much reply of the unbelievers can draw you into sin. In the multitude of words wanteth not sin. Sin will come. As you go on talking and talking, defending yourself, addition to the truth will come...falsification of the truth will come. Why don't you just keep quiet and let the Lord defend you?

So the psalmist said, ***"I'm going to take heed to myself and to my ways. I will not sin with my tongue. I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me. I was dumb with silence, I held my peace, even from good..."*** That is, the good I know I could have said to contradict all the lies they are telling, ***"I held my peace ...and my sorrow was stirred. My heart was hot within me, while I was musing [while I was thinking, meditating] the fire burned: then spake I with my tongue, 'LORD, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am.'"***

We're looking at Philippians, chapter 4, we're reading from verse 6. ***"Be careful for nothing..."*** Be anxious for nothing. Don't be impatient. All these lies they're telling..."If I don't rise up and talk immediately, and reply them, and prove them wrong, people will think that I'm guilty. They will think it is my guilt that is making me keep quiet."

Don't worry about that. ***"Be careful for nothing..."*** Be anxious for nothing. ***"...but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."*** Amen...The peace of God.

That peace will reign in your soul; will reign in your heart. We don't have to shout. We don't have to quarrel. We don't have to reply to them. We don't have to contradict them. We don't have to prove anybody wrong. We don't have to prove how good we are, how righteous we are, how great we are. We don't have to get into any argument with anyone. Let the peace of God which passes all understanding keep your heart and your mind through the Lord Jesus Christ who died for us. I pray it will be so in Jesus' name.

I come to point number 2: *The Power for a Calm Spirit in a Confused World*. The world in which we live is a confused world. That's why you hear contradictory statements and noise out of the world. But in the midst of it all, you can keep the calmness of soul, the calmness of spirit, the meekness in your mind, and the serenity in your spirit...you can keep that in the midst of all the commotion and the conflict and the confusion that you have in the world.

In Isaiah, chapter 57...let's look at the kind of world in which we find ourselves. Look at the kind of world in which we live. Yet look at the kind of spirit you ought to have and the kind of mind you ought to retain...the quietness and the calmness and the rest in your soul. In Isaiah 57, verse 19: ***"I create the fruit of the lips; Peace, peace to him that is far off, and to him that is near,' saith the LORD; 'and I will heal him.'"***

I pray your blessing will come. But you know the blessing will not come if we run with the world, argue with the world...we're agitated with the world, we're excited with the world, we're noisy like the world. But when there's peace in your soul, calmness in your spirit, quietness in your spirit, then the Word of God is able to come in and sink in.

Then it says, ***"But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. 'There is no peace,' saith my God, to the wicked."*** That's the kind of world in which we live...a world of confusion, a world of commotion, a world of conflict where there is no peace. Yet the Lord says in verse 19: "Peace, peace to the one near, and peace, peace to the one that is far away."

Isaiah, chapter 24...telling us the kind of world in which we live, and yet in it all and through it all the peace that reigns in the heart, in the life of a child of God. Isaiah 24, verse 19. ***"The earth is utterly broken down, the earth is clean dissolved, the earth is moved exceedingly."*** That's telling us about the motion and commotion. That's telling us about the confusion and the conflict. That's telling us about the heat, and that's telling us about the raging waves of the sea of humanity.

Yet it is in that same world that Jesus Christ lived. He saw the commotion, too. He saw the conflict, too. He saw the restlessness, too. Yet in the midst of the restlessness, in the midst of the confusion and the commotion...I've read it to you already...how He held His peace. The Lord is transferring that same mind to you and to me. He's transferring that gentleness and meekness to you and to me.

As we leave the retreat and we go back home in our communities, even though the noise may be there, the arguments may be there, the confusion may be there, the commotion may be there...by the grace of God, this same mind of Christ we're going to demonstrate in Jesus' name.

In verse 20: ***"The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall be removed like a cottage; and the transgression thereof shall be heavy upon it; and it shall fall, and not rise again."*** But we, the Lord will hold us up. I said, "The Lord will hold us up." How will He do that? He'll give us a kind of peace, perfect peace that will make our soul to rest. Don't lose your peace because there's no peace around you in the world. Don't lose your coolness and calmness because the world around you is all confused and in commotion. Don't lose your rest, your abiding rest just because all around you there's too much noise. But the grace of God will keep you...the gentleness of the Lord will make you great.

We're told in Isaiah, chapter 26, in verse 1: ***"In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah; We have a strong city; salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks. Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace"... "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."***

The question is: *Why are the people of the world making so much noise? Why are they fighting for their rights?* Because they cannot trust in God. They cannot rely on God. They do not believe in God. They feel - *If I don't fight for this, I'll never have anything. If I don't defend my right,*

*they'll take my right away from me.* It's a state of mind that demonstrates unbelief. They must try to argue it out because they feel the world is so greedy and the world is so selfish that if they do not kind of argue their case out and if they do not overshadow and outshine and kind of shout above and beyond all their competitors...they'll not be able to have what they want. That's why they're so noisy and that's why they do what they do.

But we are not like that. We are children of God. We are to seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto us. Whatever our right maybe, whatever our privileges may be, whatever the promises may be, ours is a heart that rests on the Lord knowing He is the One that will bless us. Because of that we allow Him to work, and we do not try to run after the people of the world, shout them down and compete with them in their noise.

***"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength."*** I pray that strength will come to you. Then when you have that strength of character, that faith in the Lord, that assurance that every good thing you need is coming from the Lord, you will not have to fight for it; you will not have to quarrel for it, you will not have to argue your way for it, you will not have to do anything. So you will have what you need to have because the Lord Himself is the One you rely upon.

That's why it says in Micah, chapter 2, verse 10: ***"Arise ye, and depart; for this is not your rest."*** He's saying, "Get out of the midst of those noisy people of the world. Get out of that gang of people that must hold the gun, that must have the instruments of war and battle before they will be able to get anything. Get out of the midst of those people that want to fight for this and fight for this so they can have. They don't really have anything. Have you noticed that? Only lives are destroyed. Properties are destroyed. And peace is lost. And confusion increases. And commotion increases with all the fight and with all the confusion. And we have nothing.

But the world is getting worse and worse. The quarreling does not bring anything. The confusion does not bring anything. The contest and the conflict and the warfare do not bring anything. It is peace in the Lord, resting on the promises of God that gets what we're looking for. That's why it says, ***"Arise ye, and depart; for this is not your rest: because it is polluted, it shall destroy you, even with a sore destruction."*** That is, if you stay in that camp, in that gang, among the people that want to argue their way through, among the people that want to quarrel their way through, among the people that want to claim this and claim that and argue this and argue that. It will be for your destruction. I pray you will come out in Jesus' name, and you'll not remain there. That's why we came to the retreat...so the Lord will show us the way of peace.

It is that way of peace that will be able to have and able to get everything the Lord purchased for us on the cross of Calvary. He opened not His mouth. He left us a perfect example. That perfect example He left us we're going to follow so that, as we follow the footsteps of Christ, in peace and quietness and calmness of spirit and soul the blessings of God will be abundant upon our lives in Jesus' name. For the Lord is saying, "Come out of such a company. Come out of such people. Do not remain with them."

We're looking at Jeremiah, chapter 46, verse 27. ***"But fear not thou."*** Quietness does not mean you are going to be afraid. It doesn't mean they're shouting and their shouting is kind of intimidating you; therefore, you are quiet. You think, "Maybe if I'm quiet, they'll stop their shouting"? No. The world will not stop their shouting. Your quietness will not make them stop.

All those people that brought false accusation against Jesus Christ, His quietness did not make them stop. All the people that made the noise and the commotion, the confusion...the quietness did not make them stop. But all the same, everything we ought to have we're going to have, everything we need to possess we're going to possess. The victory we need to have, we're going to have it in Jesus' name. The point is: don't allow them - the noise, the tumult, the aggressive attitude and action - don't allow that to intimidate you. Quietness? Yes. Boldness and fearlessness, too.

***"But fear not thou, O my servant Jacob, and be not dismayed, O Israel: for, behold, I will save thee from afar off." I thought you'd say, "Amen." "And thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and be in rest and at ease, and none shall make him afraid."***

In Matthew, chapter 11, I'm reading from verse 28. The rest and the peace in the soul...it's the Lord that can give it. We'll go back to Calvary, then we'll behold the Lord, again...the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world. Then, as we behold Him...they oppressed Him, they persecuted Him, they put a crown of thorns upon His head. Do you remember even when He was on the cross of Calvary (hanging there on the cross), they said, "Others He saved, He cannot save Himself. Let the King of the Jews come down and then we'll believe Him"? And He never replied them.

Do you remember those two thieves? While the other thief was accusing Christ: "Are you not the Christ, are you not the King of the Jews? Here we are on the cross. Save us and save yourself. Come down from the cross. We heard that you performed miracles...why don't you do something now?" Jesus never opened His mouth. They might tell you "Produce a miracle for us? Look at your condition. Look at your condition. If you really have that faith in Christ, why don't you do something now?" Don't answer them. Don't answer them. The Almighty God will answer them.

It was in the midst of that while Jesus Christ was quiet, the other thief was telling the other one, "Are you not afraid, that we're in the same condemnation? He has done nothing wrong but we justly...we're hanging here on the cross because of evil that we have done." Then, he said, "Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And Jesus said, "Today, thou shalt be with me in paradise." I pray that that same promise will come upon your life in Jesus' name.

Matthew, chapter 11, verse 28: ***"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."*** That's the promise of the Lord. If you find that you have agitation in your mind, restlessness in your soul, confusion in your spirit and it appears that the raging sea is tumultuous in your mind and the contradicting voices are speaking in your soul, in your spirit and you're torn apart, the Lord is saying, "Come unto me."

That same grace and that same mind that Jesus Christ had...He said He'll give it to you. ***"I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."***

2 Chronicles, chapter 32, verses 7 and 8: ***"Be strong and courageous, be not afraid nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude that is with him: for there be more with us than with him."*** There be more with us than with him. ***"With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the LORD our God to help us, and to fight our battles. And the people rested themselves upon the words of Hezekiah king of Judah."*** The people rested themselves upon the words of Hezekiah the king of Judah.

We have our own king, His name is Jesus. Who is your king? I said, "Who is your king?" These people rested themselves on the words of their king. We have our own king. Our king is Jesus. We rest our souls on the words of our king. Because of that, we're not going to be afraid. We're not going to be dismayed. We're going to keep quiet when the evil people, when they're before us and they're shouting, ours will be silence and quietness. The victory will be ours in Jesus' name.

We're coming to point number 3: *Protection for a Contented Spirit in a Contentious World*. The world will fight for everything. They fight for everything. Your community...what do they fight about? They fight over women. They fight over property. They fight over land. They fight over political office. They fight over promotion. They fight over everything, literally over everything.

That's the world...a contentious world. The Lord is telling us not to get into that same battle with them. They even fight over religion. They fight over churches. They fight over ministries. They fight over privilege. They fight over things that do not belong to them. Even gifts that are given that they did not merit, they fight over those gifts. But the Lord is telling us, "In this contentious world, rest contented and rest at peace, not fighting over anything." Whatever belongs to you, the Lord will bring it your way in Jesus' name.

In Hebrews, chapter 13, I'm reading from verse 5 and verse 6: ***"Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have."*** Don't fight over anything. Be content. Be satisfied with whatever you have. ***"For he hath said, 'I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.' So that we may boldly say, 'The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.'"***

In 1 Timothy, chapter 6, reading from verse 6: ***"But godliness with contentment is great gain."*** Godliness with contentment.... If you have salvation, if you have holiness, if you have the assurance of going to heaven, what are you arguing about with the people of the world? What are you dragging with the people of the world? Isn't it a shame that we'll find a tenant who is a believer arguing and contending and fighting with another tenant who is an unbeliever?

Don't you have your hope in God, your heart in heaven, your desires in heaven? How will you argue with another tenant who is an unbeliever? Godliness with contentment is great gain. Don't let us hear the noise of the argument anymore with your co-tenants, with your coworkers, with people in the community, or people even in the church. Stay calm and contented. Be at peace and rest.

In verse 7: ***"For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. But they that will be rich..."*** Those who run in the same rat race, in the same breaking-bone race with the people of the world...they're the people who will be rich by all means, they ***"... fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But thou, O man of God..."*** [woman of God, child of God] ***"...flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience..."*** And what? ***"...meekness."*** Let the gentleness of Christ be in your life.

Philippians, chapter 4, we're reading from verse 11. ***"Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content."*** I've learned in whatsoever state I find myself, to be content. In your home, to be content. In your office, to be content: not writing petition, not making a noise, not quarrelling, not fighting. You might find a so-called believer... Maybe for example, you have been promised that you are going to do something. Maybe you are a person that does work with your hand. Whatever kind of work...you might be kind of making furniture or you might be sewing clothes. You might be doing whatever it is with your hand and you've gone to an institution. That institution has promised you, "This is what you're going to.... We'll give the contract to you." You may find another person, a so-called believer. He might go to that same place. Then the contract they're giving you, the promise they have given you...they might turn everything around. Then, by the time you get there the next time, they say, "So and so has come, and now we're going to give it to him."

I hope you're not going to begin to shout and cry. Let the person who is supposed to take...let him take that, but the Lord is not with him, the Lord is not with her. Be quiet, and be restful. Let the peace of God reign in your soul, in your heart. Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. Your own time will come. Your own provision will come.

Let the people who want to hold and run and grab...let them do that. They show that they're of the spirit of the world. But you have the mind of Christ. Stay contented. Learn like Paul the Apostle: ***"I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content."***

Verse 12: ***"I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need."*** That is the quiet spirit. It's not going to struggle over anything. It's not going to fight anybody over anything. Whatever they want to take, let them take. Wait for the time of God. Your own time will come. I said, "Your time will come."

Proverbs, chapter 15, verse 16: ***"Better is little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith."*** Better is little with your salvation than having so much, and in the bid to grab and gain, you lose your soul. Keep your soul.

Chapter 17 of Proverbs, verse 1: ***"Better is a dry morsel, and quietness..."***  
***"Better is a dry morsel, and quietness therewith, than an house full of sacrifices with strife."***

Ecclesiastes, chapter 4, verse 6. ***"Better is an handful with quietness."*** Whatever we have, with peace of mind, that brings more blessing. Whatever we have with rest in our soul, peace in our spirit, that's better. ***"Better is an handful with quietness, than both the hands full with travail and vexation of spirit."*** That's why the Lord is reminding us...He says, "I'm giving you the example." Follow after that example.

1 Thessalonians, chapter 4, we're looking at verse 11: ***"And that ye study to be quiet."*** Study yourself. What normally agitates you? Study and examine yourself. Look at your life all over...at home, between you and your wife, between you and your husband. What normally agitates you to begin to shout at one another? In the office with the coworkers, what are the situations that normally happen that make you begin to shout and begin to quarrel and forget that you're a child of God...and you forget that the people of the world are watching as we're shouting...shouting one another down?

In the conferences that you have, in the meetings you have in your office...maybe the meeting in the management...what happens? Have you ever examined that? That all of a sudden somebody begins to shout at the other person, and then you, too, you begin to reply them. Study, find out. In the church, when the committee is meeting, what happens? That then we have a tumultuous noise and a shouting. Study and find out.

In the midst of the children of God, everything has been peaceful and quiet. Then we're either preaching or singing or we're having fellowship...quietness and peaceful rest. All of a sudden, there is tumult and there is a kind of noise. What normally happens? Study. As you study that, you'll say, "That's what to avoid. That's what to avoid. That's the direction not to go." When you study that, the Lord will give you grace. I said, "The Lord will give you grace."

Normally, the tumult starts in the heart. The agitation starts in the heart. The anger starts in the heart. The rising, stirring up starts in the heart. You study yourself and you say, "That's something that always gets me. That's something that charges my battery. That's the thing that makes me to begin to howl and to begin to shout." As you study that, you say, "Lord, give me grace and let Calvary be demonstrated in my life every time so that that agitation will never be there again." ***"And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you."***

As I end up, let me remind you of the example of the Lord Jesus Christ. Isaiah 53, verse 7. ***"He was oppressed..."*** Are you oppressed? He was oppressed, too. Have you been cheated? He was cheated, too. Sometimes you say, "But I am the manager, and he's my subordinate; he shouldn't do that." Well He's the Creator, He's the King, He's the Lord, He's the Savior, He's the very Son of God, He's the great miracle worker...and all those people, who are they to tell a lie against the King of Kings and the Lord or Lords? But He didn't open His mouth.

"I'm the Father in the home, and that woman should not talk to me like that. I'm the head of the home." He is the head of the church, too. You know what Judas Iscariot did. Jesus did not begin to shout just because of that. "I'm the director here, the controller here; I'm the one in authority and the employer... And he is my employee; he shouldn't have done that to me." Jesus Christ is

the Creator of the heavens and the earth...without Him nothing was made that was made. Anything that anybody had, it came from Jesus. The creatures...they spoke against Him. He was oppressed and He did not open His mouth. You, too, can follow the example of Jesus Christ. That example you are going to follow in Jesus' name.

***"He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth."***

That grace will come upon your life. When that grace comes upon your life, whatever the people do from now on, you'll be able to have the grace to keep quiet. In this evil time, in this evil day, I pray the Lord Himself...He'll make you keep quiet at the right time in Jesus' name.

Amos, chapter 5, and we're looking at verse 13. ***"Therefore the prudent shall keep silence in that time."*** Therefore the wise shall keep quiet (keep silence) at that time. Therefore the child of God, the one who has tasted of the grace of Christ will keep silence at that time ***"...for it is an evil time."*** This world is going through an evil period. The economy is down. Politics is tumultuous everywhere, almost in every country. Democracy is threatened. Jobs are being lost. People are running after this and running after that. People are restless everywhere. This is an evil time.

It is at such a time like this we need to have the power of quietness, the power of just following the Lord without ever dragging anything with the people of the world. As you follow this precept that the Lord has given us, quietness in a noisy world, the power and the provision of Calvary will be upon your life in Jesus' name.

Verse 14: ***"Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the LORD, the God of hosts, shall be with you, as ye have spoken. Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the LORD God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph."*** As we keep quiet and we're not fighting with the world, arguing with the world, in commotion with the world, all the good things the Lord has promised us, they will come our way in Jesus' name.

Let's rise up and talk to the Lord that this quietness of character, calmness in our spirit, peace in our soul, a life that is free from argument, a life that is free from noise, a life that is free from dragging this and that, a life that is gentle and meek and lowly...that the Lord will give unto us.

Open your mouth and talk to the Lord. Examine your life. Would you say you have that mind of Christ? Examine your life. Would you say you have this rest, this peace, this calmness, this quietness, this contentment? That's why the world is growing worse and worse...too much quarreling, too much confusion, too much conflict, too much fighting for their rights, too much dragging one another before the judges, too much violent politics, too much killing, too much injustice, too much selfishness, too much storm on the sea.

But the Lord is calling us to quietness, calmness, peace, rest...quietness in a noisy world. I pray that the Lord will help you and give you the grace to be different from the world, not fighting to get anything, not becoming violent to claim anything, not argumentative to have any right, any privilege. Peace, perfect peace...peace like a river. Come back to Calvary. See Christ. Watch Him. Behold Him. See how He overcame. See the power of quietness in His life. The temptation

was great to speak, the temptation was great to dive into the tumultuous world and act like they acted and speak like they spoke.

He knew their secrets. All those people that told the lies, He could have brought out the hidden things they were hiding in darkness, but He did not, He would not...no. He could have knocked every one of them down with great, great logic...argument. He never did. He could have brought guilt, condemnation upon them as they tried to lie against Him. He could have effectively defended Himself. He did not. He could have claimed His right as Creator, as Redeemer, as King, as Lord, as the Judge. He'll be the final judge. He did not. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ. He made Himself of no reputation.

Quietness in a quarrelsome world... Calmness in a confused world of commotion... Calmness - peace, rest, no agitation, no commotion, no fighting for any privilege or right - living a life of peace and rest. I pray that that grace that Jesus Christ demonstrated, as He was led to the cross, that He opened not His mouth in self-defense, that the Lord will grant you the same heart, the same spirit - quietness, calmness, rest, peace - in your soul.

Study yourself. What normally brings that agitation in your heart? Study. What brings the quarreling? Study. What generates that heat in your heart? Study. What thoughts do you allow in your heart that makes you get heated up until your kettle, the boiling water in your kettle throws away the lid and begins to boil? Study. Find out. Then go back to Calvary and report that situation to Christ. "Lord, I want to be as gentle as you are, as lowly as you are, as meek as you are, as quiet as you are. Grant me that same mind that you had. Grant me the gentleness and the quietness and the peace and the rest in my soul, in my spirit."

A quiet spirit in a quarrelsome world...a calm spirit in a confused world. The Lord wants to give it to us; He wants to grant us that same mind that was in Christ. A contented spirit... a spirit of contentment. Be content with what you have. Let others hold and keep what they have. If somebody got there before you, leave it for them. If somebody got it before you got there, leave it with them. Don't overrun them and promise to pay a higher amount and get it from the person that got it before you. Be content with such things as ye have. Do not allow covetousness to take over your life.

A contented spirit in a contentious world...quietness in a noisy world. Let the raging waves of the sea be calm. Let Jesus, the Prince of Peace, reign in your spirit, in your soul. No more argument, no more contention, no more quarrelsome spirit. Live like you have the Prince of Peace reigning in your soul, reigning in your heart. In your family, let that peace reign. Don't settle anything by quarreling, by noise making. In the local church, leave out the quarrelsome spirit, the argumentative spirit. Whatever we cannot have with the spirit of quietness, give it up; it's not worth pursuing. Quietness in a noisy world. In Jesus' name we pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you because you've shown us another view, another picture of Christ going to the cross at Calvary. Now, Lord, we see the things you have provided for us...the mind, the spirit, the quietness of spirit, the rest in our soul. Oh Lord, we pray, as you died for us on the cross of Calvary, give us this kind of spirit as well in Jesus' name. This world in which we live is

a confused world, a world of conflict and commotion. Oh Lord, we pray we will not get into us the spirit of the world in Jesus' name.

Lord, we pray all the fighting, quarreling, commotion, confusion, argument of the world will not find a place in any of our hearts in Jesus' name. Grant us your peace. Grant us your rest. We pray, Oh Lord, the same mind that you had, that with all those lies and false witnesses against you, you never defended yourself. We pray, Lord, we'll leave all the self-defense alone and never get involved with defending ourselves again in Jesus' name.

We pray that this mind of Christ will be permanent within us, in every family, in every local church, and in the church at large in Jesus' name. We pray that all those principles and practices of the world...they fight for political position, people fighting for religious position, you'll cancel that from our midst in Jesus' name.

We pray from now on your peace will reign in every heart, your peace will reign in every family, and your peace will reign in your church, in your kingdom in Jesus' name. We pray, Lord, every one of us will find rest to our soul. Then the power of quietness, the authority that comes as a result of that peaceful spirit, soul, and mind...that you'll grant us that power and authority in Jesus' name...that everything we have, we'll have with a prayer of faith, not by the fight in the flesh. Lord, the calmness, the gentleness, the meekness, the rest, and the peace will make us great in the kingdom of God.

We thank you because we know you have answered...in Jesus' name we pray. Amen. Amen.

God bless every one of you.