

WHEN YOU ARE FEELING ALONE

26/4/20

*Loneliness (doubt, fear), is a perception we can all feel when our confidence drops below our spiritual reality. God has already offered a solution to this well known problem. **HEB 13:5** Let your conversation (lifestyle) be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, **I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.** This promise assures us that we can never be alone, regardless of our thinking. Jesus added another aspect which covers the same problem... **JOH 14:16** And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, **that he may abide with you for ever;** The following examples reveal God's merciful nature across many examples of negativity that have been experienced by those who were called to serve him.*

***Fear can be debilitating... God offers comfort when a panic attack overrides spiritual blessings.** Elijah had recently slain the prophets of Baal after calling down the fire of the Holy Spirit; an amazing sight. No sooner has the miracle ended when he is threatened for what God did; surprisingly, he runs away in panic. Here he is around 6 weeks later, alone and fearful. **1KIN 19:10** And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, *even I* only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away. **11** And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and **strong wind rent** the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; *but* the LORD *was* not in the wind: and after the wind an **earthquake**; *but* the LORD *was* not in the earthquake: **12** And after the earthquake a **fire**; *but* the LORD *was* not in the fire: and after the fire a **still small voice** (*the comfort of the Lord in a very lonely moment*). **13** And it was *so*, when Elijah heard *it*, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, *there came* a voice unto him, and said, **What doest thou here, Elijah?** *Despite the abundance of great signs, God's personal comfort was his solution; thus he arose and moved on.**

***Sometimes we perceive that our friends have let us down in our time of great need.** **MAT 26:37** And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be **sorrowful** and very **heavy**. **38** Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. **39** And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt. **40** And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, **What, could ye not watch with me one hour?** *Jesus was facing the most difficult moment of his life. **Why have you forsaken me?** **MAT 27:46** And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, **why hast thou forsaken me?** We can also have moments of despair, despite the great majority of blessings and spiritual victories... sometimes even our friends can seem far off. Yet he handed himself into God's care. **LUK 23:46** And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, **Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit:** and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.**

***Jonah disagreed with God's plans and headed in the opposite direction.** Trapped in a great fish by his own rebellion, he prayed for deliverance. Once freed, he became a deliverer of 120 thousand souls who were lost in unbelief and sin. **JON 3:10** And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not. **&4:1** But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry. **2** And he prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish (*Tarshish was 4000km to the west and Ninevah was 900km to the east*): for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil. **3** Therefore now, O LORD, take, I beseech thee, my life from me; for it is better for me to die than to live. **4** Then said the LORD, **Doest thou well to be angry?** *God's plan is greater than our beliefs. Obeying God delivers souls from death: ours first then others later on.**

***Sometimes we feel so bad, we think there is no hope whatsoever.** The story of King Manasseh (who was the worst type of king), enjoyed the same mercy as David, despite his sin filled life. **2CHR 33:12** And when he was in affliction (*imprisoned alone*), he besought the LORD his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers, **13** And prayed unto him: and he was intreated of him, and heard his supplication, and brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD he was God. **2Kings 21:1-18**, confirms the extent of evil and damage he did to God's plan and people, yet he was forgiven and restored. He was far worse than any of us will ever be. God also was able to deliver him from his evil choices.*

Our fellowship with God and each other is a wonderful benefit, but at same time we have to face the fact that there are choices to be made and Godly work to be done. There will be many blessings and great signs, yet despite this, we all may suffer moments of doubts and fear. That is when these examples will serve us the best.