

# *Left Alone*

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Mike Miller, Pastor

Straight Paths Bible Church

(Gen 32:24) And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.

(Dan 10:8) Therefore I was left alone, and saw this great vision, and there remained no strength in me: for my comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength.

(Mat 14:23) And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

(Isa 5:8) Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there be no place, that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth!

- I. There seems to be this tendency in all of us to seek a crowd.
  - A. I believe this is one of the main reasons for the super churches of our day.
  - B. Everyone seeks identity with a group of people of some sort or another.
  - C. Some consider themselves loners, but they still seek to identify and associate themselves with certain people or groups of people.
  - D. There is comfort in a crowd.
  - E. There is a feeling of safety in a crowd.
  - F. There is a feeling of acceptance and approval in a crowd.
    1. This makes us feel better about ourselves.
    2. This makes it easier to justify ourselves.
    3. This makes it easier to stop short of pleasing God because we are pleasing men.
  - G. There is a feeling of being anonymous which relieves you from any responsibility or accountability.
  - H. When part of a crowd, we measure ourselves by the others in the crowd and somehow we always measure up better than most.
  - I. Whether we realize it or not we will be very inclined to compromise in order to maintain our acceptance in the crowd.
    1. Adults succumb to peer pressure just as young people do, and for the same reasons.
- II. Others distract you – you may understand intellectually, but you are blind practically.
  - A. From righteousness.
  - B. From your purpose.
  - C. From your family and other things that are most important to you.
  - D. From the true work of God.
  - E. From a true walk with God.
- III. The greatest things happen to you when you are alone.

(Mark 4:34) But without a parable spake he not unto them: and when they were alone, he expounded all things to his disciples.

(John 8:9) And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.

- A. You can hear God's voice when you are alone – while in a crowd his voice is drowned out by the voices of men.
- B. God will speak to you personally when you are alone.
- C. God will reveal things to you alone that He will not and cannot when you are in a crowd and under the bondage of their influence.

IV. If God works in your life He will eventually bring you to a solitary place.

(Jer 15:16-17) Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts. I sat not in the assembly of the mockers, nor rejoiced; I sat alone because of thy hand: for thou hast filled me with indignation.

(Psa 4:3) But know that the LORD hath set apart him that is godly for himself: the LORD will hear when I call unto him.

(Psa 91:1) He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

- A. Before Adam had Eve – he was alone.
- B. Before Jacob could truly find God he had to be left alone.
- C. Before Joseph could be king of Egypt he was left alone of everyone but strangers – for a long time!
- D. Before Moses could be the deliverer of Israel he had to be left alone for 40 long years.
- E. Before David could be king of Israel he had to spend years alone with his father's sheep, while his brothers were part of the crowd.
- F. Jesus was left alone to die a cruel, unjust death before He could make Atonement for the sins of the world.
- G. John was on the island of Patmos alone, before he saw the Revelation.
- H. And before you truly know God and are truly intimate with Him you will be left alone somewhere.
- I. This is certainly one of the goals God is working you toward in your life - to separate you from everyone else unto himself.