

Psalm 46

1 To the chief Musician for the sons of Korah, A Song upon Alamoth. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. 2 Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; 3 Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.

4 There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High. 5 God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early. 6 The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted. 7 The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

8 Come, behold the works of the LORD, what desolations he hath made in the earth. 9 He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire. 10 Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth. 11 The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

Introduction:

1. "To the chief Musician" (1 Chr. 5:12).
2. "for the sons of Korah" (Pss. 42, 44-49, 84, 85, 87, 88). Total of 11 Psalms are for the sons of Korah.
3. "Alamoth" – A musical/instrumental title. Mentioned once. Alamoth relates to maidens (young ladies). A song for sopranos.
4. "Selah." – pause (the singing while the instruments may play); ponder.

Outline:

- A. Divine Protection Assured (vv.1-3) Selah. Against nature.
- B. Divine Presence Abiding (vv.4-7) Selah. Against His enemies.
- C. Divine Preeminence Acknowledged (vv.8-11) Selah. Against the Entire Warring World.

Observations:

1. This Psalm is a special Psalm for days of war and calamity. A Psalm for every time of trouble, fear, and/or peril.
2. God is both in the defense and offense for His people. ("refuge" and "strength").
3. (v.1) "very present" readily available (cf. Isa. 55:6). God's presence is our greatest need (v.5) – God is in the midst of her (the city of God – Jerusalem).
4. God alone is our security.
5. (v.4) – God is that "river" the source of comfort and strength.
6. (v.5) – "right early" – after a night of darkness and distress, God comes through with joy in the morning. His mercies are new every morning (Lam. 3:22-23).
7. (v.6) – God spoke the world into existence, and He can destroy it with the same.
8. (v.8) Come, behold the works of the LORD – invite others to see the works of the Lord – this is witnessing.
9. (v.10) – Be still and know – God's people need to be reminded about who God is what He has done.

Lesson: God commands us to "be still" as the world around us is "removed" or as the mountains are carried away. We as believers have much to learn about trusting God when it seems to be the hardest thing to do.