

# SERMON NOTES

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## MESSAGE: LESSONS FROM THE SNOW (PART V)

**1. The Crucible of Silence** - a crucible is a place of refining where impurities are removed.

- In seasons when God seems silent, He is often preparing us for deeper understanding.
- **Job 37:6 / 42:3**
- **Psalm 83:1**
- Job experienced silence and suffering, yet God eventually spoke out of the whirlwind (**Job 38:1**).
- Treasures of the snow remind us that God holds hidden wisdom and mysteries (**Job 38:22**).
- David cried out in silence, asking how long his sorrow would last (**Psalm 13:2**).
- Silence does not mean absence. God is still working even when we do not hear Him.

**2. The Command to Be Still**

- What “Be Still” Means:
  - To cease striving
  - To trust God's power rather than our own efforts
  - To quiet the heart and listen
- Stillness creates space to hear God's voice and experience His strength.
- **Exodus 14:14** - God fought for Israel while they remained still.
- **1 Kings 22:3**
- **Psalm 4:4**
- **Isaiah 41:10**
- God spoke to Elijah through a still small voice (**1 Kings 19:12**).
- Being still leads to knowing God more deeply (**Psalm 46:10**).

**3. The Practice of Stillness**

- **Psalm 23:1**
- **Philippians 4:8** - Guard your thoughts by focusing on what is pure and good.
- Rest in God's guidance - He leads beside still waters (**Psalm 23:2**).
- Wait patiently for the Lord (**Psalm 37:7**).
- Trust God to calm the storms (**Psalm 107:29**).
- Stillness is not passive; it is an active trust in God's presence and promises.

**4. Shattering the Silence**

- **Mark 4:39** - Jesus calmed the storm with a single command.
- **John 11:5-6** - Jesus delayed before raising Lazarus, showing God's timing is perfect.
- **Matthew 11:28-30**
- The sealed tomb became a place of resurrection power (**Matthew 27:60; 28:2**).
- Christ promises His presence always (**Matthew 28:20**).
- God's silence often precedes His greatest demonstrations of power.