



Women of Destiny

January 3, 2026

WHAT'S GOING ON?

We may ask ourselves this question when things go awry, one we may ask of God as well. The question is often accompanied by fear as we assess our situation.

Isaiah 41:10

So do not fear, for I am with you;
do not be dismayed, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you and help you;
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Israel was in captivity during the time of Isaiah. Removed from the sacred land God had promised and given to them because of their disobedient ways, fear was their companion in exile, a fear that too often blocked their view of God. But in spite of the victories of the oppressors and in spite of the fact that things did not bode well for them in that moment, God reminds them “I am still God! I am the sovereign LORD who is always present.”

- You may not see me or hear me, Esther, but the impact of my presence is evident in your story.
- You may not see me, Hananiah, Azariah, Mishael, aka 3 Hebrew boys, but the King will acknowledge my presence in your deliverance.
- You may not see me or even understand my ways, exiles in Babylon, but I have thoughts to bring you to a future and a hope. I am present with a plan for my people.
- You may not see me, disciples hidden in the shadows, shrouded in fear, shaken by the horror of the cross, but you will become my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the uttermost parts of the world.

- You, Daughter, may not see me in your circumstance and that thing has yet to be resolved but Isaiah 40:28-31 reminds us of God's power and His sovereignty accessible to you.

There may have been days when faith faltered, days when faith was overlaid with fear, days when faith was rendered impotent by anxiety, when nothing made sense and God seemed silent. What we need is a fearless faith that doesn't falter or faint or waver, but how might fearless faith manifest in our lives?

1) Fearless faith welcomes the potential to become that which God says we are, to embrace who we are in Christ and see God work in our lives. We lean not to our own understanding but trust God in everything, knowing His grace is sufficient and we can do, can endure all things through Christ who strengthens us with *combative, confrontive* force to achieve all for Him (Ephesians 2:13 / Philippians 2:10)

2) Fearless faith strengthens, emboldens and empowers us. When God says, "Do not fear," we do not allow fear to stop us or block us from the path God has laid before us (Isaiah 45:2a); we do not let dismay cause us to stumble, to forget that the great I Am (Jehovah Shammah) is still in control.

3) Fearless faith teaches us that faith's foundation is the confident expectation that God will be God, that all things will work together for our good and nothing can separate us from His love. (Romans 8:28-38)

4) It teaches us to forget the former; to not dwell on the past but to keep our eye on the prize (Philippians 3:13-14). We trust that God is able to make a way in the wilderness and provide streams in the wasteland (Isaiah 43:18-19).

5) It teaches us to align our lives with His word regardless of the heartache, pain or suffering. As much as we might abhor the thought, there is always a purpose for the pain.

- Psalm 119:33 -- Teach me, O LORD, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end / Psalm 119:71 It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes.

In the moments when it feels like God is MIA, we must move with intentionality towards Him in spite of the challenges that surround us:

**So do not fear, for I am with you;
do not be dismayed, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you and help you;
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.
Now that is what's going on!!!**

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