

THE SILENCE OF GOD



"We have a law, and by that law he ought to die, because he has made himself the Son of God." When Pilate heard these words, he was the more afraid; he entered the praetorium again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?"

But Jesus gave no answer.

John 19:7-9

Pilate could not get Jesus to talk.

King Herod could not get Jesus to talk.

When they tried to figure him out, he gave them silence.

When we try to figure God out, he gives us silence.

Some people interpret the silence of God as *divine approval*.

"He didn't strike me with lightning, I didn't hear any thunder, so I guess what I'm doing is okay."

Really?

Some people interpret the silence of God as *divine indifference*.

"I cried out to God for help, and all I got was silence!"

God is never indifferent; but he's never in a hurry.

Some people interpret the silence of God as *divine absence*.

“I gave God a chance to prove himself, but nothing happened.”

Why should God jump at the chance to prove himself to us?

The silence of God is not a vacuum.

The silence of God is an invisible fire.

Mess with that fire and you will get burned.

God rarely breaks his silence in response to our demands.

God speaks when and where and how he chooses.

Sometimes when God is silent, he’s waiting for us to simmer down.

“Be still, and know that I am God.”

Psalm 46:10

Sometimes the silence of God is the prelude to the thunder of his judgment.

*When the Lamb opened the seventh seal,
there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.*

Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. And another angel came and stood at the altar with a golden censer; and he was given much incense to mingle with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar before the throne; and the smoke of the incense rose with the prayers of the saints from the hand of the angel before God. Then the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar and threw it on the earth; and there were peals of thunder, voices, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake.



Revelation 8:1-5

God's silence often means "Pay attention!"

We will live by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God...
when we learn to be still, wait and listen.

Unto thee will I cry, O Lord, my Rock.

Be not silent to me, lest if thou be silent to me I become like them that go down into the pit...

Blessed be the Lord, because he hath heard the voice of my supplications.

The Lord is my strength and my shield. My heart trusted in him and I am helped.

Therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth, and with my song will I praise him!

Psalm 28: 1-2, 6-7



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Prayer

Holy Lord, we bow in reverence before your silence. May we turn our hearts towards you and know your divine holiness, your divine power and your divine love in your perfect silence. May we find fellowship with Christ in your silence. May we cling to you, trust you and come alive as we hear your voice in the silence.

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WHO WAS SLAIN
HAS BEGUN HIS REIGN