

Enter the Silence – A excerpt from the Collected Essays of Joel S. Goldsmith entitled “The Secret of the 23rd Psalm”

SILENCE IS POWER. Silence is the healing activity in individual consciousness. Silence is the creative Principle of all existence.

In the Silence, you become receptive to the Inner Voice, the Voice of the Inner Self, and as Truth expresses Itself in your listening ear, you become aware of the Healing Influence, with signs following.

Your receptivity to the Kingdom of God, God Consciousness, God Awareness, God Knowing, constitutes a healing atmosphere.

Heretofore, the work of the student has been to bring about harmony in his experience through the statement or affirmation of Truth, or reading or quoting Truth. Now he rises higher in consciousness to where he constantly and consciously “listens” for Truth to utter Itself within Him. He learns the true nature of Silence, of stillness and quietness.

It is easy to understand why the sages of old taught, “Be still, and now that I am God”; that this stillness declares the Presence of God, “Closer than breathing, nearer than hands and feet.” It reveals that neither man nor circumstances nor conditions can be power over your affairs, since that which declared Itself to be “I” within you is God, is Power, is Presence.

Also, you now know why you can never be God but that God is inseparable from your very being. All this reveals itself to you in The Silence.

Always remember that it is not the thoughts you think nor the truths you read, but rather, that which has revealed Itself in “quietness and confidence” is God, the Restorer of Harmony in your existence. It is not the thoughts you think but the thoughts which unfold to you within your own being

...these constitute your guidance and inner wisdom. It is not so much the thoughts of Truth you declare, as the consciousness of Truth you develop through your inner receptivity, that brings God-government into your body and outer affairs.

The activity of Truth in your consciousness is the Light which dispels the darkness of human sense. It is not what you think about Truth but what Truth knows and declares to you

...not what you affirm to Divine Mind but what It reveals to you. This is The Silence. This is Power.

In quietness and confidence, in stillness and Silence, Love reveals Its comforting Presence and assures us that “underneath are the everlasting arms” upholding and supporting us, even in trial and tribulation.

The heading over the 23rd Psalm is “David’s confidence in God’s grace.” Can you not *feel* this calm confidence as you read, “The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.” Here there is no petition, no supplication and, above all, no doubt or fear. Since the Lord IS his Shepherd, HOW can he want?

“He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters.” (The peace that passeth understanding unfolds me as I realize I cannot escape from my good, since He not only provides me with green pastures but He MAKETH me to lie down in them; He not only gives me still waters but He LEADETH me beside the still calm waters of peace.)

“He restoreth my soul.” (Even though it has been scarlet with sin or unrestful in sickness, yet “He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake,” and though I still be tempted with desire, yet for His name’s sake He leadeth me out of sin into righteousness, out of disease into rightness of health.)

“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me, Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.” (David’s confidence in God’s grace is still felt, even in the valley of the shadow of death, since even here David feels no fear, “for Thou art with me.” Oh, God, that I too may “be still” and know no fear, since even in the valley of the shadow of death “Thou are with me.”)

You can only experience fear if you believe that, in the midst of your discords and inharmonies, God has deserted you. NEVER, in scarlet sin nor dangerous disease, will you fear, once you attain David’s confidence that even in the valley of the shadow of death “Thou art with me.” Let the Beloved Silence descend upon you, too, as you realize with all your being that “Thou art with me.”

“Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.” (God’s grace, always manifest in the human form of rod, staff, food or water, this grace appearing as my good, comforts me. This assurance of the presence of that which fulfills, protects, sustains... this comforts me.)

“Though preparest a table before me in the presence of mind enemies; Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.” (Where lack and limitation threaten, God’s grace prevails; my soul is filled with inspiration and my heart overflows with joy and gratitude. This evidence of abundance, through Grace, fills me...satisfies me...and my heart sings for joy in His Presence.)

“Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the House of the Lord forever.” (How confident, how positive is David, as he sings, “Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me,” and how secure he feels in the timelessness of God’s Grace, as he declares that this goodness and mercy “shall follow me all the days of my life.”)

Blessed assurance of Omnipresence, “ALL the days of my life.” And, of course, “I will dwell in this consciousness of God forever. Yes, God Consciousness shall be my home forever.”)

As a weary wanderer I have sought Thee and now my weariness is gone. Thy Spirit has formed a tent for me, and in its cool shade I linger. Peace fills my soul. Thy Presence has filled me with peace. Thy love has placed before me a Feast of Spirit. Yes, Thy Spirit is my resting place, an oasis in the desert of the letter of Truth.

In Thee will I hide from the noise of the world of argument, in Thy Consciousness find surcease from the noisomeness of men’s tongues. They divide Thy Garment, O Lord of Peace, they quarrel over Thy Word until it becomes words and no longer Word.

As a beggar have I sought the new heaven and the new earth, and Thou hast made me heir of all. How shall I stand before Thee but in Silence? How shall I honor Thee but in the MEDITATION of my heart?

Praise and thanksgiving Thou sleekest not, but the understanding heart Thou receives. I will keep silent before Thee. My Soul and my Spirit and my Silence shall be Thy Dwelling Place. Thy Spirit shall fill my meditation, and it shall make me and preserve me whole. O Tender One and True, I am Home in Thee.