



IN THE STILL OF THE LIGHT

by Vincent M. Newfield

“What does it mean to be free?” That’s the question I felt like the Lord was asking me as I began to write. The more I thought about it, the clearer my response became. To me, true freedom is a freedom *within*—a feeling deep in my spirit that affects every part of who I am. And I can sum up that feeling in one word—**peace**. Freedom is a *peaceful* mind, a *peaceful* will and *peaceful* emotions—free from feeling like I have to figure everything out... free from the persistent pressure of making decisions... free from anxiety, worry and fear.

We certainly cannot put a price on peace. I could have a lot of money in the bank, a new car, a clean house, popularity, great health, beautiful weather, you name it. But if I don’t have peace in my soul, I can’t enjoy any of it. In over thirty-three years of serving the Lord, I don’t know of anything that brings me greater peace within than being *still* in the presence of the Father. As wonderful as my wife is, as delightful as my daughters are, they cannot calm me in the midst of an emotional meltdown. Only being still in God’s presence can quiet and soothe my aching soul.

There are few things Satan fights to keep us from more than spending time with God. He knows better than we do what happens when we get into the presence of the Father...because he once lived there. One day God graciously gave me a glimpse of what happens when we spend time in His presence. As I was studying, the truth declaring Jesus is the LIGHT of the world in John 8:12 really arrested my interest. The Lord began to reveal to me that when we pull away to spend time in His presence, we sit in His “Son” Light. And as we sit in His Son Light, *all* that Jesus is begins to *radiate* to us.

The Son **radiates** God’s own glory and expresses the very character of God, and he sustains

everything by the mighty power of his command....

—Hebrews 1:3 NLT

The word *radiate* means “to issue rays of light, to shine, to enlighten or shed light on.” When we’re in God’s presence, invisible beams of His “glow-ray” (glory) radiate toward us, saturating our soul with all God is. Think for a minute. What are some of God’s names noted in Scripture? He is called Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace... He is the Great Creator, Great Physician and Strong Tower... He is the Redeemer, Righteous One and Rock of Ages... and the list goes on. His many names describe His many qualities, and all of His qualities radiate toward us as we sit in the Son Light. In other words, beams of His wisdom, His healing, His creativity, his righteousness, His freedom, His peace, His *everything* penetrate our person when we pull away to be with Him.

In the last few weeks, my oldest daughter Victoria was hospitalized with meningitis. Through a very stressful series of events, I was once again reminded that spending time in God’s presence is not optional for me—it’s mandatory. I cannot survive the pressures and problems of life without the precious presence of God’s Son Light. I had neglected the nuggets of His wonderful Word... I had missed the sweet and satisfying fragrance of His friendship in prayer... and I could feel it.

Don’t get me wrong. There are days when I seek the Father’s face, and I don’t *feel* a thing. It’s then that I hold tightly to His promise in Isaiah 40:31—that my strength *is* being renewed because I am waiting in His presence. Those times remind me of being at the beach for several hours on an overcast day: the effects of being in the sun aren’t visible at first, but eventually they show up.

My friends, I encourage you to get alone with God the Father. Let His powerful presence radiate the intense light of His love, His peace and everything else you need. Wonderful things happen *in the still of the Light!*

Take the Next Step

-----♦ Exodus 34:29-35 ♦ Psalm 16:11; 27:4; 34:5; 46:10 ♦ Isaiah 60:1-5 ♦ John 14:27 ♦ Ephesians 1:3 ♦ James 4:8-10