

Good morning, Church. Daily Reading, Luke 5.

Psalm 46:7 & 11 "The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah" (ESV)

"It is a truth of which no believer wearies, it is a fact too often forgotten, it is a precious privilege which cannot be too often considered. Reader, is the Lord on your side? Is Emmanuel, God with us, your redeemer? Is there a covenant between you and God as between God and Jacob? If so, be happy. Show your joy in song, and in times of trouble, play the man by still making music to your God." (Spurgeon)

I can not say I have ever met a person who has not faced troubling times. They might confess their kids are sick. Their family is a mess. Their marriage is in shambles. Work is just that, WORK. Stress is building up. Finances are tough. Their health is not great. And yet, through it all, God has allowed each to go through these days, not only to refine but to be there to refresh.

In difficult days, God reminds us that He is still the One who parts the waters. He is still the One who fights our battles. He is still the One who goes before us. He is still our Rock and our Fortress. He is still the One who hides us in the shadow of His wings. He is still our salvation. He is still, Emmanuel, God with us.

"The Lord of Host" or, as the NLT states, "The LORD of Heaven's Armies" is a military title, portraying God as the commander in chief. He is the One we can always trust as He is strong and mighty.

Psalm 9:9 "The LORD is a shelter for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble." (NLT)

"SELAH bids the music rest. Pause in silent soft and blest;

SELAH bids uplift the strain, Harps and voices tune again;

SELAH ends the vocal praise, Still our hearts to God upraise." (Spurgeon)