

# GOD IS IN CONTROL

(When Things are Falling Apart...Find God!)

Good morning church family! What a joy it is to gather in the presence of the Lord today. We welcome everyone here in the sanctuary and those joining us online. We are living in a season that many would describe as chaotic and uncertain. As we look across our world, we see wars intensifying in the Middle East, the rising cost of living placing pressure on families, uncertainty surrounding our government, concerns about what is happening in our schools, and instability throughout the corporate marketplace and economy. Everywhere people turn there seems to be tension, anxiety, and questions about what tomorrow may hold. It can feel as though the world itself is caught in a kind of **madness**, where people are searching for answers, stability, and hope in the midst of it all.

But in the middle of all this uncertainty, the people of God must remember a truth that never changes: **God is in control**. Governments may shift, economies may rise and fall, nations may rage, and circumstances may shake—but **God is still sovereign, God is still ruling, and God is still in control**. He has not lost His authority, He has not abandoned His people, and He has not stepped down from His throne.

And whenever things begin to fall apart around us, that is the moment when we must learn to do one thing above all else—**find God**. Because when you find God in the middle of chaos, you will discover that the same God who ruled yesterday still rules today. The world may be uncertain, but one thing remains absolutely certain: **our God is still in control**. Now let us turn our hearts to the Word of the Lord.

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## PSALMS 46:1-11 (NASB)

**God** is our refuge and strength, A very ready help in trouble. <sup>2</sup> Therefore we will not fear, though the earth shakes And the mountains slip into the heart of the sea; <sup>3</sup> Though its waters roar *and* foam, Though the mountains quake at its swelling pride. *Selah*

<sup>4</sup> There is a river whose streams make the city of **God** happy, The holy dwelling places of the **Most High**. <sup>5</sup> **God** is in the midst of her, she will not be moved; **God** will help her when morning dawns.

<sup>6</sup> The nations made an uproar, the kingdoms tottered; **He** raised **His** voice, the earth quaked.

<sup>7</sup> The **LORD** of armies is with us; The **God** of Jacob is our stronghold. *Selah*

<sup>8</sup> Come, behold the works of the **LORD**, Who has inflicted horrific events on the earth.

<sup>9</sup> **He** makes wars to cease to the end of the earth; **He** breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; **He** burns the chariots with fire. <sup>10</sup> “Stop *striving* and know that **I am God**; I will be exalted

among the nations, I will be exalted on the earth.” <sup>11</sup> The LORD of armies is with us; The God of Jacob is our stronghold. *Selah*

## **Point #1: GOD IS OUR REFUGE WHEN EVERYTHING IS SHAKING**

**Psalm 46:1–3 (NASB):** *God is our refuge and strength, A very ready help in trouble.*

<sup>2</sup> *Therefore we will not fear, though the earth shakes And the mountains slip into the heart of the sea;* <sup>3</sup> *Though its waters roar and foam, Though the mountains quake at its swelling pride. Selah*

## **POINT 2: GOD SUSTAINS HIS PEOPLE WITH A HIDDEN RIVER (Psalm 46:4–7)**

**Psalms 46:4-7 INASB)** *There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, The holy dwelling places of the Most High. 5. God is in the midst of her, she will not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. 6. The nations made an uproar, the kingdoms tottered; He raised His voice, the earth melted. 7. The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our stronghold. Selah.*

**2 Chron. 32:1-8 (NLT):** *After Hezekiah had faithfully carried out this work, King Sennacherib of Assyria invaded Judah. He laid siege to the fortified towns, giving orders for his army to break through their walls. <sup>2</sup> When Hezekiah realized that Sennacherib also intended to attack Jerusalem, <sup>3</sup> he consulted with his officials and military advisers, and they decided to stop the flow of the springs outside the city. <sup>4</sup> They organized a huge work crew to stop the flow of the springs, cutting off the brook that ran through the fields. For they said, “Why should the kings of Assyria come here and find plenty of water?”*

<sup>5</sup> *Then Hezekiah worked hard at repairing all the broken sections of the wall, erecting towers, and constructing a second wall outside the first. He also reinforced the supporting terraces<sup>[a]</sup> in the City of David and manufactured large numbers of weapons and shields. <sup>6</sup> He appointed military officers over the people and assembled them before him in the square at the city gate. Then Hezekiah encouraged them by saying: <sup>7</sup> “Be strong and courageous! Don’t be afraid or discouraged because of the king of Assyria or his mighty army, for there is a power far greater on our side! <sup>8</sup> He may have a great army, but they are merely men. We have the LORD our God to help us and to fight our battles for us!” Hezekiah’s words greatly encouraged the people.*

**2 Chron. 32:30 (NLT)** *This same Hezekiah also stopped the water outlet of Upper Gihon and brought the water by tunnel to the west side of the City of David. Hezekiah prospered in all his works.*

**John 7:38-39 (NKJV):** *He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” <sup>39</sup> But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.*

## **POINT 3: GOD WILL BE EXALTED WHEN THE NATIONS RAGE (Psalm 46:8–11 NKJV)**

*Come, behold the works of the LORD, Who has made desolations in the earth. <sup>9</sup> He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire. <sup>10</sup> **Be still, and know that I am God**; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth! <sup>11</sup> The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah*

### **Key Sermon Takeaways**

- 1. When life shakes, God remains steady:** Life is full of uncertainty—economies shift, relationships change, and nations rise and fall—but **God is never shaken by what shakes us**. When everything around us feels unstable, the believer must anchor their faith in the One who never moves. ***Your security is not found in circumstances but in God's character.***
- 2. Run to God instead of running in Fear:** The psalm teaches that fear does not disappear because problems disappear. Fear disappears because God becomes our refuge. When believers run to God instead of running from problems, fear begins to lose its grip. ***The safest place in a storm is not outside the storm—it is inside the presence of God.***
- 3. God has a way to provide in hard times:** When Jerusalem faced siege, the river that sustained the city flowed through a hidden tunnel beneath the ground. In the same way, God often provides for His people in ways the enemy cannot see. What looks like scarcity on the surface may still have a river flowing underneath. ***God's provision is often working behind the scenes before the crisis even arrives.***
- 4. God Spirit lives inside of the Believer:** Under the New Covenant, the sustaining river is not just in a city—it flows inside the believer through the Holy Spirit. That means even when the world is chaotic, the believer carries peace, joy, and spiritual life within them. ***You are never empty in a crisis because God has placed a river inside you.***
- 5. God's presence gives us Strength:** The difference between panic and peace is the presence of God. Where God dwells, stability exists. The believer's confidence does not come from perfect circumstances but from knowing God is with them. ***The presence of God is the believer's greatest source of strength.***
- 6. God is still in Charge of the World:** Nations may rage and governments may change, but history is not controlled by human power—it is governed by the sovereignty of God. Every event in the earth ultimately moves toward God's divine purpose. ***God is never reacting to history—He is directing it.***
- 7. Trust God and Be Still!:** When God calls His people to be still, it is not a call to passivity—it is a call to **trust**. Stillness means choosing faith over anxiety and confidence over chaos. ***Faith rests in the assurance that God is in control.***

When everything around you feels like it is falling apart, remember these three truths:

- **God is our refuge above us.**
- **God's river is flowing within us.**
- **God's sovereignty is ruling over us.**

And because of that reality, we can live with confidence and declare: **No matter what is happening in the world... GOD IS IN CONTROL.**