Devotion #262

Is God Doing Anything?

**1 Kings 19:11-12 (NASB)** *“So He said, ‘Go forth and stand on the mountain before the LORD. And behold, the LORD was passing by! And a great and strong wind was rending the mountains and breaking in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of a gentle blowing.”*

If you have been a believer for any length of time, you will remember that when you first gave your heart to the Jesus, you saw Him do amazing things. It seemed like everywhere you turned God was doing things that unmistakably made His presence known in your life. You couldn’t stop being excited and energized to tell everyone about Him because you saw Him doing so much. But after awhile things began to settle down. You didn’t seen the amazing things like you once did. And soon you began to question if God was doing anything, and if you were the only one who believed in Him or maybe He had forgotten you.

It was very similar with Elijah. In the context of 1 Kings 19, Elijah had just come off of an amazing encounter with God. God put Himself on display in an astounding way. You should read it in 1 Kings 18. The issue was that the people had begun to follow a false god, Baal - a demonic image that was the manifestation of Satanic work. As the people did all they could to awaken their so-called god, Elijah called on the true and living God who came down and displayed His mighty power.

When the wicked queen of Israel, Jezebel, heard about it, she sought to kill Elijah. So he ran. He ran into the wilderness, terrified for his life, eventually hiding in a cave. It was there that God came to him and asked him what he was doing. Elijah responds, “I have been serving you faithfully and am the only one left who serves you.” God tells him to go to the opening of the cave and, there, God passes by and puts on a show for Elijah as a demonstration of His power. But, as we read in our verse for today, the Lord was not in the wind or the earthquake or the fire, but in the gentle breeze that was blowing.

The message for Elijah was that God was at work in Israel. In fact, God says to Elijah that He had reserved 7,000 people who had not bowed to the false god Baal. God was, then and now, working in Israel and all of His people, but often imperceptibly. God is not bound to show you or me His great power on a daily basis as if we need to be entertained or blown away by His power so that we will keep believing. God is God. He has no reason to do anything we hope, ask, or want Him to do. He reminds us in passages like this that He is always working in us and around us.

At times, God displays Himself in monumental things such as miracles and life-changing events, but He operates mostly in ways that are unnoticed. God is always present in our circumstances of life but often shows Himself in the little things, such as a smile from someone, a kind word, an encouraging note, or even by someone letting you know they are thinking about you.

Maybe there is someone who pops into your mind while you are doing your daily routine. Take that to mean that God wants you to pray for them or encourage them somehow. The gesture can be simple. God works mightily in the hearts of His people when we take the time to let Him be the gentle breeze in our hearts. One day, you and I will see Him in His fullness. We will see Him as He is and witness His never-ending power and glory as He continually puts Himself on display. But for now, we need to remember that God may or may not do great things in our lives. We must also remember that the way He makes Himself most known is through us as we touch one another in some loving, considerate way. Be mindful today of God’s presence, and reach out to whomever He puts on your heart and mind.