

## Couples In Bloom - Motivation

October 2010

Revelation 6:16 ⇒ “**And they said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him sitting on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb**”.

Those who have done serious mountain climbing have a better appreciation of this verse, having labored up seemingly endless- and relentlessly difficult- terrain. Traversing such magnitude one step at a time helps wrap the mind around the massiveness of a mountain.

**What kind of awareness could convince someone to scream this request?** Fear is emotion, the result of observation. So what was observed? **GOD** was observed. The word ‘believing’ comes from the words ‘be living’. James 2:14-26 ⇒ says **believing without living accordingly is dead**, and that demons (ex-angels) know God, and tremble. Do *we*?

Isaiah 66:2b ⇒ **But to this one I will look, to the afflicted and contrite spirit, and the one who trembles at My Word**. God’s Word is more than poetry; it is truth. ‘Are we supposed to physically tremble at God and His Word? Is it supposed to be voluntary or automatic? Why do we not see anyone else trembling?’ To answer these, look to God’s Word: ‘tremble’ literally means **‘to shudder with terror; hence to fear; also to hasten’**. Remember that man looks on the outward, but God looks at the **heart** ⇒ 1 Samuel 16:7c.

Question: What causes a heart to fear God? Answer: accurately seeing **HIM**. God is holy but is not insecure. He knows we are dust, so He only reveals a **tiny** bit of Himself to us; it is all we can handle. However, for those who return His love as passionate Bride (of Christ), He reveals more, and the grace to handle it. King David had a heart (that chased) after God; **the intimacy he had with God was the source of his power and anointing**.

Do we **want** such awareness of God that we authentically fear Him? Maybe. Do we **need** the power that only comes with such awareness and fear? Yes. God forces no one, but rewards those who chase Him ⇒ Hebrews 11:6. **Do we really want problems to motivate us to use our free will to seek God until we choose a deeper relationship?!**

One day Loren was required to go to the hospital. The triage nurse jumped over her desk and pulled him into the emergency room. He watched his vital signs plummet on the automatic monitor. Three doctors and five nurses worked frantically, silent and serious, except for one nurse saying, “What’s wrong?! What’s wrong?!” Weakness took over; he couldn’t swallow, blink, or even think. The five senses faded. He made it through; **others have not**: Observe a widow or widower at their spouse’s funeral. Married for over half a century, all they **wished they had done** for their spouse suddenly became **IMPOSSIBLE**.

**Our faith in God reveals our submission to God**. Obedience is better than sacrifice ⇒ 1 Samuel 15:22-23. Today is the **only** opportunity we **know** we’ll have. Those asking the mountains to cover them had **refused God earlier**... until it became **too late** to change.

**Choose love as motivation, not pain** ⇒ 1 Corinthians 4:21. ♥ Loren & Kathy Falzone

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