

STANDING STILL IN A FAST PACED LIFE

1 Samuel 9:27; 12:7 - 16

Introduction: Today's life style is nothing as it was just a few years ago as practically everything is at a fast pace. One finds drive-thru everything, even funeral homes. Everything is done at an extremely fast pace and at the end of the day, there's still things left undone. What once took days and hours now takes minutes and seconds.

Is it possible that this fast paced life style is causing one to miss something very important, like actually slowing down and spending some quality family time with the Heavenly Father?

Throughout the Bible God's people have been told at one time or another to "**STAND STILL.**"

An Old Testament prophet named Samuel often told folks to "**Stand Still !**" and let the Lord have some time. Perhaps God's children need to be told that again - "**Stand Still !**"

I. ONE NEEDS TO STAND STILL TO SEE THE WORD OF GOD (1 Samuel 9:27)

1. Saul had started on a trip to find his father's lost donkeys and ended in learning that he would become Israel's first king.
2. Samuel gave Saul several signs that would confirm his being appointed king in accord with the Word of God. (1 Samuel 10:1-9)
3. Today God often has to interrupt His children's "busy-ness" to direct them to something new He wants them to do.
 - As older Christians reflect back through their years, they often recognize where God stepped in and redirected their direction or gave them something new to do.
 - Sometimes God has to "get one's attention" in order for that person to stop and listen.

II. ONE NEEDS TO STAND STILL TO SEE WHAT GOD HAS BEEN DOING (1 Samuel 12:1-12)

1. Samuel was ready to step down from leading Israel and turn things over to the new king.
2. Samuel gathered the people around him and then told them to "**stand still**" in order that he might remind them of what God had done for them in the past. (12:7-12)
3. Today is perhaps even worse as every day God's children have to be slowed down to see what God has been doing in his/her life.
 - Once one slows down, looks around and listens, then there comes the realization of what God has been doing all along.
 - Slowing down and realizing what God has been doing ought not be confined to one's senior years. It should happen every day. "**STAND STILL !**"

III. ONE NEEDS TO STAND STILL AND SEE WHAT GOD WANTS (1 Samuel 12:13-16)

1. Samuel reminded the people of what all God had done for them in the past, he then turned their attention to the "**here and now.**"
2. What was God's will "**now?**" What did God want of His people right then? It was for them to respect and reverence Him, to serve Him and to follow Him.
3. Samuel told the people to "**stand still**" and see what the Lord would do.
4. People are the same today. God's preachers have to get their congregation's attention and tell them to "**slow down, stand still**" and give God some time.

CONCLUSION:

1. If one is too busy to hear God and to see what God wants him/her to do, which people are most of the time, then that person is simply too busy. Too busy for the Lord?
2. If one doesn't voluntarily stop and give God His time, God has His ways of doing it for him/her.
3. God's children today need some "**Stand Still**" time so God can give them what they need for their drive-thru lifestyle.
4. It is obvious that God is known more fully when one stops the hurried schedules and spends quality time with God.
5. What can this world possibly have to offer that is more important than spending quality time with Almighty God? Nothing! God is more important!
- Then why doesn't God get the quality time with His children He wants and they need?
6. What does the child of God need to do to give his/her Heavenly Father the time He wants?