

A WORD IN SEASON SERIES
“EXCERPTS FROM THE WRITINGS AND
MINISTRY OF BROTHER SAM GREENE”

SONGS IN THE NIGHT

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*The following is taken from the Brother Sam's book,
Handfuls Of Purpose, Volume 2...*

Life is filled with mornings and evenings. Every day has a daytime and a nighttime. So it shouldn't be any wonder to us that as we walk with Jesus there are times of daylight and brightness and then there are times night and darkness. Sometimes the night seasons seem so long and unless you've been through one, you won't really understand what I want to share in this chapter. There is a night. But we are assured by Scripture "*weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning*" (Psalms 30:5). Now the good thing about night is it always comes to an end. Morning always comes. Hosea 6:3 tells us, "*Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning...*" God has proven His faithfulness to me just as confidently as the natural sun

rising every morning I get up. There has never been a time when the sun hadn't risen (unless I guess I lived in Alaska or somewhere like that).

All of us will go through night seasons. The sad thing is the body of Christ has not been prepared to deal with the night. You see, God caused the sun or the greater light to rule the day, but then He said the moon, or the lesser light was to rule the night (Genesis 1:16). The moon in Scripture always speaks of the bride of Christ. Why is this? Because the moon has no glory or light of its own. It only reflects and radiates the sun. Without the sun, the moon is barren, dark, having no life. But the bride is to rule the night! She is not to be overtaken by it, but to rule it! Now not every Christian is in the bride just like not everybody overcomes. But to be the bride means you learn to rule the night. Jesus said, "*In your patience, possess ye your souls*" (Luke 21:19). You see, when night comes darkness comes and we can't see as clearly as we do in the day. Things are different looking. It is easier to be deceived at night than it is in the daytime. Many of us lose our bearing in the night. And if we freak out and let go, the night can overtake us. But even if you cry like David did for the darkness to cover you, "*even the night shall be light about me*" (Psalms 139:11). There is no darkness that God cannot shine through! There is no night that God cannot bring morning to.

But in the night, there is something I learned years ago. What do you do when night comes? What do you do when that season hits you and it is night about you? First of all, it is in the night that God makes His choices. The Lord says in Isaiah 48:10, "*I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction*". Affliction, tribulation, trouble, temptation, etc, which are the dealings of God, are necessary to perfect us, to deliver us, to get us to where we need to be. But what you do in the night will determine how you live in the day. For many people the night is when they do their darkness. Speaking of adultery, the Bible always says it happens in the night and in the dark, secret, and hidden places. Isaiah 59:10 says, "*We grope for the wall like the*

blind, and we grope as if we had no eyes: we stumble at noonday as in the night; we are in desolate places as dead men."

God has not made us blind. He has given us eyes to see and ears to hear. The question then is, are we obedient? Are we willing to do what God says to do no matter what the circumstance is? When night time comes and darkness falls, fear comes. Fear comes in the darkness. You know you can walk down the street with no problem when the sun is shining. But walk the same street at midnight, there is a feeling that comes over you. You are more cautious, worried, and always watching if anybody is following. All of your senses are active to be ready for whatever might happen. There is something about nighttime. Demons seem to get a little freer. Sinful souls begin to wake up and do their filth in the night.

But listen to what Job says in Job 35:10, "*But none saith, Where is God my maker, who giveth songs in the night*". Our deliverance in the nighttime is the song of the Lord! Stop just singing in the daytime. We need to learn to sing at night. I know by experience that in the deepest and darkest hole that I found myself in, God was deeper still! And His light reached into my darkest darkness and brought me out into the Kingdom of His dear Son! But you have to learn to sing in the darkness.

In Hosea 2:15 we find the Lord speaking about the bride who has backslidden and He says He will give her, "*the valley of Achor for a door of hope: and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt*". The name Achor in the Hebrew means "trouble". God gives us the valley of trouble as a door of hope. God gives us the valley of trouble for a door out of it! Stop looking at trouble like your enemy. It is actually our friend because if you are in trouble that means that God is moving in your life and you are in an opportunity to gain more authority and anointing. And what He says there is, "*and she shall sing there*". Where is there? It is in the valley! It is in the valley that we

need to learn to sing. Don't just sing on the mountain. Sing in the valley too!

If you only sing on the mountain than life is all about you. Don't stop singing when trouble comes. This is what Satan accused Job of to the Lord, "*Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life*" (Job 2:4). Satan may think this about a lot of people, but this isn't true for everybody! That is why we have the dealings of God. God is bringing forth a people He can hold up just like Job and say, "Look at this one! He's perfect and he hates evil! And no matter what you do to him, he is not going to give up on Me and surrender to the enemy!"

This is akin to Meshach, Shadrach, and Abednego in Daniel 3. They were threatened with being thrown into a horrible furnace and answered the king, "*we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. ¹⁷If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. ¹⁸But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up*". There is a people that won't surrender in the darkness, but will learn to sing there.

Psalms 119:54-55 says, "*Thy statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage. ⁵⁵I have remembered thy name, O LORD, in the night, and have kept thy law.*" His statutes are the Word of God. In the night, we sing and stand on God's promises. Psalms 119:62 says, "*At midnight I will rise to give thanks unto thee because of thy righteous judgments*". Psalms 119:164 says, "*Seven times a day do I praise thee because of thy righteous judgments*".

David said in Psalms 34:1, "*I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth*". Here is the problem for many. The word "*continually*" means it has something to do with us. You and I have to learn how to continue. John 8:31-32 says, "*If ye continue in my word, then*

are ye my disciples indeed; ³²And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free". You are not a disciple indeed unless you are continuing in His Word. There has to be something said for continuing.

So many people are up and down, up and down. Their lives are a roller coaster. I know lots about it because I lived it for years. But as we continue on we have a promise, "*Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: ⁵And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed*" (Isaiah 40:3-5). We have too many people on the mountain one day and in the lowest valley the next. But how you live in the night will determine how you live in the day.

David said in Psalms 32:7, "*Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance.*" When nighttime comes, start singing! When temptation comes on you (funny how it always seems to be at night), instead of bowing like you always do, just try speaking in tongues instead. Fight a little bit. Don't just yield to the temptation and say to yourself, "Well, here we go again. I know Jesus will forgive me". Jesus will forgive you, but that mentality has to stop. It is one thing to act like that as a baby Christian, but for those of us that have been a Christian a long time now, He is expecting a little more out of us and expecting some growth.

In Psalms 42:8 we find David again saying, "*Yet the LORD will command his lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life*". Is His song with you? Do you know how to activate the glory by singing? Psalms 100:4 exhorts us to, "*Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name*". One of the main ways we do this is by singing. Do you sing unto the Lord when you are by

yourself? What about when you are in times like David who thought of the Lord, *“Is his mercy clean gone forever? doth his promise fail forevermore?”* (Psalms 77:7). But David reminds himself and says, *“I call to remembrance my song in the night. I commune with mine own heart: and my spirit made diligent search”* (Psalms 77:6).

One of the things we have to be able to do is bring these principles to remembrance when we are in a trial or not feeling well. We have to be able to speak to ourselves, like we find Paul exhorting us to do first in Ephesians 5:19, *“Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord”*. We think of songs as just congregational and corporate. No, firstly it is very personal! You need to have a song in your heart. Psalms 40:3 says, *“he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God...”* David said this when testifying that, *“He brought me up also out of the horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock...and put a new song in my mouth”*. It’s a new song God gives you, not an old one. It’s something fresh that will bring you out of the pit!

Instead of cursing the darkness, light a candle! You do this by opening your mouth and begin worshipping so the light of God’s glorious presence can begin to fill your life. Start by singing! Isaiah 54:1-3 exhorts us, *“Sing, O barren, thou that didst not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child: for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the LORD...For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left...”* As we sing, light comes and God begins to move until finally we begin to break forth on the right hand and on the left. But it all begins by singing.

Let me ask you a question now and be truthful with yourself. How much do you sing? Now many people don’t sing because they don’t think they sing well. But everybody sounds great when they are in the shower or car by themselves.

Listen, if you want to be a real free person, here is some help. Sing like you are on the stage of Carnegie Hall when you are in your car. You can never be free in front of others if you never learn to be free by yourself. But you can loose yourself. People that can't sing are either bound up, full of demons, or are full of sin. They're dark and can't stand to see others free and singing. But they don't have to stay in their darkness either. They can start singing themselves!

Isaiah 30:29 says, *"Ye shall have a song, as in the night when a holy solemnity is kept; and gladness of heart, as when one goeth with a pipe to come into the mountain of the LORD, to the mighty One of Israel"*. Do you have a song in the night? You know, after all these years of leading worship since 1975, I found a truth. The body of Christ goes through phases where worship is concerned. But I've also found that in the fads that come and go, once in a while somebody will write a song that remains and keeps its anointing. These are songs that really God wrote. I have hundreds of these songs locked away in the chambers of my soul and I tell you when the darkness comes, the answer is not to repeat what your mind is saying, but to resist this and allow your spirit to break through by singing the song of the Lord.

My first marriage ended in a disaster. I should've never married my wife in the first place. I fasted 21 days before we got married and the Lord spoke to me and said not to marry her. I took that word to the 2 men I was submitted to and both of them said to me that I couldn't pastor without being married, love is a decision, and so go ahead and do it. So I went against what the Holy Ghost was saying to me and got married anyway. And on my honeymoon night, having never been drunk before in my life, I drank an entire complementary bottle of champagne that night and wanted more. I went out on the balcony of the room and said, "My God, my God why hast thou forsaken me?" It was that bad. But I made a decision and stuck it out for 13 long years. And when it all went down, people were looking for some retribution. I was falsely

accused of something horrible that I would never in a million years think of. And no matter how much I fought, it got worse and worse until eventually everything I had, including my 3 precious daughters were taken from me. And I was as innocent as the sun is bright. But I trusted the Lord, didn't have a lawyer and got stuck and entered into one of the worst of horrible times of my life. But I came through it after a few years by the grace of God. I got out of it, and was back in the ministry with a greater anointing than I had ever had before.

Well years later, after I got remarried, my wife went away for a couple of days and I was alone in North Carolina by myself and I got a package in the mail sent to my by a dear and precious friend who knew I didn't have any pictures of my children because my first wife refused to ever send me anything about them. But in the mail I received a picture of them. I hadn't seen them or heard about them since the divorce and at the first look, my heart just broke immediately and I began to weep uncontrollably. It wasn't long within seconds that darkness came into my house.

I was immediately full of agony, regret, horror, and complete sorrow. All of that darkness and demons just filled my house and filled my soul. I wanted to kill myself. Despair wasn't even a word close enough I could relate to. It was far darker than that. So I just went back to my bedroom and laid across my bed and groaned. The darkness over me was so thick. I was overwhelmed with grief. But deep inside of me a little flame burned. Have you ever been so upset, so hurt, so devastated, or in such pain emotionally, that you come to the end of yourself? Even though darkness enveloped me, deep inside of me a song started to resonate. You see, there is no amount of darkness you may find yourself in that God cannot still find you. There is no pit low enough that God is not deeper still. This song started rising up in my spirit so I began to force myself to sing because everything in me wanted to rebel and not do it. But somehow I began to sing. Then I began to sing in tongues. Then I began to worship God and little by little the

darkness started dissipating. The joy of the Lord began to rise up within me and I tell you when the enemy comes in, like a flood the Spirit of God raises up a standard against it (Isaiah 59:19). And it rose up within me and drove that darkness out of my soul, out of my mind, out of my body, and out of my house for the last time!

Has the enemy tried to come back over the years with the same issue? Of course. But that day something happened. I saw that in my darkest moment, God had not forsaken me and that He always stands with the accused! And I had to call to remembrance my song in the night. I had to remember like David, *“Is his mercy clean gone for ever? Doth his promise fail for evermore? Hath God forgotten to be gracious?”* Of course He hasn't! David said, *“This is my infirmity: but I will remember the years of the right hand of the most High”*. I needed to remember like David the many times God has always helped and delivered me and forgiven me. He blessed me, prospered me, and brought me out of darkness! There isn't a moment in our lives that we can't praise God for something He did for us. God will never stop being gracious. The answer is to sing in the night! Sing in the night just as loud and as hard as you do in the day and on the mountain.

In Psalms 84:6 we find the bride, *“Who passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also filleth the pools”*. The word Baca in Hebrew means “weeping”. In other words, the bride passes through the valley of weeping and makes the dry and dusty place and pool and a well. Because of her walk with God, when she comes out of the valley she leaves behind pools of living water in the valley! Don't listen to the enemy or miserable comforters (be it spouse or close friends and family members) who are critical when you are in a difficult time. Listen to godly counsel! You do what the Lord says to do. Sing in the valley and make it a well of living water.

Another important Scripture that relates to this is found in Ephesians 5, *“¹⁷Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding*

what the will of the Lord is..." First of all, do you know what the will of the Lord is? Please never forget the next few verses because if you ever talk to somebody who says they don't know what the will of the Lord is, take them here. This will always be the will of God in any situation, "...¹⁸*And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; ¹⁹Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; ²⁰Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ*". Wine here can speak of any worldly intoxicant. Our answer is not to give ourselves over to a life of flesh. Our answer is to be filled with the Spirit. For this to happen, you have to first be willing to talk to yourself. I talk to myself all of the time. You have to cast down your imaginations and like David tell yourself to bless the Lord as he did so many times (Psalms 103:1).

Secondly, there is never a time when it isn't the will of God to worship. It is always the will of God to worship. But as you begin to worship, if you are in a bad place, the first thing you do is speak to yourself. You say, "*Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name*" (Psalms 103:1). In I Samuel 30:6 David, "*encouraged himself in the Lord*". Human nature is to always want somebody else to help us. But you can help yourself! Just start blessing the Lord! Let everything that is within you bless His holy name! Speak to yourself in psalms. Psalms represent songs out of the Word of God. Sing the Scriptures. Then hymns which are songs written about God. And then spiritual songs which in the Greek means "ethereal odes or chants". Therefore spiritual songs represent singing in tongues. God's will is you speak to yourself using the Word of God, then you sing songs that the Lord has brought into your life, and then most importantly you sing in the Spirit and as you do this your heart begins to make melody to the Lord and the enemy cannot stand it! And lastly Paul finishes by saying after you've sung, "*Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ*".

A pattern Scripture to Ephesians 5 is Colossians 3:16, “*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.*” The first word “*Let*” tells us it is our choice. We can let or not let. In Ephesians we are told to deal with ourselves. But when we come across a brother that is not doing well, we don’t join in their pity party and make it worse. We want to try to help him out. The best way to do that is reminding him what the words of Christ are. Moreover, you want to give people wisdom. Wisdom is knowledge applied. Knowledge is nothing unless you can walk in it. Knowledge walked out in your life is wisdom. So you can help somebody because you have been through a valley or in the night and you can teach them the Word of God and tell them what you did to get out of it. We teach and admonish others the same way. We use the Word of God and we sing about it, sing about God, and sing in the Spirit! This time Paul adds, “*singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord*”. One verse says making melody here it says singing with grace. This is our answer in our night seasons. He gives us songs in the night. All we have to do is sing!

This is a simple word, but it is a word that every single person can do. Every single one of us can do this word. If you don’t have any songs to sing, go and find some or allow the Lord to give you one. When king Saul was tormented in the Old Testament, what did he ask for? He asked for David to come and sing and drive those demons away. If you struggle with night seasons, this is the Word of the Lord to you. Your answer is not going to be in the realities of your life. Don’t let circumstances dictate who you are. Start singing! Sometimes we forget that Jesus is always the answer. That is why we have to always speak to ourselves and just start singing and bring the glory to your life. You don’t need some great revelation or word from God. You already got a word now. The will of the Lord is “*Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the*

Lord" (Ephesians 5:19). When was the last time you sang in tongues by yourself? You need to do it!

Songs in the night! It is one thing to read these Scriptures and mentally affirm to this truth. But one day you are going to be alone in the night and its then you have to start singing. You have an answer now when the enemy comes. When you start singing, you just watch how fast the Lord moves and how quickly the glory comes to help you and deliver you! In the night, call to remembrance the song of the Lord for He gives songs in the night, in Jesus' mighty name! Amen!

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