



"GOD IS STILL IN CHARGE"

INSIDE THIS
MONTH'S ISSUE:

GOD IS STILL IN CHARGE!

Written by IMA-OBONG EFFIONG IGANI-TIMOTHY

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God" (Isaiah 41:10 NKJV).

Beloved, this month the Holy Spirit impresses on our hearts a strong, reassuring message: God is still in charge. In a world shaking with uncertainty and fear, God's people must hold fast to this unchanging truth.

let this message of hope steady your heart: God is still in charge. No matter the turmoil, He is your refuge and strength, "a very present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1). He remains sovereign. He remains good. He remains faithful. Trust Him. Rest in His promises. Walk in faith, not fear.

INTRODUCTION

The Lord gave me the topic for our July devotional as early as June. I had already begun writing, designing, and preparing it for circulation. But in one of my personal times with the Holy Spirit, I found myself feeling concerned. I was reading about the legislative changes in the UK—policies and decisions. I saw the headlines about wars, political unrest, economic instability, violence, and confusion sweeping across nations. Even in our personal lives, many of us are facing health crises, financial pressures, family tensions, and uncertainties that make the future seem frighteningly unclear.

As I sat with these worries, the Holy Spirit spoke gently but firmly to my heart: “My children need a word of hope. Tell them and remind them that I am still in charge.” That settled it. This month’s devotional is not just another teaching—it is a heartfelt message from the Father’s heart to us in these times. It is a timely reminder that even when the world seems out of control, our God is not. He remains sovereign over all things.

So this month, we will take time to reflect on this beautiful, powerful truth: “God Is Still in Charge.” My prayer is that as you read these words, your heart will be strengthened. That you will lift your eyes above the chaos and fix them on Jesus, who never changes and never fails. That you will hear Him whisper to you in the storm: “Do not fear. I am with you. I am still in charge.” May this devotional be a lifeline of hope, an anchor for your soul, and a reminder that our God reigns forever.

THE WORLD IN TURMOIL – OUR NEED FOR HOPE

If ever there was a time the world felt like it was convulsing, it is now. Everywhere you turn, there is news of wars, violent conflicts, and social unrest tearing nations apart. Coups displace governments overnight. Terrorism strikes with unpredictable cruelty. Political instability breeds fear and suspicion. Even places once seen as peaceful feel fragile. The world order seems to be shaking, and many ask: What is happening? Where is this all going?

Beyond conflict, there is economic turmoil. Inflation surges globally, eroding the value of money. Food and fuel costs skyrocket, and families face hard choices between basic needs. Businesses struggle, and jobs are lost. Once-thriving economies teeter on the edge of collapse. In many places, once-comfortable middle classes are squeezed into poverty. Financial systems meant to bring stability feel unreliable. People worry: How will I survive? What will happen to my children? Legislative changes and cultural upheavals add another layer of anxiety. Foundations that seemed morally certain are being shaken. Laws change in ways that alarm many believers. The definition of right and wrong is debated and often inverted. Values once widely held are now mocked or criminalized. This moral confusion seeps into families and schools, leaving many wondering how to raise their children in truth.

Crime, insecurity, and fear thrive in this uncertainty. People live behind bars and locks, afraid to walk their own streets. Violence, theft, and fraud grow. Trust is eroded between neighbors. Anxiety fills news headlines. Depression and mental illness spike as people struggle to make sense of a world that feels out of control. For many, the path forward is obscured in fog. What is coming next? How can we plan for a future we can’t even see?

Yet in the middle of all this turmoil, God speaks. His voice cuts through the noise, steady and sure: “Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God” (Isaiah 41:10). This is not the voice of a powerless observer but of the sovereign King of kings. He is not surprised or shaken. He is not watching helplessly. He rules over the nations. He sets up kings and brings them down (Daniel 2:21). His purposes will stand, no matter the chaos around us.

Our hope is not in stable economies or perfect governments. It is not in human wisdom or strength. It is in the unchanging God who has promised never to leave us nor forsake us (Hebrews 13:5). He calls us to lift our eyes above the crises, above the frightening headlines, above the uncertainty of tomorrow, and fix our gaze on Him. “The LORD reigns; let the nations tremble” (Psalm 99:1).

He is still in charge. Even when it looks like the world is falling apart, He holds all things together (Colossians 1:17). Even when the future is hidden from us, it is clear to Him. He sees the end from the beginning (Isaiah 46:10). He has promised to be with His people in every trial. He says to you today: “Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth” (Psalm 46:10).

Beloved, do not let the chaos of the world drown out this truth. Let your heart find rest in the unshakable reality that our God is still on His throne. He has not abandoned us. He will fulfill His purposes in us and in the world. He is our hope in the midst of turmoil. Let us trust Him. Let us hold fast to His Word. Let us be people who shine with hope in a world desperate for it.

GOD’S FAITHFULNESS IN CRISIS – BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

Throughout Scripture, God proves again and again that He is faithful to preserve, provide for, and deliver His people in the midst of crisis. These are not abstract spiritual ideas but concrete historical interventions that show the character of our unchanging God. He wants us to remember these testimonies so that our faith is strengthened in our own times of trouble. Consider the days of Isaac. The Bible says plainly, “There was a famine in the land” (Genesis 26:1). The economic reality was bleak: no rain, no harvest, scarcity everywhere. People were desperate. Common sense said to flee to Egypt for survival. But God told Isaac to stay where he was. Despite the famine, Isaac obeyed—and God blessed him. “Isaac sowed in that land and reaped in the same year a hundredfold; and the LORD blessed him” (Genesis 26:12). God’s provision was not limited by the natural conditions. He can cause abundance in a desert. His blessing overrides economic collapse. This is not just history—it is a revelation of what God can do for His people who trust and obey Him, even when the world’s systems fail.

Think also of the ten plagues in Egypt. Each plague was a devastating blow to Egypt’s economy, security, and morale. Water turned to blood, livestock died, hail ruined crops, locusts devoured what was left. Egypt was in ruins. But in Goshen, where the Israelites lived, there was a clear line of protection. When darkness covered Egypt so thick it could be felt, the Israelites had light in their dwellings (Exodus 10:23). When the plague of death struck the Egyptian firstborn, the Israelite homes marked by the blood of the lamb were spared (Exodus 12:13). God made a demarcation between His people and the world. Even as judgment fell on Egypt, God’s mercy covered Israel. This is the same God we serve—He knows how to keep His own even when the world is under judgment.

At the Red Sea, Israel faced what looked like certain destruction. Pharaoh’s army thundered behind them; the sea blocked their way.

Panic and despair swept through the people. But God told Moses, “Tell the children of Israel to go forward” (Exodus 14:15). Then He did what no one imagined: He split the sea. “The LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land” (Exodus 14:21). Israel walked through on dry ground, while their enemies drowned. God made a way where there was no way. He proved He is the ultimate Way-Maker.

These stories are not ancient fairy tales. They are records of God’s faithfulness so that we will know His nature. He is not intimidated by crisis. He is not limited by famine, oppression, or threats. He is not bound by the rules of the natural world. He puts a difference between His children and the world, and He knows how to deliver those who are His. “The LORD knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations” (2 Peter 2:9).

Beloved, if the world’s economy collapses, remember Isaac. If judgment or chaos spreads around you, remember Goshen. If you stand before an impossible sea with enemies closing in, remember the Red Sea. Our God is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8). He is faithful in crisis. He will keep those who trust in Him.

JESUS IN THE STORM – GOD IS STILL IN THE BOAT

One of the most powerful stories of Jesus’ ministry is found in Mark 4:35–41. After a long day of teaching, Jesus said to His disciples, “Let us cross over to the other side.” They got into the boat and set out across the Sea of Galilee. But as they sailed, a fierce storm arose. The wind roared, waves crashed over the sides, and the boat began to fill with water. Seasoned fishermen who knew these waters panicked. They were convinced they were going to die. In their fear, they turned on Jesus, crying out, “Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?” It is such a human reaction, isn’t it? When life’s storms threaten to swamp us—when sickness strikes, when jobs are lost, when family relationships fracture, when the future looks dark—we often wonder: “Lord, don’t You care? Where are You? Why are You silent while I’m drowning?” The disciples felt exactly like that. Their fear blinded them to the truth of who was with them in the boat.

But look at Jesus in this moment. He was asleep on a cushion in the stern, in perfect peace. The wind shrieked, the boat rocked violently, water splashed everywhere—but Jesus rested. He was not worried, not anxious, not threatened. Why? Because He is Lord over all creation. The wind and waves know His voice. He is never at the mercy of the storm. When they woke Him in desperation, Jesus didn’t panic. He simply stood up and rebuked the wind and the sea: “Peace, be still!” Immediately the storm stopped. The sea became calm as glass. Then Jesus turned to His disciples and asked them, “Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?” He was not scolding them because they woke Him, but because they had forgotten who He was. He had already said, “Let us cross over to the other side.” His word was their guarantee. No storm could sink them with Him on board. Their fear came from failing to trust His promise and His presence.

Beloved, storms will come. Jesus never promised us a life free of trouble. In fact, He warned us: “In this world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). The promise is not the absence of storms, but His presence with us in them. Even when it seems He is silent, even when He seems “asleep,” He has not left us. He is in the boat. He is still in charge. The storm will not drown you if Jesus is with you.

No matter what chaos rages around you—economic upheaval, family crisis, health battles, grief, anxiety—He can speak peace over it. “Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you” (John 14:27). His peace is not the absence of trouble but the presence of God in the middle of it. He calls us to trust Him deeply, even when we can’t see the way forward. When fear rises in our hearts, let us remember the One who commands the winds and waves. He will never abandon us. He will bring us safely to the other side.

Beloved, if you find yourself crying out, “Lord, don’t You care?”—remember this story. He does care. He is with you. He is still in the boat. And when He speaks, even the fiercest storm must obey. Trust Him. He is still in charge.

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR TODAY – HOPE FOR THE JOURNEY

God never promised His people a life free of difficulty. Instead, He spoke plainly about the trials we would face. Isaiah 43:2 does not say if you pass through the waters, but when: “When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you.” This is the reality of life in a fallen world—there will be seasons of deep waters and raging fires. Loss, disappointment, sickness, persecution, uncertainty, and pain are not strangers to God’s people. But God’s promise is not to remove every trial but to walk with us in the midst of them. He assures us of His presence in our most frightening moments. When the rivers of anxiety threaten to sweep us away, He holds us fast. When the fire of affliction seems too hot to bear, He shields us and refines us without destroying us. The story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in Daniel 3 reminds us that even in the fiery furnace, there was “a fourth man” walking with them—Jesus Himself. They emerged without even the smell of smoke on them. This is God’s promise to His children: “I will never leave you nor forsake you” (Hebrews 13:5).

Isaiah 40:28–31 is a precious word for weary hearts. The prophet asks, “Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary.” Unlike us, God never tires. He is never overwhelmed. He never panics. He has infinite power and wisdom. And best of all, “He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength.” When you feel too weak to go on, God invites you to wait on Him. Waiting is not passive resignation but active trust and expectation. “But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.”

This is the hope that anchors us in times of uncertainty: God is still in charge. No crisis can dethrone Him. No policy change or economic crash can surprise Him. No diagnosis or family conflict can overpower His plan. He remains sovereign, faithful, and good. He does not promise an easy journey, but He does promise a victorious one for those who trust Him. “The people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits” (Daniel 11:32). The key is not knowing about God but knowing Him—leaning on Him, seeking Him, trusting Him.

Beloved, hold this truth close to your heart: God is still in charge. When the news is terrifying, when your bank account is empty, when your health is failing, when your loved ones disappoint you, when you don’t know what tomorrow holds—He is still on His throne. Let His promise steady your heart. Trust Him with your fears and questions. Rest in His unfailing love. Wait on Him and receive new strength. He will not abandon you. He will see you through, all the way to the other side. This is our unshakable hope: God is still in charge.

REFLECTION

As we look at the state of the world and the trials in our own lives, it is easy to feel overwhelmed or fearful. But God is calling us to shift our focus from the chaos around us to His unchanging character. He is sovereign, faithful, and good—no matter what we see. This month, let's ask ourselves honestly: Where have I let fear overshadow my faith? Where have I forgotten that God is still in charge? Take time to pause, pray, and surrender those worries to Him. Trust that even in uncertainty, He is working for your good. May this truth bring you peace and renew your hope.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we come before You with hearts that tremble yet trust. In a world shaken by crisis and uncertainty, we anchor our hope in You. Thank You that You are still in charge, still sovereign, still faithful. Forgive us for our fear, our doubt, our forgetfulness of Your power. Lord Jesus, thank You that You are in our boat even when the storms rage. Speak Your peace into every troubled heart. Holy Spirit, strengthen us to wait on the Lord and renew our strength. Teach us to see the demarcation You have placed over our lives, that though the world may quake, we will stand firm in Your promise. Father, help us to know You deeply, to trust You completely, and to walk in Your hope and courage. May this month be a testimony of Your provision, protection, and power in our lives. In Jesus' mighty name we pray. Amen.

