

TEXT: Gen. 4:10 **And He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground.**

INTRODUCTION:

- A. We all realize that Able's blood did not audibility cry out from the ground that had soaked it up.
- B. Yet, we can not deny that the silence of that bloody ground shouted into the ears of God for louder than any words Able could have spoken.
- C. Often it is the silence of unspoken words that speak the loudest.
- D. Let's examine some things that even through they are unable to utter any audible sound, literally shout in our ears.

BODY:

I. THE EMPTY SEAT.

- A. 1 Sam. 20:18 **Then Jonathan said to David, "Tomorrow is the New Moon; and you will be missed, because your seat will be empty.**
- B. One family throughout their son's absence during the war kept a place set for him at the table.
- C. An empty chair can tell us many things.
- D. What does an empty seat say from Heb. 10:23-26.
 - 1. We are not holding fast our confession.
 - 2. We are wavering.
 - 3. We are not considering one another.
 - 4. We are not stirring up love.
 - 5. We are not stirring up good works.
 - 6. Not exhorting one another.
 - 7. We are willfully sinning.
 - 8. We no longer have a sacrifice for sin.

E. Also says:

1. To God--I d/n love you enough to come to worship and study about you with your people.
2. To Teachers-I have no need of you.
3. Other students- I am not interested in sharing my thoughts with you.
4. To the world in general.
 - a. I am not very interested in studying God's word.
 - b. I can take worship or leave it.
 - c. This is second rate and what I substitute is more important.

II. MISSING SPEAR AND JUG OF WATER.

A. 1 Sam. 26:7-16 So David and Abishai came to the people by night; and there Saul lay sleeping within the camp, with his spear stuck in the ground by his head. And Abner and the people lay all around him. Then Abishai said to David, "God has delivered your enemy into your hand this day. Now therefore, please, let me strike him at once with the spear, right to the earth; and I will not have to strike him a second time!" And David said to Abishai, "Do not destroy him; for who can stretch out his hand against the Lord's anointed, and be guiltless?" David said furthermore, "As the Lord lives, the Lord shall strike him, or his day shall come to die, or he shall go out to battle and perish. "The Lord forbid that I should stretch out my hand against the Lord's anointed. But please, take now the spear and the jug of water that are by his head, and let us go." So David took the spear and the jug of water by Saul's head, and they got away; and no man saw it or knew it or awoke. For they were all asleep, because a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them. Now David went over to the other side, and stood on the top of a hill afar off, a great distance being between them. And David called out to the people and to Abner the son of Ner, saying, "Do you not answer, Abner?" Then Abner answered and said, "Who are you, calling out to the king?" So David said to Abner, "Are you not a man? And who is like you in Israel? Why then have you not guarded your lord the king? For one of the people came in to destroy your lord the king. "This thing that you have done is not good. As the Lord lives, you deserve to die, because you have not guarded your master, the Lord's anointed. And now see where the king's spear is, and the jug of water that was by his head.".

B. The cries from the spear and water jug-Neglect, neglect, neglect.

C. Abner embarrassed.

D. We often hear the cry of neglect because we let the enemy of the Lord steal that which has been entrusted to our care.

1. Song "Swiftly We're Turning" No. 503.
2. 1 Tim. 6:20-21.
3. Matt. 13:22.

III. A PILLAR OF SALT.

A. Gen. 19:24-26. **Then the Lord rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the Lord out of the heavens. So He overthrew those cities, all the plain, all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. But his wife looked back behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.** "Remember Lot's Wife" Lk. 17:32.

B. What a story a pillar of salt tells.

C. What did it say:

1. I cared more for this wicked city and lust of the flesh and pride of life than I did God- 1 Jn. 2: 15-17.
2. I began but was hindered- Gal. 5:7.
3. I entangled myself with the affairs of this life- 2 Tim. 2:2-4.
4. I am self willed and d/n care to be pleasing to God.
5. I looked back- Lk. 9:62, "No man having put his..."

IV. FIELD LILIES.

A. Matt. 6:28-30.

B. They have a message for us.

1. Why worry?
2. There is a God in Heaven that looks after us.
3. They shout with all their might-Trust in God- 6:33, 34.

V. A LOOK FROM CHRIST.

A. Lk. 22:61-62.

B. What a look: It said a great deal to Peter!

1. Remember Peter, not I told you so- Lk. 22:31-34.
2. Peter I still love you.
3. Repent.
4. Why?

VI. AN EMPTY TOMB.

- A. Lk. 24:1-3.
- B. A tomb is quite a silent place.
- C. Yet his tomb shouted.
 1. Jesus is real!
 2. He overcame the last enemy-Death.
 3. There is now hope for all who have died and all who will die- 1 Thess. 4:14.

CONCLUSION:

- A. Many times silence speaks louder than words.
- B. You will remain vocally silent in response to the Lord's invitation each time it is given and you d/n respond.
- C. What is your silence saying?