

MILESTONES

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Yes, we are about to enter the 17th month of lockdown in August, and yes, it is also true that the pandemic continues to wreak havoc in many parts of the world despite vaccines being rolled out and made available in different countries.

The negative impact of the pandemic cannot be discounted as it has brought many people down on their knees pleading for God's mercy with many losing jobs, closing their businesses while others have lost loved ones to the deadly virus.

Yet, the Lord allows us to celebrate milestones that remind us that He is our faithful God amidst our storms in life. This morning, as I sipped my hot brewed coffee on the morning of my 62nd birthday, this was God's reminder to me as I listened to the lyrics of the song, "Still" playing on my Bluetooth speaker while having breakfast. The lyrics of the familiar tune spoke to me as I am certain they do to many others especially at such a time as this -

***When the oceans rise
and thunders roar
I will soar with You
above the storm
Father, you are King
over the flood
I will be still,
know You are God***

In China, there were video footages on social media of the devastating floods that have hit many vast areas. Meanwhile, a college friend of mine posted in a chat group about her sister who is now intubated in a Cagayan de Oro hospital despite having received her twin doses of a vaccine. The family has been left befuddled at this sad turn of events, more so as it happens after two other family members had previously succumbed to the deadly virus within the past year.

Amidst various crises such as these, it is when it becomes imperative for the Christian believer to focus his eyes on the God who allows us to soar with Him above the storm. As the song's lyrics remind us, let us be still before Him and not carry the burdens on our own. Surrender to the one who is able to minister to us and lift the heavy load off from our shoulders.

On the other hand, the recent rains remind of me the outpouring grace and mercies of the Lord in my life, as well as my family's. As I celebrate this personal milestone, my soon-to-be 101-year old mother called me through a video call to greet me - another potent and tangible reminder of God's grace in my life amidst the storm.

I trust that as you go through your own floods, calamities and challenges in life that you would turn to God who promises to never leave you nor forsake you. He alone is our strength and shield.

Never forget that even while you go through various struggles and difficulties, the Lord gives you milestones to remind you of who He is - our great, mighty and awesome God! To Him be glory and honor and praises! ✨

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