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“He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.”

— *Zephaniah 3:17, NKJV*

The Beauty of God’s Silence

When Abram was 75 years old, the Lord said to him, “I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing” (Gen. 12:2, NKJV). Abram and his family departed for the land of Canaan, but Sarai, Abram’s wife, had not borne any children.

It must have been painful for the childless couple when God had said to Abram that “one who will come from your own body shall be your heir” (Gen. 15:4, NKJV). When Abram and Sarai felt like they couldn’t wait for God anymore, they took matters into their own hands, which led to the birth of Ishmael from the union of Abram and Hagar, Sarai’s maidservant.

After almost 25 years, God broke His silence, and Sarah bore Isaac, the son of promise, for Abraham.

Many Christians can relate to the silence of God when they desperately need to hear His voice or have Him answer. It is very difficult for us, since you and I cannot see the end from the beginning. If we could, I believe we would be so much more patient with God when we don’t hear His voice replying to us. All I know is one way or another, Jesus *will* show up. It might be to call us from the grave at the second coming, or it might be in a fiery furnace, but He will show up.

I truly believe that the 1,000 years in heaven (Rev. 20) will be for you and me to have personal time with our Father. Can you imagine sitting on God’s lap while He personally shows you your life’s history and all that He has done for you to be where you are at that moment? Ellen White implied that when we are shown our life with how God has led us, not one of us will wish it was altered.¹ So could we not by faith believe and understand this now? No matter what we are painfully going through at this present time. ■

Paul Llewellyn is president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Canada, and Adrianna Joi Lewis is a staff writer for the Canadian Adventist Messenger.

1 Ellen G. White, *The Ministry of Healing* (Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press Publishing Association, 1905), 479.

