

The Day the Sun Stood Still

by Susan A. Hart, DCE

So the Lord gave the Amorites over to Israel. On that day Joshua spoke to the Lord while the Israelites were listening. He said, "Sun, stand still over Gibeon. And you, moon, stand still over the Valley of Aijalon. So the sun stood still. The moon stopped. They didn't move again until the nation won the battle over its enemies. The sun stopped in the middle of the sky. It didn't go down for about a full day. There has never been a day like it before or since. It was a day when the LORD listened to a mere human being. Surely the LORD was fighting for Israel!"

-Joshua 10:12-14 NIV

While traveling through Denali National Park in Alaska, Brandt was enjoying all the sights and sounds of nature. The summertime scenery was spectacular and he saw breathtaking sights he had never seen before. God's creation is so beautiful and amazing.

- Have you ever spent some time in nature, maybe hiking or riding through a park?
- What parts of God's creation did you see?
- Did you see anything for the first time, maybe an animal or plant you had never seen before?

While driving, Brandt lost track of the time. When he looked down at his watch, he couldn't believe what he saw! It was 10 o'clock at night and the sun was still shining. He was confused. Soon he remembered that summer in Alaska is different from most places. There are times in Alaska when the sun seems to never go down. It's as if the sun stands still.

- Have you ever been to Alaska? If so, were you there in the summer or the winter? What were the days like, sunny or dark?

(Reread the Bible passage.) In this Bible passage, God's people were fighting to survive. They had to overcome not one, but two armies. God told His people that He is on their side. As the sun and moon stood still, Joshua and his army followed God's direction and won the battle. Trusting in God's strength and power was the key to winning.

In our lives, we can rely on God to give us strength and courage when we face terrible situations. Just as Joshua did, we can pray to God for help. We can trust in His promises. If God can make the sun and moon stand still, God certainly can help us when we need Him!

- Is there something you would like to ask God to help you with today?

Note: Ask for prayer requests.

Prayer

Dear Jesus,

You show us in the Bible that You will never leave us alone.
Help us put our trust in You as we go through [insert prayer requests here].

Forgive us when we don't look to You for help.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

