

# Isaiah 42:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I have long time holden my peace; I have been still, and refrained myself: now will I cry like a travailing woman; I will destroy and devour at once.

## Analysis

God's long silence ('been still' and 'refrained myself') has been deliberate patience, but now He will act like a woman in labor—crying out and panting. This striking feminine imagery conveys the intensity and inevitability of coming judgment/deliverance. What has been gestating must now be born.

## Historical Context

God's apparent inactivity during the long exile tested faith. This assures that silence wasn't abandonment but patient waiting for the appointed time. When God acts, it will be with explosive, irresistible force.

## Related Passages

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

1. How do you interpret God's silence in your life—as absence or as patient timing?

2. What does the birthing imagery teach about the intensity of God's coming actions?

## Interlinear Text

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רְתָבֵשׁ יִתְּהַלֵּל מִזְמָרְתִּי	holden my peace	אָמַר יָשַׁעַת	I have long time	אָמַר יָשַׁעַת	I have been still	אָמַר יָשַׁעַת	וְאַתְּנַפְּתֵחַ	and refrained
H2814		H5769		H2790			H662	
פִּילַלְתִּי הַנְּזֵלֶת	like a travailing woman	אָפַגְתִּי הַנְּזֵלֶת	myself now will I cry	אָפַגְתִּי הַנְּזֵלֶת	I will destroy	אָשַׁא רַגְלֵי	and devour	בָּזֵד: אָשַׁא רַגְלֵי
H3205		H6463		H5395		H7602		H3162

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