

## To What is My Confidence Tied – 10-16-2024

We live in uncertain times. Unpredictable. Constant upheaval.

We long for stable jobs, stable housing, stable friends. Want things to stay the same; but the **one thing** that is certain is that life will change.

When illness happens, job is lost, spouse is gone, loved one dies... what then?

In a boat, you put out **anchor**. Hold till the storm passes by. . .

**“Joe”** - cra-cra for staying on that boat. Tide. . . changes. Rely on anchor??

What do we have confidence in? What do we rely on to get thru hard times?

**Job?** 34% of small Businesses closed as of Covid.

Hurricanes leave many out of work; businesses had no power, if standing.

**Spouse?** 43% of first marriages end in divorce. 2d marriage-60%. 3d-73%

**Friends?** Most friendships last about 7 yrs. We lose ½, replace w/new ones

**Family?** Life cycles... that’s going to change as well.

To what is your confidence tied? What do you hold onto to get thru?

**Confidence** - feeling or belief that one can rely on someone or something; a firm trust. The state of feeling certain about the truth of something.

**Many** of us **will say** our confidence is in God? Maybe.

But do we panic @ med rpt? Worry @ weather forecast? Unrest w/politics

You can evaluate your confidence by what you do first – go to phone/throne.

**Psalms 56:3** – “When I am afraid, I will put my trust in You.”

Tonight – a reminder about where our confidence needs to be. Who to rely on.

Tonight – want to give your confidence a boost. Stronger.

**Matt. 7** - <sup>24</sup> “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. <sup>25</sup> The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. <sup>26</sup> But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. <sup>27</sup> The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

**Notice:** rain & wind came to all. The flood happened to the wise & unwise.

What makes the difference in who falls & stands? The **rock**.

- **Psalms 62:7** – “I rely on God who is my deliverance and my glory; he is my strong rock, and my refuge is in God.”
- **Jesus** wasn’t talking about **houses**, but life. Some people fall apart.

- **If we rely on God** we should not panic, fall apart, or give up.
- **The difference** is in what we know & believe. David knew the Lord.

**Psalm 112** - <sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD! How joyful are those who fear the LORD and delight in obeying his commands. <sup>2</sup> Their children will be successful everywhere; an entire generation of godly people will be blessed. . . <sup>6</sup> Such people will not be overcome by evil. Those who are righteous will be long remembered. <sup>7</sup> They do not fear bad news; they confidently trust the LORD to care for them. <sup>8</sup> They are confident and fearless and can face their foes triumphantly.

- **David** knew the stories, & saw first hand ... he **believed** in God.

Some folks have heard messages all life . . . **hearing & believing are different.**

- Stories: walls falling, sea parting, whale spitting, stones rolling, lame walking, deaf hearing, blind seeing, dead rising . . . **told to build faith.**

In **Matt. 13**, Jesus explained that for some, they **hear the Word**, w/ joy, but they have no roots; when trouble comes, **they fall away.**

- **Tonight**: I want to share 7 verses to **help give you roots.**
- Life will happen, change will come, problems persist . . . but if you have a strong foundation – deep roots – you will be standing. (not crumbling)

**1 - Psalm 27:13** – “I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.”

**2 - 1 John 5:14** – “And this is the confidence that we have before Him: If we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.”

- Asking in God’s will . . . not just any request. \$ million
- You don’t want to live outside God’s will. No peace, no joy.

**3 - Psalm 18:3** – “I called on the LORD, who is worthy of praise, and he saved me from my enemies.”

**4 - Jeremiah 30:17** - [Good News Translation](#) – “I will make you well again; I will heal your wounds, though your enemies say, 'Zion is an outcast; no one cares about her.' I, the LORD, have spoken.”

[Contemporary English Version](#) - No one wants you as a friend or cares what happens to you. But I will heal your injuries, and you will get well.

**5 - Psalm 57:7** – “My heart is confident in you, O God; my heart is confident. No wonder I can sing your praises!”

- David knew God delivers us from the challenges of life. All of them!
  - o We won't be problem free, but victory is guaranteed.

**6 - 2 Cor. 4:8-9** – “We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair. We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not destroyed.”

- You may be down at times, but you aren't done.

**7 - Psalm 113:7** – “He lifts the poor from the dust and the needy from the garbage dump.”

God changes our situations, and our mindsets. Poor/rich. Outcast/loved.

- We all need reminders... reassurance... the One to save us, change things, hold us in safety is God. He does it because He is God, and He loves you.

Announcements: Go Pink! Next week, Oct. 23

Halloweenie, Oct. 30    Time changes: Sun, Nov. 3