

IN TIMES LIKE THESE
(Matthew 6:25-34)

I. We cannot place trust in the flesh.

- A. Philippians 3:3-4.
- B. What does this mean?
 - 1. It means men will fail us from time to time.
 - 2. We see this in the news constantly.
 - 3. How many people trusted Bernie Madoff?
- C. When we place our complete confidence in men, we are going to be let down.
- D. This, of course, does not mean we have zero confidence in people.
 - 1. Trust is a foundation for marriage.
 - 2. We have to place trust in people at times.
- E. What this means is that it cannot be a blind trust, believing that we will never be let down by people.

II. We can trust in the Bible.

- A. Psalm 119:42.
- B. The Bible can be trusted because it is inspired by God (2 Timothy 3:16-17).
 - 1. The accuracy of the Bible historically proves this.
 - a. The walls of Jericho falling outward (Joshua 6:20).
 - b. Tyre is a place for the spreading of nets (Ezekiel 26:4-5).
 - 2. The scientific accuracy of the Bible proves this.
 - a. Life is in the blood (Leviticus 17:11).
 - b. The earth is round (Isaiah 40:22).
 - 3. The longevity of the Bible proves it.
- C. So many things prove that the Bible can be trusted.
- D. The things we read in it can be believed and taken to the bank because they have been shown to be true repeatedly.

III. We can trust in God.

- A. We can trust in God because the Bible, which has been proven to be trustworthy, says we can.
- B. David knew long ago it was better to trust in God than man (Psalm 118:8).
- C. Many people want to put their trust in the government and David knew this was faulty as well (Psalm 118:9).
- D. There are numerous reasons to trust in God.
 - 1. It is God who has everlasting strength (Isaiah 26:4).
 - 2. He saves those who trust in Him (Psalm 37:40).
 - 3. He won't forsake those that trust in Him (Psalm 9:10).
 - 4. God offers safety (Proverbs 29:25).
 - 5. God offers shelter and knows those who do trust in Him (Nahum 1:7).
- E. Long ago, Abraham said, "Shall not the judge of all the earth do right?" (Genesis 18:25).
 - 1. He was not questioning the justness or integrity of God.

2. He was stating the fact that he knew God was always going to do what is right.
- F. For this reason we can trust God: He is always going to do what is right.
- G. God has always taken care of His people.
1. When the Israelites needed water He provided it.
 2. When they needed food He provided it.
 3. When they needed a land in which to live He provided it.
 4. When they needed deliverance from an enemy He provided it.
 5. When they need correction He provided it.
- H. On an on we could go showing that God is trustworthy.
- I. The fact is, David was right when he said it is better to trust in God than men (Psalm 118:8-9).
- J. God is going to take care of His people, even in times like these.
1. Psalm 37:25.
 2. We are more precious to Him than the sparrows (Matthew 10:29-31).
 3. We can spend so much time fearing about the economy and our finances that we fail to obey God.
 4. Jesus made it plainly clear that God will provide (Matthew 6:25-34).
- K. We can have confidence in our prayers being heard (1 John 5:14).
- L. He calls for us to cast our cares on Him, which one can only do if they trust Him (1 Peter 5:7).
- M. We would do well to heed the words of Solomon (Proverbs 3:5).

IV. We can trust in the plan of salvation.

- A. God has been shown to be trustworthy, and His word has been shown to be trustworthy, therefore His plan for mankind can be trusted as well.
- B. The gospel is God's only means of man's salvation (Romans 1:16).
1. It is by the gospel that man learns about the need for the blood of Christ (Revelation 1:5).
 2. Without the gospel telling us about God's plan of redemption for mankind we could have no hope.
- C. The Hebrews writer described our belief in and obedience to the gospel as confidence (Hebrews 3:6).
1. When one becomes a Christian, he/she is confirming his/her confidence in the gospel message.
 2. As the Hebrews writer also tells us, that confidence brings great reward (Hebrews 10:35).
- D. We are told that obedience to God brings salvation (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9; Ephesians 2:8; 1 Timothy 4:16).
- E. When one obeys the gospel through belief in Jesus as God's son (John 8:24), repentance of sins (Acts 2:38), confession of the name of Jesus as Lord (Romans 10:9-10) and immersion in water for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38), that person can have complete trust that he will be saved.
- F. The reason for this confidence is the trustworthiness of God.