

What Anchor are You Using?

Psalm 11:1-7

³If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

Introduction: By way of introduction.

It has come to my attention and certainly most of all the believers in Christ that we are facing a very dark cloud in this season of the gospel message. By that I mean that there is and has been a significant retardation (depravity) of society and man in particular into an immoral and self righteous abyss of doing what they think is right and lawful unto all men.

We see this attitude being captured by other governments, and laws being changed and implemented to fall into line to comply with other international systems and laws in order that mans moral rights are not trampled upon.

It is a system that ignores any reference to the Bible or the Word of our Lord, or any warnings of the Biblical teachings or recommendations it delivers.

Instead the Word of God has been cast out as doubtful disputations, and not to be taken as true, and that every man has "a right" to his own account of himself.

1. We see Creation has been doubtfully disposed of and replaced with evolution almost entirely.
2. Christianity has been labelled as being conformist (tradition) and out of date for our time. And in fact if it to survive at all it needs to be changed and "modernized" to at least benefit the peoples "egos" and satisfy their fleshly desires of worship.
3. Evolution has also become the universal standard, and even absorbed by many churches in the matters of creation. Take for example the 6 literal days of creation.
4. So it is no wonder then that we will buffeted by the world because it does not agree with the things of God.

Psalm 11 helps us understand that, and helps us realize where our strength and relief should come from.

It paints a picture for us of Gods rule and provides stability in the midst of panic.

Because we can trust in our Lord, we can face our problems.

- So with that thought in mind we now enter the text this morning.

Psalm 11

¹In the LORD put I my trust: how say ye to my soul, Flee as a bird to your mountain?

²For, lo, the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart.

³If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

⁴The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD's throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.

⁵The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.

⁶Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.

⁷For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.

I. STANDING ON THE PROMISES

¹In the LORD put I my trust: how say ye to my soul, Flee as a bird to your mountain?

²For, lo, the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart.

A. The Psalmist puts it into perspective for us.

Verse1a - **“In the Lord put I my trust”**

1. In other words it does not matter what anyone else has to say, or does not say, or regardless of what is seen or not seen, the psalmist reminds us that it is on the LORD that we should and must put our trust.
 2. The sure sign of an unbeliever is that they do NOT do that.
 3. It is also a sure sign of a failing believer when he does not “recognise” that the LORD is able to deliver him from whatever situation he may be facing or going through.
 - It is not a question whether we may not think that God does not understand or a question as to whether we think that the LORD is not able.
 - It is a statement that it is “in the LORD” that we should turn and trust regardless of the situation we face.
 - That is how we can recognise a Christian folks, in that when he is faced with a situation that seems helpless and desperate, and in spite of that he will turn to the LORD for comfort and help in his time of need.
 - It shows a person’s spiritual maturity and that their walk with the LORD is true to him.
- ❖ So how about you?
 - ❖ Do you turn to the LORD and do you put your “complete” trust in Him when things are going good and also when things are going bad?

The testimony of Stephen is one of the greatest testimonies in the Bible of relying solely on the LORD under any circumstance.

- We are to not to be dependent on the outcome of that situation for our own good, but for the greater glory of our LORD.
- Look at that great example again of Stephen in **Acts 7:59-60** where he trusted in the Lord.

Acts 7:59-60 ⁵⁹And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. ⁶⁰And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

We see a man here, solely relying on God. Even though he was in imminent danger and his life was at stake, he knew that God would be glorified. He did not make ANY excuses for standing up for the LORD and reminding them of their sin.

1. For that they stoned him to death.
2. But where was his trust?
3. His trust was in the LORD.

B. The Psalmist begs the same question, in verse 1b.

Verse 1b. how say ye to my soul, Flee as a bird to your mountain?

1. How can a person who knows the LORD, flee from the LORD?
2. How and why must a person who knows his LORD, flee as a bird to his mountain.
3. Should we as birds do flee to our own security? Our own place of safety?

Matthew 11:28-29 are our LORDS Words of comfort.

²⁸Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

4. If we flee to the mountain, this would mean that we trust in ourselves and NOT the LORD.
5. So as a believer this is not an option.

Verse 2. ²For, lo, the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart.

- As a believer we are to be well aware, that secretly the unbeliever does not like the fact that there is a righteous God.
- He is ready with his “bow bent and the arrow upon the string, ready to shoot at the “upright in heart”.

1. That could be you folks? In your moment of weakness, as a hunter stalks his prey, they will prey upon you.
2. If you are a true believer, beware of the unrighteous who are there waiting to destroy your faith and your trust in the LORD.
3. Waiting to derail you when you place doubt upon the LORDS word and his promises to you.
4. When you fail to “Stand on the LORDS Promises” you show a sign of unbelief and the ungodly will jump at this opportunity to say I told you so....., that your God cannot provide.

II. STANDING ON THE FOUNDATIONS

1. The deceiver Satan is a great strategist.
2. He won't come right out and try to deceive you. He will rather try outwit you.
 - He Satan is not called by his many names for nothing.
 1. The father of lies, the wicked one, the angel of light etc....
 2. He will get you when you not looking.
 3. A little truth mixed with a lie is often overlooked.
 - One of the ways, is he will get you when your understanding is weak.

For instance.

1. If you don't think that creation is important and your understanding of the scriptures is weak in that, it will undermine everything else that you will learn about the LORD.
2. And what you will learn from that point on wont hold under any Satanic attacks as the arrows fly from his bow in your direction.
3. Your understanding won't be strong, it won't be stable, and in fact it will be filled with holes.
4. You will continually struggle to understand truth. You will continually doubt the LORDS capable hand in all manner of questions fired at you from the bow of the heathen, and you will succumb.
 - Peter calls this forever learning but never coming to the knowledge of the truth.
 - Why because they have no foundation.

Verse 3. ³**If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?**

Verse 4. ⁴**The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD's throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.**

A. Verse 3.If the foundation be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

This is a question and also an answer in one that the Psalmist is stating.

1. If you have no foundation you have nothing to build on. And anything you build will just collapse.
2. Secondly if you have no foundation the righteous cannot stand because what are they to base their righteousness on? Nothing?
 - a) That is why as we opened this discourse of scripture today, we cannot but expect what we see today. It cannot be any other way, because there "IS NO FOUNDATION LEFT TO BUILD ON".
 - b) Remember the song, my hope it build on nothing less than Jesus Christ and Righteousness?
 - c) Well guess what that does not exist if there is no foundation.
 - d) All there can be then is the world's standards and exceptions.
 1. Genesis is reduced to "NOTHING BUT RUBBLE".
 2. NOT SUITABLE FOR ANY FOUNDATION.

- **If you want to kill Christianity, just kill Genesis.**
- **Every doctrine is build upon it.**
- **That's why evolution is so dangerous it destroys believing in God.**

B. In case you have Forgotten where the LORD is?

⁴The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD's throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men.

1. We think that the Lords is slack.
2. But he is not. His hand it not short that he cannot reach?
3. He sees and reproveth.
4. He knows what the heathen is up to all the time, and nothing goes unnoticed by the LORD.

2 Peter 3:9

The Lord is **not slack** concerning his promise, as some men count **slackness**; but is longsuffering to us-ward, **not** willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

Isaiah 59:1

Behold, the LORD's **hand is not shortened**, that it cannot save; neither **his** ear heavy, that it cannot hear:

III. STANDING ON THE JUDGMENT

⁵The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.

- A. The LORD Tries the righteous. He is constantly refining the believer through His Word, just as silver is purified and refined seven times to make it usable. So the LORD tries the believer.

B. The righteous are put through a test of faith to see if they endure.

Isaiah 48:10

Behold, I have **refined** thee, but not with **silver**; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction.

Zechariah 13:9

And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as **silver** is **refined**, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.

C. But the wicked and those that love violence are the unbeliever who the LORD hates. They are full of unbelief and so in their wickedness and violence they will perish eternally.

⁶Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.

1. We have already seen this happen in scripture passed and future prophesy still to come.
2. We are reminded of the impending judgement that the LORD will bring upon the ungodly in his judgement on them.

Luke 17:29

But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and **brimstone** from heaven, and destroyed them all. (Genesis)

Ezekiel 38:22

And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and **brimstone**.

Revelation 20:10

And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and **brimstone**, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Revelation 21:8

But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and **brimstone**: which is the second death.

3. Just as the cup the LORD was talking about prior to His crucifixion that he would take, so to the portion of that cup of wrath against the unbeliever will be released by God for his wrath is against them.
4. They will be forced to drink of that Cup of Wrath to come. And to drink even the last dregs of his total wrath. (how awful for the unbeliever that will be).

Psalm 75:8

For in the hand of the LORD there is a **cup**, and the wine is red; it is full of

mixture; and he poureth out of the same: but the dregs thereof, all the wicked of the earth shall wring them out, and drink them.

Isaiah 51:17

Awake, awake, stand up, O Jerusalem, which hast drunk at the hand of the LORD the **cup** of his fury; thou hast drunken the dregs of the **cup** of trembling, and wrung them out. (also Jeremiah 25:15, 49:12)

1. But oh friend, that there is a way to stay the hand of the Almighty Righteous and Holy God.
2. A Saviour has come to set you free. Jesus Christ the Lord.
3. But if only you would believe. And drink of Him, the living water.
4. As the Psalmist would say in the Psalm 116:13.

Psalm 116:13

I will take the **cup** of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD.

IV. STANDING ON THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD

⁷**For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; his countenance doth behold the upright.**

- A. God can only be a God of righteousness. Therefore he can only associate with righteousness.
- B. He has a watchful eye over the upright.

Psalm 1:1-2 is a council to the believer.

C. Blessed is the Man.

1. Blessed because he does not walk in the council of the ungodly.
2. Neither is he found sitting in it.
3. But where is he found? - Meditating in God's word?

Psalm :1-2

¹Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. ²But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And why?

1. Because the Lord has prescribed it.
2. The LORD commands it.
3. The reason the LORD commands it is, how will you get to know what the LORD requires of you to be right with him if you have not read His will for you? Which is His word.
4. You cannot just fall into grace?
5. You have to know who the LORD is. Refining you with His Word daily.
6. Just as the potter moulds the clay, and removes those impurities to make it more beautiful.

- So to are we to be in the LORD. Forever studying to show ourselves approved unto God.

2 Timothy 2:15 King James Version

¹⁵ Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

PRAYER.....