



Berean Christian Fellowship

DEVOTIONAL 80.0

July 23
2015

Jesus Christ Is Our Foundation

“For You are my rock and my fortress; For Your name’s sake You will lead me and guide me.” (Psalm 31:3 NASB).

So often we think, “what is God doing for me?” but life isn’t about us, it’s about Him. Yet, in God’s love and mercy, He has said He does everything for our good (Romans 8:28). Do we think this way in our everyday trials?

David was elevated by God overnight from a shepherd boy to Saul’s right hand man. Neither David nor Saul did this, God did it, and He did it for His glory. While David had been promised the throne, he was now serving a government deteriorating beneath the weight of Saul’s lawless impulses. It was at this time that someone gave David advice to *“flee as a bird to your mountain; For, behold, the wicked bend the bow, They make ready their arrow upon the string To shoot in darkness at the upright in heart. If the foundations are destroyed, What can the righteous do?”* (Psalm 11:1b-3)

The rule of law meant little while Saul’s government was under the influence of evil spirits, and David walked in increasing danger as Saul began setting snares and traps for him. What was David to do? How could he hope to survive when the very government he served was plotting his ruin? The rule of law was stretched to shield evildoers, and those who obeyed God became targets for mistreatment. David’s counselors were in effect saying, “if you don’t stoop to their level, the ground will fall out from under you in a snare. There is no solid ground for the upright to stand on, so you cannot hope to accomplish anything—you must flee, or your life will be meaningless.”

But David understood that his life was about God’s glory, and he realized that in this trial, God was actually testing Saul—Saul was

on trial, and he was entrapping himself before God by setting worldly snares for David. Perhaps the words of Joseph came to him then: *“As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good”* (Genesis 50:20a).

David knew it lay in God’s hand *“to make great and to strengthen everyone”* (1 Chronicles 29:12b), so he could say, *“In God, whose word I praise, In God I have put my trust; I shall not be afraid. What can mere man do to me?”* (Psalm 56:4). David was looking past his life to Eternity to remind himself that God is in control, His patience tests the heart of man, and His throne is untouchable by man: *“The Lord is in His holy temple; the Lord’s throne is in heaven; His eyes behold, His eyelids test the sons of men. The Lord tests the righteous and the wicked...Upon the wicked He will rain snares...For the Lord is righteous, He loves righteousness; The upright will behold His face”* (Psalm 11:4-7). God is in control, and we are to continue obeying Him faithfully in all things, no matter how bad it looks for us, remembering to *“be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord”* (1 Corinthians 15:58). Every little thing you do in faithfulness to Jesus is not in vain because God’s foundations cannot be destroyed! Our works for the Lord will stand for all eternity.

The righteous are never powerless, because in all circumstances, they are taking up their crosses to follow Jesus (Matthew 16:24), *“who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart”* (Hebrews 12:2b-3). Therefore, just as David turned to God when things looked bad, let us now fix *“our eyes on Jesus”* (Hebrews 12:2a). Even so, Amen.