Sunday, September 6, 2020

What if the Foundations are Destroyed?

Psalm 11

David H. McKinley

• • •

"Most of Scripture speaks to us, while the Psalms speak for us." —Athanasius

[1]In the LORD I take refuge; how can you say to my soul, "Flee like a bird to your mountain, [2]for behold, the wicked bend the bow; they have fitted their arrow to the string to shoot in the dark at the upright in heart; [3]if the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?" [4]The LORD is in His holy temple; the LORD's throne is in heaven; His eyes see, His eyelids test the children of man. [5]The LORD tests the righteous, but His soul hates the wicked and the one who loves violence. [6]Let Him rain coals on the wicked; fire and sulfur and a scorching wind shall be the portion of their cup. [7]For the LORD is righteous; He loves righteous deeds; the upright shall behold His face.
—Psalm 11:1-7

1 Samuel 18:5, 7-9 Saul
2 Samuel 15-18 Absalom

1. A Challenge to _____

"What if the foundations are destroyed?"

"Those who oppose God's rule are fully intent on making anarchy a way of life… they would rid themselves of anyone who would do God's will on earth… They seek to destroy the very 'foundations'—a metaphor for order of society. This order has been established by the Lord at creation and is being maintained. God's justice and law are being replaced by human autonomy and resultant anarchy."
—NIV Bible Commentary

And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
—Matthew 16:18

"What will the righteous do?"

2. A Call to _____

[2]The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take **refuge**, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold… [8]Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes **refuge** in Him!… [1]God is our **refuge** and strength, a very present help in trouble… [1]Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for in You my soul takes **refuge**; in the shadow of Your wings I will take **refuge**, till the storms of destruction pass by.
—Psalm 18:2; 34:8; 46:1; 57:1

Notes:

The LORD is in His holy temple; the LORD's throne is in heaven; His eyes see, His eyelids test the children of man.
—Psalm 11:4

"Sinning times have ever been the saints praying times. Yes, this they may and should do, 'fast and pray.' There is yet a God in heaven to be sought to, when a people's deliverance is thrown beyond the help of human policy or power."
—William Gurnall

13 And no creature is hidden from His sight, but all are naked
and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give
account. 14 Since then we have a great High Priest who has
passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold
fast our confession. 15 For we do not have a High Priest who
is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who
in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.
16 Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace,
that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of
need. —Hebrews 4:13-16

What is fasting? It is choosing to go without food or some other regularly enjoyed practice or experience for the expressed purpose of seeking God in prayer and spiritual wisdom.

16 And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites,
for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by
others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.
17 But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face,
18 that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your
Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will
reward you. —Matthew 6:16-18

HOW TO PLAN AND PREPARE FOR A FAST

- **Start** _____
- **Plan** _____
- **Consider** _____
- **Link** _____
- **Choose** _____

"Fasting should really be made to include abstinence from anything which is legitimate in and of itself for the sake of some special spiritual purpose." —D. Martin Lloyd-Jones

- **Move** _____

24 Everyone then who hears these words of Mine and does them
will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 And
the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat
on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded
on the rock. 26 And everyone who hears these words of Mine
and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his
house on the sand. 27 And the rain fell, and the floods came,
and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell,
and great was the fall of it. —Matthew 7:24-27

For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. —1 Corinthians 3:11

Notes:

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from The ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

WARREN
A WAY OF LIFE

David H. McKinley, Pastor-Teacher

davidhmckinley.com