

God is Our Fortress (A Mighty Fortress is Our God)

Psalm 46

Introduction:

1. _____
2. _____
_____ (Matthew 24, Luke 21).
3. King Hezekiah faced an Assyrian invasion (2 Kings 18-19)
 - a. _____

 - b. _____

4. Psalm 46 - As we read this Psalm write down some thoughts that jump out:

I. We must not lose faith that God is present

A. "Where is God during this crisis?"

B. Psalm 46:1 - "God is our **shelter** and **strength**, always ready to help in times of trouble."

C. Psalm 94:17ff, What does the Psalmist ask, and do you think that the word "stupid" as used in the NSAB is too strong a word. Why/why not?

D. Psalm 46:2-3; Therefore, we shall not fear.

II. We must believe that God is on our side

A. Psalm 46:4-8 - God is with His people His city, His church!

B. Daniel 2:21 What does Daniel mean when he says this about God? Do you think tragedies, whether personal, national, world-wide, help us lean on God more. How about those who do not believe in God, does this harden their hearts more (like with Pharaoh) or does it soften it? Why?

C. This is a time when we can be still, can be quiet and give glory to God.

1. Exodus 14:13-14 - Why did the people cry out **TO** Moses and not to God? What was Moses' suggestion? Do you think we are like the Israelites who even after seeing God work great things in our lives we still doubt? Why? How?

2. When do you think the children of Israel glorified the Lord? Why not before? What does this say about humans and their relationship with God in times of uncertainty?

III. We must be convinced that God is worthy of our trust

A. In every circumstance, God is worthy of our trust. He has delivered us as a nation, as a world, and His people, in the past and He will do so again, if it be His will.

B. Thank God we are but pilgrims passing through this land of woe, Thank God we are children of faith. (How does this, if it does, give you hope?)

C. When we say that the Lord is my shepherd, I will not fear (Psalm 23)...we are saying that in any and everything we trust in God. - Do you believe this? How do you think this Psalm (23) encouraged David? What did David have to do in order to have this confidence? Do you think this Psalm describes Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane?

Conclusion:

1. The Psalmist says, "Stop striving and know that I am God!" (Psalm 46:10)
2. We "overwhelmingly conquer because God is ever present, by our side, and worthy of our trust.
3. Looking back to your initial thoughts about the Psalm write down any new or different thoughts you have. We sing songs like "Leaning on the everlasting arms," "My God, He is alive," "There's not a friend like the lowly Jesus," how do they help you get through life's struggles?

Suggested hymns:

A mighty fortress is our God (<https://youtu.be/JhU2PB7jdZ0>)

It is well with my soul (<https://youtu.be/eCeSccazL8I>)

There's not a friend (<https://youtu.be/IAQShixHR80>)

Leaning on the everlasting arms (<https://youtu.be/zC0ydQJ6FS8>)

Our God, He is alive (<https://youtu.be/OexbLCuRRMM>)

Sermon delivered at the Hueytown church of Christ on March 22, 2020 during the COVID-19 crisis.