

Providence Reformed Baptist Church – Sunday, Oct. 31, 2021

Sermon Series: Reformation Day 2021

Trust in the Lord – Psalm 118:8-9

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Introduction: In remembering Martin Luther and others with him who were used of God to fan the flames of the Reformation, we turn this morning to Luther's favorite Psalm, Psalm 118. He wrote of this chapter of Scripture, "This is my own beloved Psalm. Although the entire Psalter and all of Holy Scripture are dear to me as my only comfort and source of life, I fell in love with this psalm especially. Therefore I call it my own. When emperors and kings, the wise and the learned, and even the saints could not aid me, this psalm proved a friend and helped me out of many great troubles. As a result, it is dearer to me than all the wealth, honor, and power of the pope, the Turk, and the emperor. I would be most unwilling to trade this psalm for all of it."

This Psalm, written to be read and sung during the laying of the foundation for the Temple (Ezra 3:10-11), also contains within it the middle verses of the Bible, our text for this morning, verses 8 and 9.

- I. Praise to God for His Everlasting Mercy – vs. 1, 29
 - A. God is Good! – Matt. 19:17
 - B. His Mercy is Forever – CHS "Deeply guilty and graciously forgiven humanity sees mercy as the focus and center of the Lord's goodness."
- II. Trust and Confidence – vs. 8-9
 - A. Trust – seek refuge, flee to for protection
 - B. Confidence – trust, security, "feel safe"
- III. Men Will Fail – Psa. 20:7; Jer. 17:5, 7; Isa. 31:1, 3; Rom. 3:4, 10-18
- IV. Political Solutions, at Best, are Temporary – Neh. 9:34; Prov. 28:2; Isa. 1:23; 3:4; 40:23
- V. Trust in the Lord, Who is Our:
 - A. Sure Foundation – Psa. 26:1; 125:1; Prov. 29:25
 - B. Shield – Psa. 18:2, 35; 28:7
 - C. Stronghold (Refuge) – Psa. 91:1-2; 2 Sam. 22:31; Psa. 18:30; 62:8; Nahum 1:7
 - D. Soul's Anchor – Heb. 6:13-20; Psa. 34:22
 - E. Savior! – Isa. 43:11; Hos. 13:4; Luke 2:11; Acts 13:23; Eph. 1:13-14

Conclusion: CHS - Why is it better to trust God rather than men?

1. Because God deserves to be trusted.
2. Because God tells us to trust Him.

Cross References

Ezra 3:10-11

10 When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, the priests stood in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, to praise the Lord, according to the ordinance of David king of Israel. 11 And they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the Lord: "For He is good, for His mercy endures forever toward Israel." Then all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid.

Matthew 19:17

17 So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments."

Psalms 20:7

7 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the name of the Lord our God.

Jeremiah 17:5, 7

5 Thus says the Lord: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man And makes flesh his strength, Whose heart departs from the Lord.

7 "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, And whose hope is the Lord.

Isaiah 31:1, 3

31 Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help, And rely on horses, Who trust in chariots because they are many, And in horsemen because they are very strong, But who do not look to the Holy One of Israel, Nor seek the Lord!

3 Now the Egyptians are men, and not God; And their horses are flesh, and not spirit. When the Lord stretches out His hand, Both he who helps will fall, And he who is helped will fall down; They all will perish together.

Romans 3:4, 10-18

4 Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written: "That You may be justified in Your words, And may overcome when You are judged."

10 As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; 11 There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. 12 They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one." 13 "Their throat is an open tomb; With their tongues they have practiced deceit"; "The poison of asps is under their lips"; 14 "Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness." 15 "Their feet are swift to shed blood; 16 Destruction and misery are in their ways; 17 And the way of peace they have not known." 18 "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

Nehemiah 9:34

34 Neither our kings nor our princes, Our priests nor our fathers, Have kept Your law, Nor heeded Your commandments and Your testimonies, With which You testified against them.

Proverbs 28:2

2 Because of the transgression of a land, many are its princes; But by a man of understanding and knowledge right will be prolonged.

Isaiah 1:23

23 Your princes are rebellious, And companions of thieves; Everyone loves bribes, And follows after rewards. They do not defend the fatherless, Nor does the cause of the widow come before them.

Isaiah 3:4

4 "I will give children to be their princes, And babes shall rule over them.

Isaiah 40:23

23 He brings the princes to nothing; He makes the judges of the earth useless.

Psalms 26:1

26 Vindicate me, O Lord, For I have walked in my integrity. I have also trusted in the Lord; I shall not slip.

Psalms 125:1

125 Those who trust in the Lord Are like Mount Zion, Which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

Proverbs 29:25

25 The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe.

Psalms 18:2, 35

2 The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

35 You have also given me the shield of Your salvation; Your right hand has held me up, Your gentleness has made me great.

Psalms 28:7

7 The Lord is my strength and my shield; My heart trusted in Him, and I am helped; Therefore my heart greatly rejoices, And with my song I will praise Him.

Psalms 91:1-2

91 He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. 2 I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust."

2 Samuel 22:31

31 As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the Lord is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him.

Psalm 18:30

30 As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the Lord is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him.

Psalm 62:8

8 Trust in Him at all times, you people; Pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. Selah

Nahum 1:7

7 The Lord is good, A stronghold in the day of trouble; And He knows those who trust in Him.

Hebrews 6:13-20

13 For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, 14 saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you." 15 And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. 16 For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. 17 Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, 18 that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. 19 This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, 20 where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Psalm 34:22

22 The Lord redeems the soul of His servants, And none of those who trust in Him shall be condemned.

Isaiah 43:11

11 I, even I, am the Lord, And besides Me there is no savior.

Hosea 13:4

4 "Yet I am the Lord your God Ever since the land of Egypt, And you shall know no God but Me; For there is no savior besides Me.

Luke 2:11

11 For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Acts 13:23

23 From this man's seed, according to the promise, God raised up for Israel a Savior—Jesus—

Ephesians 1:13-14

13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.