

Evening Sermon Outline – November 14, 2021

“Be as Immovable as Mount Zion” Psalm 125

I. Immovable, like Mount Zion -

¹ Those who trust in the LORD Are like Mount Zion, *which* cannot be moved, *but* abides forever. ² As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds His people From this time forth and forever. Psalm 125:1-2 (NKJV)

1. A wonderful picture for the original pilgrims –
Imagine singing this song, while actually travelling up Mount Zion, seeing the mountains around it ...

- A. Some of you have been here, you know it is a real place
- B. Practically all the places mentioned in the Book of Mormon are fictional, but the places the Bible mentions are all real!
- C. Yet, the promise is good even for people who have not been to Mount Zion, who walk by faith and not sight –

⁷ For we walk by faith, not by sight. 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV)

2. Mount Zion gives us a picture of stability, and strength, a fortress against all enemies, but its REAL STRENGTH was and is the LORD – Psalm 20:7 (NKJV)

² As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds His people ... Psalm 125 A (NKJV)

- A. The mountains around Jerusalem were a formidable barrier to enemies -
- B. The LORD is an impossible barrier to our enemies –

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? Romans 8:31 (NKJV)

- Even if they kill us, we are still victorious –

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

³⁶ As it is written: “For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.” ³⁷ Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:35–39 (NKJV)

C. What is promised here is eternal salvation, what is theologically called “the perseverance of the saints” we persevere because God enables us to, we are surely SAVED, eternally SAVED, because Jesus Christ is our excellent SAVIOR –

²⁷ My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. ²⁸ And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father’s hand. ³⁰ I and My Father are one.” John 10:27–30 (NKJV)

3. For whom is this Mountain-Strength power promised?

1 Those who trust in the LORD ... PSALM 125:1 A

A. Those who trust in the LORD, meaning spiritual Israel, not physical Israel –

⁶ But it is not that the word of God has taken no effect. For they are not all Israel who are of Israel, ⁷ nor are they all children because they are the seed of Abraham; but, “In Isaac your seed shall be called.” ⁸ That is, those who are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God; but the children of the promise are counted as the seed. Romans 9:6–8 (NKJV)

B. Why were Israelites lost?

³² Why? Because they did not seek it by faith, but as it were, by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumbling stone. ³³ As it is written: “Behold, I lay in Zion a stumbling stone and rock of offense, And whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.” Romans 9:32–33 (NKJV)

C. Those who Trust in the LORD have this promise of security, and all the promises of God –

¹ Those who trust in the LORD Are like Mount Zion, *which* cannot be moved, *but* abides forever. Psalm 125:1 (NKJV)

¹⁹ For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us—by me, Silvanus, and Timothy—was not Yes and No, but in Him was Yes. ²⁰ For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us. 2 Corinthians 1:19–20 (NKJV)

D. True faith in the LORD / in God / in Christ, is only faith in the LORD, in God, in Christ, nothing else is needed ...

²² “Look to Me, and be saved, All you ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. Isaiah 45:22 (NKJV)

How should we interpret this verse? Just as it is ... ²² **“Look to Me, and be saved...**

It is NOT, look to God, and say, “he cannot save me unless I use my free will” or “he cannot save me unless I exercise my faith ...”

True faith looks only to God for salvation, not to “free will” or even to “faith” it is faith in God that saves, not faith in faith! Once we look up to God or Christ, we don’t need IN, to ourselves ...

Hebrews 12:2 (NKJV) ² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Some people believe Jesus is Author but free will is finisher ... some people believe Jesus CANNOT save without OUR FAITH as if faith was something we conjure up out of sinful flesh! Saving Faith is not a product of the flesh, but the gift of God -

⁸ **For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast. Ephesians 2:8-9**

They say, Satan can tie Jesus up, hold Christ helpless, unless we use our faith to Help Him! This is a great distortion of Scripture! This is a great distortion of the idea of “faith” ...

II. *The rule of Satan, the ungodly, even men who have greater earthly power than us cannot ultimately touch us –*

³ **For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous, Lest the righteous reach out their hands to iniquity. Psalm 125:3 (NKJV)**

1. *They can kill the body but not the soul –*

⁴ **“And I say to you, My friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. ⁵ But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him! Luke 12:4–5 (NKJV)**

2. *You are blessed if you die in the Lord –*

¹³ Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.’” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.” Revelation 14:13 (NKJV)

III. *God’s people will do good, those who are not won’t – God will reward or punish accordingly -*

⁴ **Do good, O LORD, to those who are good, And to those who are upright in their hearts. ⁵ As for such as turn aside to their crooked ways, The LORD shall lead them away With the workers of iniquity. Peace be upon Israel! Psalm 125:4-5 (NKJV)**

1. *Though salvation is not “of works” Ephesians 2:8-9, it does work, Ephesians 2:10, and these “good works” do distinguish us from the wicked, the unsaved –*

¹⁰ **For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:10 (NKJV)**

A. *The words His workmanship in Ephesians 2:10 can be interpreted as God’s work of art, or even God’s masterpiece, why? Because God has enabled, even prepared beforehand the “good works” we do –*

B. *He not only does these but rewards –*

⁴ **Do good, O LORD, to those who are good, And to those who are upright in their hearts. Psalm 125:4 (NKJV)**

¹⁰ **For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, *in that* you have ministered to the saints, and do minister. Hebrews 6:10 (NKJV)**

2. *God not only rewards “good” He also punishes evil, and lack of faith – Psalm 125:5 see above ↑*

⁹ Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, ¹⁰ he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. ¹¹ And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name.” Revelation 14:9–11 (NKJV)

¹² Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. ¹³ Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.’” “Yes,” says the Spirit, “that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.” Revelation 14:12-13

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