

A Mighty Fortress is Our God Psalm 46

4 Lessons from the Psalmist

- 1. God is Our Refuge and Strength No Other
- 2. No Fear
- 3. God is Sovereign Over All Creation and Kingdoms
- 4. Be Still Give God Control

God is Our Refuge and Strength – No Other

• Psalm 46:1 - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

PROBLEM WITH THE GOVERNMENT

• Daniel 3:13-15 - ¹³ Then Nebuchadnezzar in furious rage commanded that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought. So they brought these men before the king. ¹⁴ Nebuchadnezzar answered and said to them, "Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the golden image that I have set up? 15 Now if you are ready when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, bagpipe, and every kind of music, to fall down and worship the image that I have made, well and good But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be cast into a burning fiery furnace. And who is the god who will deliver you out of my hands?"

PROBLEM WITH PEOPLE

• Psalm 146:3-4:

- ³ Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.
- ⁴ When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.

THE PROBLEM WITH MONEY AND RESOURCES

• Proverbs 11:28 - Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.

No Fear

• Psalm 146:2-3:

- ²Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
- ³ though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.



The Lord is Faithful

• Isaiah 41:10 - Fear not, for I am with you Be not dismayed, for I am your God I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.' (NKJV)

Freedom From Fear – Submission to the Lord

• Galatians 1:10 - ¹⁰ For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Freedom – Re-Examine Priorities in Life

- This freedom from fear allows us to re-examine our priorities in life and what is most important?
- Are my priorities God First, Family Second, Work Third?

FREEDOM FROM FEAR – BOLDLY PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL AND BE THE CHRISTIAN EXAMPLE

2 Greatest Commandments

• Matthew 22:36-40 - ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰ On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

Boldly Proclaim the Gospel

• Embrace your commission given to you by Jesus and boldly proclaim the Gospel giving hope in this time of crisis.

• 2 Timothy 1:7 - ⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. (NKJV)

God's Sovereignty Over Nature and Kingdoms

• Psalm 46:8-9:

- ⁸ Come, behold the works of the Lord, how he has brought desolations on the earth.
- ⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.

God is Over All Creation

• Revelation 4:11 - "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and ere created."

• Colossians 1:16 - For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

Be Still – Give God Control

• Psalm 46:10-11:

10 "Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!"
11 The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Trust in the Lord

• **Proverbs 3:5-6** - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

• Proverbs 16:9 - The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

CASTING CROWNS – JUST BE HELD

Hold it all together
Everybody needs you strong
But life hits you out of nowhere
And barely leaves you holding on

And when you're tired of fighting Chained by your control There's freedom in surrender Lay it down and let it go

So when you're on your knees and answers seem so far away You're not alone, stop holding on and just be held Your world's not falling apart, it's falling into place I'm on the throne, stop holding on and just be held Just be held