

## Pastoral Encouragement



We all have moments when our strength is challenged by some unforeseen event in our lives. We have all been there. It's strange how quickly we forget our standing before God. We lose sight of our place on the solid rock of all the promises of our Heavenly Father. Promises given to the Son and inherited by all of us who place our trust in Jesus.

Oh, how precious are the promises we find in the Bible, but how quickly the clouds of despair and anxiousness can conceal the promises. In those moments, when Satan blurred the majestic vision of our great God, we must muster all of our strength and humble ourselves. We must lay down our human wisdom and lift our eyes toward heaven.

In that moment, we raise our voices to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. We praise Him, knowing that He is a good God and that He loves His Children. We cling to His promise that He will preserve His children and will never forsake those who love Him.

Dear Bereans, in the midst of the storm never look away from the light of His gospel. Remind yourself of the great cost of your redemption and salvation. Our Father has promised us that He will not lose one who has been given to the Son, and that we have become one with the Father through the Son. What can separate us from this kind of love? Nothing! Our salvation is eternal. Amen?

Jesus is with us through difficult times, heartache, and despair! Our faith is tested through suffering and can be strengthened by relying on God and trusting in Him. In moments of tribulation and uncertainty, turn to God in prayer, "casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you." (1 Peter 5:7).

Brothers and Sisters, look to the Word of God for encouragement and comfort, knowing that the Triune God is always with you!

Below are some verses to encourage you right now.

Pastor Terry B.

**Isaiah 40:31**

***"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."***

**Psalm 23:4**

***"Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."***

**Philippians 4:13**

***"I can do all this through him who gives me strength."***

**1 Peter 5:7**

***"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you."***

**James 1:12**

***"Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him."***

**Philippians 4:6-9**

***"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."***

**Romans 8:18**

***"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us."***