

“We Will Not Fear”
September 4, 2016

Psalm 46:1-2 (NIV)

CORE- We can face problems **FEARLESSLY & HOPEFULLY.**

- There will always be “tribulation” this side of Heaven—“*turbulent opposition to God’s purposes.*”
- Yet we can have “peace” and “be of good cheer” (John 16:33).
- Fearfulness/hopelessness about a problem—makes every problem **MORE** of a problem.
- When hope decreases and fear increases—a **LIE** is lurking somewhere.

3 MAJOR LIES LURKING BEHIND FEAR & HOPELESSNESS:

1. **“You are ABANDONED” [Truth: “I will NEVER leave you!”]**

John 14:18- “I will not leave you as orphans.”

(Lit.- *those lacking identity, belonging, nurture, or legal authority*)

FEAR is a SPIRITUAL ASSAULT (2 Timothy 1:7)

- Not every emotion you feel is your own.
 - Much of what you are feeling originates *around you—not in you.*
 - These negative feelings are easier to overcome than we may think.
 - We can “take every thought captive to (Jesus)” (2 Corinthians 10:5ff)
- Not everything shared by the media is true (*biases & agendas*).
- Receive increasing discernment as you soak your thought life in truth (Hebrews 5:14).

2. **“You have NO FUTURE” [Truth: “I have given you a future & a hope!”]**

Jeremiah 29:11- A promise given at one of Israel’s bleakest moments—returning to a ruined nation from exile—wasted years, now living in a wasteland.

One of the greatest declarations we can make: WE WILL THRIVE—NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS.

- The future of our nation is **NOT** dependent on one particular person being elected to the presidency!
 - **VOTE**—prayerfully & responsibly

- Look beyond a person’s personality to the principles & the leaders they will appoint (who will out-serve their 4 to 8 years in office—i.e., Supreme Court judges, etc.)
- Declare **PSALM 24:5-6** over our generation (and future generations): **“You will receive BOTH blessing AND vindication from the Lord! You will be a generation who will BOTH seek Him AND find Him!”**
- 3. **“You are POWERLESS” [Truth: “You will be strong & take action”]** Daniel 11:32
- Your PRAYERS are POWERFUL
 - NOTE: James 5:16—you *don’t have to be PERFECT to be POWERFUL!!!* (*Vulnerability* → “*fervent affectivity*”)
 - Prayer WITH THANKSGIVING moves us from fearful begging → bold faith—confident in the One who HAS moved in the past to CONTINUE TO DO SO in the future (Philippians 4:6-7)!
- Your WORDS are POWERFUL—directly impacting your PRAYER LIFE.
 - 1 Peter 4:7 ISV- “*Be sensible & clear-headed so that you can pray.*”
 - Luke 18:1 NLT- “*Always pray and never give up.*” (“*lose heart*” NIV)
- The “gates” (authorities) “of hell will not prevail” (Matthew 16:18)
- One person CAN make a difference!
 - NOTE: Gideon rose out of intimidation, lack of identity, and debilitating fear to transform a nation—rescuing it from its spiritual enemies!
 - The same could be said for people throughout the Bible (as well as all of history).

CONCLUSION

Our ultimate battle is not with people (“flesh and blood”)—but with demonic forces (“principalities & powers”).

We live from the place of POWERFUL PERSPECTIVE, PROTECTION, & PROVISION!

Psalm 46 (TPT)