

People OF Praise
BLESSINGS FROM THE PSALTER
PSALMS SERIES

Trust and Hope in the Lord

Psalm 31

January 11, 2015

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Being abandoned by people we trusted is one of most peoples' greatest fears.
- B. Of all the fears of abandonment, none is greater than the fear of being abandoned by God.
 - 1. Some feel they already have been.
 - 2. Some think God has given up on them.
- C. King David felt that way at times, but he learned to trust God and not his feelings which is what he wrote about in Psalm 31.

No matter what our circumstances, we can always put our trust and hope in the Lord.

II. WHY CAN WE DO THIS?

A. We trust and hope in the Lord because He is the God Who is always there, even when it doesn't seem like it. (Psalm 31:19-22)

- 1. We walk by faith, not by sight. (2 Cor 5:7)
 - a. David was alarmed, and in his distress made a hasty decision to accuse God of abandoning him.

(Psalm 31:14-17a; 19-22)

- b. But he learned God had always been. (Ps. 31:19-20)
- 2. Sometimes the omnipresence of God is our greatest comfort; at other times, our greatest concern.
 - a. Many people want God there when they need Him.
 - b. Many people don't want God there when they are choosing to live in rebellion and sin.
- 3. But God is always there.
(Ps 46:1-3; 47; Ps 31:21-22; Ps 73:21-28; Ps 91:1-4; Deut 31:8)

B. We trust and hope in the Lord because He is the God Who is always working for our Good even when we can't see it.
(Ps 31:23-24)

- 1. The Lord preserves the faithful. (Ps 31:23)
 - a. Preserves – “Guards, watches over, protects”
 - b. Even in trials, He is working and preserving.
- 2. He works all things for good to those who love Him and are called according to his purpose, which is to conform us to the likeness of Christ. (Rom 8:28-32; Ps 31:19, 23-24)
- 3. He works in trials to make us stronger. (James 1:2-4)
- 4. He uses trials to confirm that Christ lives in us and we in Him. (1 Peter 4:12-14,19; Phil 2:12-13; Ps 31:23-24)

III. CONCLUSION

Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD.
(Psalm 31:24, NIV)

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (Ephesians 3:20-21, NIV)