

Faith that Saves, Endures, and Finishes Well

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Eric Northrup / September 13, 2020

[Read Psalm 69:1-3]

I. A Faith that Saves, Cries out to God

Psalm 69 is one of 42 lament psalms found in the Bible. This Psalm is penned by David, whose suffering made him an object of ridicule and scorn from his enemies.

Application Question:

What is the mire in your life? Name the floods that are sweeping over you.

F.A.I.T.H. – Forsaking All | Trust Him

[Read Psalm 69:13-16]

II. A Faith that Saves, Trusts in God's perfect timing

God's timing is ALWAYS perfect!

There is a reason for everything He does even when we don't fully understand it.

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Rather than trying to figure out whether you "deserve" the storm based on your performance, it would be better to ascertain what God wants to teach you...Here are a few sure things to know about God.

1. He is Good
2. He loves you immeasurably
3. His storms are for His glory
4. His storms are for your good

When God Hurls a Storm at You – Rick Thomas (ACBC Certified)

[Read Matthew 14:22-33] – Peter Walking on Water

Notice God's timing...Jesus sits on a mountain to pray and fellowship with God as His followers are strenuously rowing against the waves. Then, Jesus immediately takes Peter's hand and brings him to safety.

For unbelievers: Now is the day of salvation, don't wait any longer!

2 Corinthians 6:2 "For He says, 'In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you.' Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation."

For Christians: Is your first response to cry out to God? Are you willing to wait on His timing?

Exodus 34:14 “For you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.”

Hebrews 12:26-29 “At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

III. A Faith that Endures, Keeps their eye on the Prize

Matthew 14:30-31 “But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, ‘Lord, save me.’ Jesus immediately reached out His hand and took hold of him, saying to him, ‘**O you of little faith, why did you doubt?**’”

Hebrews 11:1 “Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”

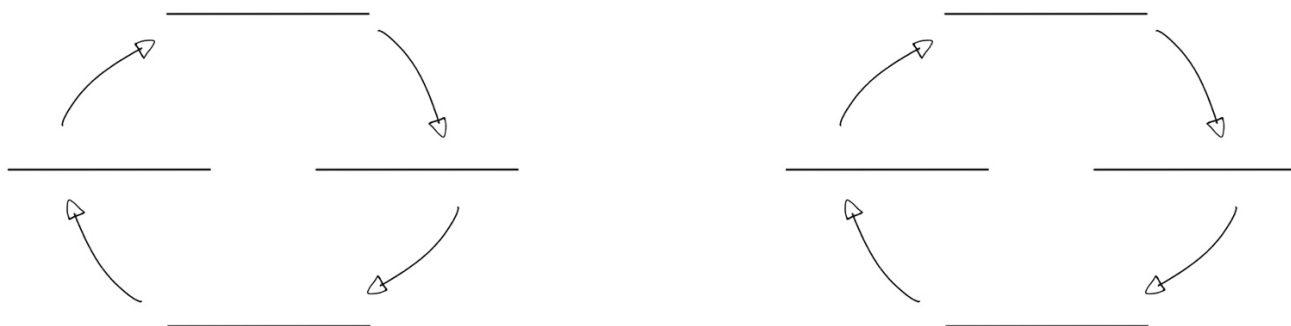
The word “assurance” is a translation of a single Greek noun – *hypostaseōs*, which literally means “that which stands under” or “foundation” and hence “substance.”
Hebrews: An Anchor for the Soul, R. Kent Hughes, pg. 289

Hughes goes on to say that “**Faith is a solid sureness, a substantial certitude of what we hope for.**”

Hebrews 11 comes after a repeated series of warnings, admonitions, and exhortations to the audience (see **Heb. 10:32-39**). The author has been reminding his congregation not to take the sin lightly and to remember the confidence they had as they experienced hardship and persecution when they first believed.

Pattern: Enlightened/Faith in Jesus – Sufferings – Endurance

Diagram:



IV. A Faith that Finishes Well

[Read Hebrews 11] – Hall of Faith

Hebrews 12:1-2 “Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”