

IS YOUR CONFIDENCE IN JEHOVAH?

Note to the speaker:

Help the audience to appreciate the wisdom of relying on Jehovah completely, and show them what it means to display full confidence in him

THE NATIONS HAVE MISPLACED THEIR CONFIDENCE (4 min.)

Nations rely on their own wisdom and strength to govern their actions

Political leaders gather together against Jehovah and his anointed King (Ps 2:1-3)

Religious leaders put their faith in politics rather than in God's Kingdom [**Read Isaiah 28:14, 15**]

Political alliances provide a hollow refuge (*ip-1* 292-294)

Result is worldwide lawlessness and lack of peace (Isa 57:20, 21)

WHERE IS YOUR CONFIDENCE? (8 min.)

In strong contrast to this divisive world, God's servants demonstrate the following traits:

Are united as true worshippers in this politically, socially, and religiously divided world (Ps 133:1)

Are zealous in preaching the good news of God's Kingdom—a message of peace and salvation (Mt 24:14)

Are joyful, reflecting God's personality (1Ti 1:11)

Are careful to base their conduct and their decisions on Bible principles (Pr 3:5, 6)

Are impartial in doing "what is good toward all" (Ga 6:10)

The distinction "between one serving God and one not serving him" is obvious (Mal 3:18)

What has caused this distinction? [**Read Psalm 46:1-3**]

God's people confidently rely on Jehovah

They know that Jehovah is near to them and more powerful than any enemy

For them, God is "a help that is readily found in times of distress"

Even if the mountains disappear into the sea in a natural upheaval, God's people have unshakable confidence in Jehovah as their Refuge

Is this how you feel?

Have you really placed your confidence in Jehovah?

SOURCE OF YOUR CONFIDENCE (13 min.)

How can we increase our confidence in Jehovah? [**Read Proverbs 22:19**]

Good effect of knowledge that God gives is shown at Proverbs 1:33 [**Read**]

Those who take their stand for Jehovah need not be disturbed by dread of calamity

They know that nothing can destroy the security that comes from listening to Jehovah

Nehemiah set a fine example of reliance on Jehovah in connection with the rebuilding of Jerusalem's walls

[**Read Nehemiah 4:14 and enlarge on it**] (*w98* 10/15 17)

Do you "remember Jehovah"?

It is necessary that we do so day by day

We must also serve Jehovah "whole-souled" (Col 3:23; *w97* 10/15 13-17)

This means giving of ourselves, using all our energies to the fullest extent possible in service to Jehovah

We learn Jehovah's view from two contrasting examples

Lazarus' sister Mary "did what she could" by washing Jesus' feet with "very expensive" perfumed oil (Mr 14:3-9; Joh 12:3)

A poor widow gave "everything she had" by dropping "two small coins of very little value" into the temple treasury chest (Mr 12:41-44)

Jesus did not compare Mary with the widow

He valued the widow's two coins no less than he did Mary's "very expensive" oil

Since each woman gave her best, in God's eyes the gifts were both of value

Jehovah deserves our best

We must always observe his commandments (Ps 119:93)

MAINTAINING CONFIDENCE TO THE END (5 min.)

Jehovah is still patient toward the nations

Evident because zealous Kingdom proclaimers continue to urge rulers and subjects to submit to Christ's rulership (Ps 2:10-12a)

Millions of Witnesses of Jehovah are zealously declaring the message of God's Kingdom in 239 lands

We do this joyfully before God's Son smashes the nations "like a piece of pottery" [**Read Psalm 2:9**]

As you prove to be zealous for fine works, maintain your confidence in Jehovah and experience the fulfillment of Psalm 46:7-11 [**Read**]

[Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section. Not all cited texts need to be read or commented on. See *Ministry School*, pp. 52-55, 166-169]