

“Pour Out Your Heart”

Johnny Ramsey (deceased)

One of the fullest verses in the Old Testament is that found in Psalm 62:8. Notice the wonderful points therein: *“Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us.”*

We need these principles in our lives today. Our trust in the Creator will cause us to pour out our hearts to Him. Emerson once said, “All that I have seen causes me to trust in God for all that I have not seen.” This is virtually the thesis of Hebrews 11, where God lists some great people who “*by faith*” served Him. The word “*trust*” means, “To have confidence in.” Notice carefully these random thoughts from the Holy Scriptures. *“Our help is in the name of the Lord ... Casting all your care upon him ... God is our refuge and strength ... So that we may boldly say, the Lord is my helper, I will not fear what man shall do to me ... I will fear no evil for thou art with me ... If God be for us, who can be against us ... For his merciful kindness is great toward us and the truth of the Lord endureth forever. Praise the Lord.”*

Yes, trust in Him at all times. One of the saddest scenes on earth to me is to see a wife and children bereft of their beloved husband and father. Or for a virtuous woman to be taken suddenly from the midst of the home by means of death. Or for a small, precious child to pass from this life, thus removing the sunshine from many hearts. I have stood by the casket as loved ones passed by for the final earthly view of their departed ones. I have heard the deepest expressions of trust in the Lord on these occasions. I have been greatly stirred to see the spiritual stability of mature Christians during such moments of sorrow. The reality of Christianity is never more beautiful than in the hour of tribulation when one proclaims, *“O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!”*

One real tragedy is the strange situation of those who mightily depend on God in the hour of trial, then forsake Him in the day of success, health and strength. Is our Father incapable of receiving our confidence when we have ascended from the valley of tears to the mountain-peak of happiness? Or is this human defection of forgetting the source of our blessings just another tool of the devil? There are many who can endure trials, pain and sorrow — but they just cannot handle success. The deceiver of the whole world (Revelation 12:9) knows that. Let us trust in God at all times.

Closely aligned with our trust in God are the words, *“Pour out your heart before him.”* The emphasis of the Hebrew language in Psalm 62:8 simply means to commit yourself wholly to God! The phrase under discussion includes prayer and spontaneous praise flowing from the created to the Creator. The natural response of the spiritual life whether in sadness or joy, is to let the Father in Heaven know (James 5:13-18). He knows, He cares, He blesses. Isn't it thrilling to hear someone just talk with God when his heart is on fire with love for eternal verities? Too much of the time our prayers are simply stilted, formalistic preachments. We just repeat the same old phrases, almost without thinking. We desperately need more fervent communion with our Maker in prayer. In sorrow and sickness, in pain and bereavement, in success, happiness and victory — He is our refuge, our solace, our balm, our strength! *“Pour out your heart to God.”* - Gospel Minutes

It is better to live for Christ than to wish you had.

News & Notes

NEW CONVERT CLASS: Each Sunday a.m. Bible Class in Room 406.

SYMPATHY: To **Latisha Brown** at the unexpected passing of her aunt, Grace Stallworth. Offer prayers of comfort for the family.

HELP NEEDED TO MOVE: **Daniel & Cindy Mehlmauer** will be moving tomorrow to Beaver Falls, PA. See Daniel for details if you are available to help.

NEW ADDRESS: **David & Lorretta McCoy**, 121 High Acres Drive, Chester, WV 26034. Home phone:(304) 387-0705; Lorretta's cell: (813) 418-2244.

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Each Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. All ladies invited.

GOSPEL MEETINGS & SING:

McKinleyville Aug. 26-30 (Mon. – Thur., 7:00 p.m.) Different Speakers

McKinleyville Sept. 7 (7:00 – 8:30 p.m.) Friday Night Sing

CHESTER Sept. 23-27 (Mon. – Thur., 7:00 p.m.) Tim Hatfield

MEN'S BREAKFAST: Next Saturday, Sept. 1st, 8:00 a.m. at EJ's unless otherwise announced.

NURSING HOME DEVOTIONAL: Next Saturday, Sept. 1st, 2:30 p.m. at Fox.

FELLOWSHIP DINNER & EARLY SERVICE: Next Sunday, Sept. 2nd at about noon at the Fellowship Building followed by our early afternoon worship service at 2:00 p.m. at the church building. This schedule also for Sunday, Sept. 23rd.

MEMBER VISITS: Elders and Minister visits with members can be scheduled in your home or to meet here at the building by signing the sheet on the desk, or arrange an appointment by talking to Rico.

PANTRY: Vegetable beef and tomato soups.

SICK & SHUT-IN: *Weirton Medical Center:* Ernie Robinson. *At Home:* Jenny Rhodes, Charlie Delong, Bill & Carol Stillwell, Russell Martin, Blondenia Orr, Doris Dunham, Alex Harless. **FOX NURSING HOME:** Mary Jane Bowers (Room 19).

CROSSROADS: Sarah Miller. **AUBURN NURSING HOME, SALEM, OH:** Jim Mick. **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Ray. **IN CALIFORNIA:** Cindy Moore (Pat Allison's cousin).

God's Picture of the Church

The Bible vividly portrays the nature of the church in the various descriptive terms which are applied:

1. As a *pearl*, the church is costly. It is to be bought even at the expense of selling all that one has.
2. As a *kingdom*, it is obedient. We are to obey every wish of our King, the Lord.
3. As a *house*, it is orderly. Every stone is fitly joined together and everything is decent and in order.
4. As a *sheep*, it is dependent. It must be fed the pure milk and meat of the Word. It must look to the great Shepherd.
5. As a *bride*, it is vitally joined to Him. It wears His name and is subject to Him in all things.
6. As a *family*, it bears His image. It resembles the Father and Elder Brother.
7. As a *body*, it is united. All members are needed and work together in harmony.
8. As a *candlestick*, it is exalted. It is the light of the world, reflecting Christ so that all can see Him.

- Beacon, Bellview Church of Christ, Pensacola, FL