

GLAD TIDINGS

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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“I shall not be moved”

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During the volatile 1960's, minorities of this country arose to publicly express their grievances against inequality. In demonstrations one could hear people sing, “I shall not be moved”. This theme song expressed their conviction in their cause and their determination to achieve their goals.

Such words have expressed thoughts of security for many through the ages. The problem is that the reasoning behind such thought has often been faulty, causing great disappointment in the end.

“He saith in his heart, ‘I shall not be moved; to all generations I shall not be in adversity’” (Psalms 10:6). The wicked man has thought these words. In his pride he thinks he will never answer to a higher Being for his covetousness and evil conduct. “He will not require...” (Psalms 10:4). “...God hath forgotten, He hideth his face, He will never see it” (Psalms 10:11). In effect he eliminates God from his thinking. “All his thoughts are, there is no God” (Psalms 10:4).

Many today live thinking they will never have to answer to

God for their deeds. God does not exist in their thinking, so they “do their own thing”. Some feel secure in the thought, “Surely, God will not punish His creation”. While God is a God of love, He is also a jealous God, recompensing evil (Deuteronomy 5: 9, Romans 12:19). Time will not darken His memory, nor will human pride eliminate God's wrath in Judgment (Romans 2:5-11; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9; 2 Corinthians 5:10).

Men of faith sometime feel unmovable in unguarded moments. David wrote, “As for me, I said in my prosperity, ‘I shall never be moved’” (Psalms 30:6). Some scholars believe David was referring to the time when Satan moved him to number the fighting men of Israel (I Chronicles 21:1-28; 2 Samuel 24:1-25). He felt secure in numbers instead of the one living God, and lost seventy thousand men to God's wrath.

Feeling secure because of material possessions is one of the greatest dangers men of faith today. Chasing riches causes unsuspecting saints to fall away from the faith (I Timothy 6:10). Material possessions may outlast us, but they cannot give us life nor prevent death. When we depart in

death we must leave all behind (I Timothy 6:7). “Their inward thought is, that their houses shall continue forever, and their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names. But man being in honor abideth not; He is like the beasts that perish” (Psalms 49:11-12).

The wise man is one who says, “I have set Jehovah always before me: Because He is at my right hand, I shall not be moved” (Psalms 16:8). He loves God's instructions and places them always “before” him instead of casting God's words “behind” him (Psalms 50:17). With God by his side, he can withstand the roars and trickery of the evil one (I Peter 5:9; Ephesians 6:10-11). Because of the assurance of Christ's death and resurrection, he has a steadfast hope for eternal glory (Hebrews 6:19; I Peter 1:3). Therefore, economic depression or personal tragedy do not shake him.

We are as strong as the object we lean on. . We must learn to not have our “hope set on the uncertainty of riches but on God...” (I Timothy 6:17). Then, without distraction we can say, “I shall not be moved”.