

# DO NOT GIVE UP



Luke 15:8-10

- The Parable of the Lost Coin

8"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? 9 And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' 10 In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." (Greek ten drachmas, each worth about a day's wages)

LAST WEEK, we discovered that we are of high value in Christ. Here we read that HEAVEN REJOICES over your salvation.. why then is life not perfect? There are obviously many facets to this question- but suffice to say... things happen.

Ecclesiastes 9.11

**11 I returned and saw under the sun that— The race *is* not to the swift, Nor the battle to the strong, Nor bread to the wise, Nor riches to men of understanding, Nor favor to men of skill; But time and chance happen to them all.**

We are to trust God rather than blame him.

Matthew 6:25-34

**25**"Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? **26** Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? **27** Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? **28** "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; **29** and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. **30** Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, *will He* not much more *clothe* you, O you of little faith? **31** "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'**32** For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.**33** But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. **34** Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day *is* its own trouble.

don't worry so much- there will be hard times and worrying doesnt change that!

**Refer to ACTS 27.**

Because of his preaching of the gospel paul is made a prisoner. the plan is to transport him to italy. on their way the ship is shipwrecked. Paul manages to escape with his life and begins ministering to those in Malta. three months later he travels to rome and continues to minister. IN LIFE WE ARE NEVER FAR AWAY FROM A STORM. Paul was going from prison to shipwreck and yet remained faithful to his call and salvation.

THE PROMISE AND CALL OF GOD IS NOT BASED ON YOUR CIRCUMSTANCE. DONT GIVE UP!

Ephesians 6: 10-13

**10** Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.**11** Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.**12** For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against

**the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.**

you STAND to continue STANDING - you PADDLE to continue PADDLING. the only sensible option is to start enjoying the paddle! Enjoy your life with God- appreciate the good times, and endure the hard knowing that the JOY OF THE LORD IS YOUR STRENGTH! DONT GIVE UP no matter how hard the waves crash- no matter how bad the storm is- keep standing! some promises to encourage us -DONT GIVE UP!

**Proverbs 3:5**

**Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. 6 Seek his will in all you do, and he will direct your paths.**

**Proverbs 23:18**

**"There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off."**

**Ecclesiastes 9:4**

**"Anyone who is among the living has hope —even a live dog is better off than a dead lion!"**

**Romans 4:18**

**"Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations."**

**Romans 5:3-5**

**"Not only so, but we[a] also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.**

**Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.**

it is CHRIST who strengthens you- submit your ways to the lord and you will find strength.

**BUT AS FOR YOU, BE STRONG AND DO NOT GIVE UP- FOR YOUR WORK WILL BE REWARDED! - 2 Chronicles 15:7**