

How Can We Maintain Constant Confidence?

The *International Sunday School Lesson* for Sunday June 29, 2008
Hebrews 13:1-16

“Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, ‘I will never leave you or forsake you.’ So we can say with confidence, ‘The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?’” (Hebrews 13:5:6—NRSV).

“Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me” (Hebrews 13:5:6—KJV).

The love of money can take many subtle forms; such as, depending more on our earning power, investments, insurance, government bailouts, rich relatives, or substantial savings than we trust in God, the Creator and Lord over all. We can demonstrate wise stewardship by saving money and preparing for the future, but we must not love or rely on money more than we love and depend on God.

Whereas prosperity and success can be fleeting in this life, God promises those who love and trust in Him that He will never leave them or forsake them. Whereas unbelievers might fear losing their material possessions and earthly forms of security, those who love the Lord can face the future with the confidence that God will go with them through any trial or tragedy. The divine power and sustaining grace of God enables believers to look with hope to the future. No matter what happens to them in this life, they have no need to be afraid.

The constant confidence believers can maintain daily depends not only upon God and His unfailing promises. The writer to the Hebrews insists that we must do our part by keeping our lives free from the love of money and by remaining content with what we have. Some advertising can generate discontent and create the desire to acquire more and more; believers can resist such advertising by keeping and serving God first in their thoughts and prayers. © 2008 by L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

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