

Faithful Living

Daniel 12:12-13

11/02/03

Intro

.....
These are the last verses from Daniel and in them are some great insights for us as there were for Daniel.

After giving Daniel insights into the last days, it was clear that Daniel did not understand the meaning of what he had heard.

He was told that he would not understand, though those who lived in those times would have insight.

For Daniel, he was to live his life. But the insights he gives Daniel are very helpful for us as well, because a summary of Daniel was told would be **live in faith and wait for the Lord.**

These, then, are the principles of Faithful Living.

I. Wait for the Lord

A. Believing what God can do

- If I am relying on my own abilities, I am in big trouble.
- It's about believing in what God can do.
- **And believing what God can do in me and through me.**

Isaiah 40:21-31 -

II Samuel 22: 30-35– He makes my feet like *hind's* feet, and sets me on high places. He trains my hands for battle, so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.”

B. Believing in God's resources

- When Abraham went up Mount Moriah to worship God, Isaac asked him why he did not have a lamb for the sacrifice. “God Himself will provide,” he said. <Jehovah Jireh>
- **We must believe that God will provide and trust that He will accomplish that which he has called us to do.**
- **Where God guides He provides**

Illus- How God provided for us to have a second baby.

Jeremiah 14:22, “Are there any among the idols of the nations who give rain? Or can the heavens grant showers? Is it not You, O LORD our God? Therefore we wait for You, for You are the one who has done all these things.”

C. Not striving in the flesh

- There is an old saying that some people think is actually in the bible...

Illus – “God helps those who help themselves...” Not so, it would be much more accurate to say, “God helps those who worship Him.**”**

Psalm 121:1-2, “I will lift up my eyes to the hills --where does come my help from? My help comes from the LORD, maker of made heaven and earth.”

John 15:5, "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.”

II. Rest in the Lord

A. Will bring peace in the storm

Illus – Noah means “rest.”

- **Is your soul in conflict?**
- **When we rest in the Lord, the issues of the soul are resolved**, even if the world, and all its problems, isn't. (I will give you rest for your soul.)
- God uses the fires in our lives to make us mightier men, **if we will trust in Him.**
- In other words, when we rest in Him, **our faith increases with our troubles.**

Illus – Before David faced Goliath, God had first allowed him to face a lion and a bear; then after Goliath ...

**Jeremiah 12:5, “If you have run with footmen and they have tired you out, how then can you run with the horses?
If you fall down in a land of peace, what will you do in the thicket of the Jordan?”**

B. Steady in faithfulness

- **We need to learn to live out our faith even in the little things of life.**
- As we are faithful in the little things, God begins to trust us with the greater things.

Luke 16:10, "He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much."

Luke 19:17, “And He said to him, ‘Well done, good servant, because you have been faithful in a very little thing, be in authority over ten cities.’”

C. Keeping the soul refreshed

- Some people feel they have to keep getting saved.
- But what they mean is that they keep struggling in the soul.
- **It has to do with the inputs we have in our lives.**

Proverbs 23:7 “As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he.”

- **It has to do with our commitment to God's Word.**

Colossians 3:16, “Let the Word of Christ dwell within you richly.”

III. How then should we live? (How we live matters)

Vs 13 – our allotted portion

A. Let your life always be with grace

- I don't know of anything more important for a way of life.

Colossians 4:6, “Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned as it were with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.”

Psalm 19:14, “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.”

B. Accomplishing godly purpose

- God wants us to be dressed in readiness, meaning that we live **like men who are waiting for their Master to return.**

Luke 12:35-44

Conclusion

Waiting for the Lord, and resting in the Lord are matters of faith. This will change the way we live.