

Confidence (â€œCast not away your confidenceâ€• â€” â€œconfidence by the faith of Himâ€•)

Hans R. Waldvogel:

Selected Verses:

Hebrews 10:35. Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.

Proverbs 28:26. He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered.

Ephesians 3:12. In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.

Opening:

â€œCast not away therefore your confidence.â€• Confidence. Can you have confidence in anything at all today? Everybody lies. â€œAll men are liars.â€• You might as well put it down in your notebook. â€œAll men are liars,â€• but thereâ€™s One thatâ€™s not a liar. Thereâ€™s One in Whom you can safely confide, and youâ€™re commanded to have confidence in God. The Bible says, â€œCast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.â€• But now, my God, who are You going to reward? Whom are You going to honor like that? Who do You want to have confidence in You? Me? Poor weak mortalâ€”poor weak thing that cannot have confidence in himself!

Well thatâ€™s our trouble, and thatâ€™s our sin. We try to have confidence in the things of earthâ€”in ourselves. We fish around for someplace to lean upon, and everything gives way. Everything gives way. Our self-righteousnesses are as filthy rags. Donâ€™t have any confidence in them. The Bible says, â€œHe that trusteth in his own heart is a fool.â€• Letâ€™s quit it, and let us put our confidence where it is absolutely safe.

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Selected Quotes:

â€œAnd when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith upon this earth?â€• No. Men donâ€™t pray like that. They donâ€™t pray in faith. They donâ€™t lift up holy hands. In the first place, they have no holy hands to lift up! Beloved, shall He find faith upon this earth? Thatâ€™s for you and me to decide. â€œCast not away therefore your confidence. It hath great recompence of reward.â€• Itâ€™s the confidence of Godâ€™s saints who do not trust in their own selves that will defeat the devil and put him back into the pit where he belongs.

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Iâ€™ve said to God some time ago when I was in a trial, â€œA thousand fall at my side, ten thousand at my right hand.â€• How do I expect to escape? â€œIt shall not come nigh me!â€• â€œCast not away your confidence.â€•

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God had to allow the enemy to come. God had to allow Hezekiah to come face to face with the worst possible situation. â€œWe had the sentence of death in ourselves that we might learn not to trust in ourselves, but in the Living God who raiseth the dead.â€• And when Paul had learned that lesson, God sent life through him. And the whole Church is drinking from that river of life to this day because Paul didnâ€™t back down, but he trusted in the Living God who raiseth the dead.

Beloved, therein lies an eternal lesson for all of us: â€œCast not away your confidence.â€• Cast it away if your confidence is in yourself, or in your religious order, or your organization, or in your own righteousness, or in your own faith even. Then, cast it away because itâ€™s full of holes. But if your confidence is in the Lord Jesus Christ â€œwho was delivered for our offenses and was raised again for our justification,â€• donâ€™t cast it away, because â€œHe cannot deny Himself;â€• He canâ€™t. If we fail to believe, yet He is faithful. Oh, to learn this lesson! â€œWith confidence I now draw nigh.â€• Since when? Why, since God raised Him from the dead.

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By Him we draw nigh! In His name, I have â€œboldness and access with confidence.â€• And thatâ€™s why he says, â€œcast not away therefore your confidence.â€• Without that confidence, youâ€™re defeated. â€œLet him pray in faith, nothing wavering. For if you waver, donâ€™t expect anything from the Lord.â€• Youâ€™re not honoring Jesus Christ when you donâ€™t have that confidence in the Son of God, when you

donâ€™t give Him all the glory: â€œNot I but Christ.â€• Hallelujah! And when I come to God with that confidence, I come in the name of Jesus Christ, and my God will honor that faith and that confidence.

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Why this great â€œPilotâ€• who calls these things â€œthat be not as though they were,â€• and who calls all the hosts of heaven by name, and they obey Him, He says, â€œyou little worm, donâ€™t be afraid, Iâ€™ll make a â€œthreshing instrumentâ€™ out of you that can bite, â€œhaving teeth.â€™â€• â€œThey that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength.â€• Beloved, shall we be confident? Draw nigh with confidence.

Illustrations:

A story of friendship with an airline pilot, and how it gave unusual privileges. â€œYour Pilot is not only your friend, that whole â€œairlinerâ€™ is yours. â€œAll things work together for good.â€™ â€œIf God be for us who can be against us?â€™ â€œHe that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him alsoâ€•â€™â€• (from 14:12)

A reference to an illness at 18 years of age. (from 18:53)

German at 9:58:

Hymn by Paul Gerhard from 1656, stanzas 1 (second half), 5, and 6:

Befiehl du deine Wege,
Und was dein Herze krÃ¤nkt,
Der allertreusten Pflege
Des, der den Himmel lenkt!
Der Wolken, Luft und Winden,
Gibt Wege, Lauf und Bahn,
Der wird auch Wege finden,
Da dein FuÃŸ gehen kann.

Und ob gleich alle Teufel
Hier wollten widerstehn,
(HRW: Dir wollten widerstehn)
So wird doch ohne Zweifel
Gott nicht zurÃ¼ckgehn;
Was er sich vorgenommen,
Und was er haben will,
Das muss doch endlich kommen
Zu seinem Zweck und Ziel.

Hoff, o du arme Seele,
Hoff und sei unverzagt!
Gott wird dich aus der HÃ¶hle,
Da dich der Kummer plagt,
Mit groÃŸen Gnaden rÃ¼cken;
Erwarte nur die Zeit,
So wirst du schon erblicken
Die Sonnâ€™ der schÃ¶nsten Freudâ€™.
(HRW: Die Sonn' der hÃ¶chsten Freudâ€™)

Commit your goings (ways),
And whatever hurts you,
To the most faithful careâ€”
To the one who controls the heavens!
The one who for the clouds, the air, and the winds,
Makes paths, and ways, and tracks,
He will also find ways,
Where your foot can tread.

And even if all devils

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Would want to resist,
(HRW: Would resist you)
Yet without a doubt
God will not go back.
What he has resolved to do,
And what he wills,
That finally has to come
To its purpose and aim.

Hope, O poor soul!
Hope, and be not discouraged!
Out of the cave, God will
(Where affliction plagues you)
Relocate you with great grace,
Just wait for the time with expectance,
And you will surely see
The sun of the brightest joy.
(HRW: The sun of the highest joy.)

References:

My Sins Are Blotted Out, I Know, a hymn by Merrill Dunlop, 1927

My sins are blotted out, I know!
My sins are blotted out, I know!
They are buried in the depths of the deepest sea.
My sins are blotted out, I know!

Arise, My Soul, Arise, a hymn by Charles Wesley, 1742:

Five bleeding wounds He bears; received on Calvary;
They pour effectual prayers; they strongly plead for me:
â€œForgive him, O forgive,â€• they cry,
â€œForgive him, O forgive,â€• they cry,
â€œNor let that ransomed sinner die!â€•

My God is reconciled; His pardoning voice I hear;
He owns me for His child; I can no longer fear.
With confidence I now draw nigh,
With confidence I now draw nigh,
And â€œFather, Abba, Father,â€• cry.