

What to do, When You Don't Know What to do
Psalm 139:7-12
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show the importance of preparing for the unexpected.

Intro: 1. The Bible reveals that troublesome times and good times come to all men
(**Mt 5:45b**).

I. Remember that hard & uncertain times will come

A. Sickness, death, and unpredictable events do happen.

1. Difficult times for mankind are seen in the Bible (**Mt 9:18, 15:22; Lk 7:2**).
2. Hard times do not automatically drive people to unfaithfulness (**Gen 50:20**).

B. The Bible warns of such times.

1. Life is hard sometimes – (**Ecc 2:17,23**)
2. The Christian lives on the promises of God, not on the faulty reasoning or explanations of man (**Job 38:2**).

II. Remember God is Always Present

A. We have no reason to doubt God's presence.

1. Where can I go? (**Psalm 139:7-12**)
2. Never far from us (**Acts 17:27**).

B. Call upon Him

1. God's presence commands us to call upon Him (**Ps 50:15**).
2. Jesus also turned to God in difficult time and we should follow His example.
 - a. Prior to being betrayed by Judas Christ prayed to the Father three times.

III. Remember God remembers and rescues us

A. God never forgets His servants.

1. Noah faced great difficulties and God never forgot him (**Gen 8:1, Ps 106:4**).
2. Just because man may feel forgotten doesn't mean God has truly forgotten him (**Ps 13:1-6**).

B. God rescues us when we Trust in Him

1. God rescues us from troubled times (**Ps 144:7a**).
2. When we delight in God, thus trusting in Him, He will rescue us (**Ps 22:8**).
 - a. **Psalm 50:15-22**

IV. Lessons for Us Today

A. Proper faith before trials begin

1. We must prepare for the storm before it hits (**Job 3:26**).
2. Trouble comes when we do not expect it (**Job 30:26-27**).

B. Listening to God

1. We must listen to God (His word) in good times & bad.
 - a. If we don't should we expect Him to listen to us? (**Pro 1:24-26**).
2. We must know God now whether we are standing in the rain or the sunshine.

Application & Conclusion:

1. A prepared Christian is the one who will reach Heaven.
2. The unprepared, as scripture reveals, will struggle to do so.
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9