

KEEPING COURAGE

Part 2 - Mercy and Help

TEXT: *(2 Corinthians 4:1 NKJV)*

WHAT HELPS US KEEP COURAGE?

- A. An knowledge of and understanding of God's mercy
 - 1. Paul understood God's mercy
 - 2. Paul's life was an example to us of God's mercy
 - 3. Peter understood God's mercy
 - 4. It was God's mercy that made us His own special people *(1 Peter 2:9-10 NKJV)*
- B. David had insight into God's mercy *(Psalm 33:18-22 NKJV)*
 - 1. David had more confidence that God would be merciful than man
 - 2. This is a prayer we can pray for ourselves

BELIEVING GOD IS WITH US HELPS US KEEP COURAGE

- A. Being alone is not a courage builder *(Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 NKJV)*
 - 1. The writer is speaking from a natural standpoint
 - 2. Isolation is used as punishment
 - 3. Believing that you are all alone is a deterrent to courage
- B. Jesus spoke of being alone *(John 16:32 NKJV)*
 - 1. He would be left alone in pure human terms
 - 2. But He stated He was not alone because the Father was with Him
- C. Moses' words to Joshua *(Deuteronomy 31:6-8 NKJV)*
 - 1. Moses was a man well acquainted with God
 - 2. More than a pep talk to Joshua - a promise of God not abandoning him
 - 3. Later God would confirm that word to Joshua *(Joshua 1:9 NKJV)*
- D. David's words to Solomon were a mirror of Moses to Joshua *(1 Chronicles 28:20 NKJV)*
 - 1. Solomon was facing a big task but not facing it solo
 - 2. David knew God in a way few did in that day
- E. We did not get left out of this wonderful promise *(John 14:16-18 NKJV)*
 - 1. We have been given help - The Helper the Holy Spirit
 - 2. Jesus said it was to our advantage that He went away *(John 16:7 NKJV)*
 - 3. This promise was not limited to the disciples *(Romans 8:11 NKJV) (Hebrews 4:2 NKJV) (Hebrews 13:5-6 NKJV)*
 - 4. So we have something to say about God being with us