

### III. Losing Confidence

Hebrews 10:35-39 (NIV)

<sup>35</sup> So **do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded.** <sup>36</sup> You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. <sup>37</sup> For in just a very little while, "He who is coming will come and will not delay. <sup>38</sup> But my righteous one will live by faith. And if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him." <sup>39</sup> But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who believe and are saved.

#### A. God rewards confidence

Hebrews 3:13-15 (NIV)

<sup>13</sup> But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. <sup>14</sup> We have come to share in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first. <sup>15</sup> As has just been said: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion."

#### B. Sin, deception & our choices

#### C. Encourage one another --- a necessity

Hebrews 6:9-12 (NIV)

<sup>9</sup> Even though we speak like this, dear friends, we are confident of better things in your case--things that accompany salvation. <sup>10</sup> God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. <sup>11</sup> We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, in order to make your hope sure. <sup>12</sup> We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

#### D. \_\_\_\_\_ Confidence

Jeremiah 12:5 (NASB)

<sup>5</sup> "If you have run with footmen and they have tired you out, Then how can you

compete with horses? If you fall down in a land of peace, How will you do in the thicket of the Jordan?

## I. Confidence in God

Psalms 27:1-3 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my light and my salvation-- whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life-- of whom shall I be afraid? <sup>2</sup> When evil men advance against me to devour my flesh, when my enemies and my foes attack me, they will stumble and fall. <sup>3</sup> Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, **even then will I be confident.**

### A. David's victories anchored in confidence in God

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1 Samuel 30:3-6 (NASB77)

<sup>3</sup> And when David and his men came to the city, behold, it was burned with fire, and their wives and their sons and their daughters had been taken captive. <sup>4</sup> Then David and the people who were with him lifted their voices and wept until there was no strength in them to weep. <sup>5</sup> Now David's two wives had been taken captive, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess and Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite. <sup>6</sup> Moreover David was greatly distressed because the people spoke of stoning him, for all the people were embittered, each one because of his sons and his daughters. But David strengthened himself in the Lord his God.

Proverbs 3:23-26 (NIV)

<sup>23</sup> Then you will go on your way in safety, and your foot will not stumble; <sup>24</sup> when you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet. <sup>25</sup> Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked, <sup>26</sup> for **the Lord will be your confidence** and will keep your foot from being snared.

### B. Distinction made between "the wicked" and God's people

Proverbs 14:26 (NASB)

<sup>26</sup> In the fear of the Lord there is strong confidence, And his children will have refuge.

Isaiah 30:15-16 (NASB)

<sup>15</sup> For thus the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, has said, "In repentance and rest you will be saved, In

quietness and trust (confidence) is your strength." But you were not willing, <sup>16</sup> And you said, "No, for we will flee on horses," Therefore you shall flee! "And we will ride on swift *horses*," Therefore those who pursue you shall be swift.

## C. Place of rest in quiet trust in God

1 John 3:21-23 (NIV)

<sup>21</sup> Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God <sup>22</sup> and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup> And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us.

## D. Confidence = "freedom of speech"

1. exercise your privilege \_\_\_\_\_

2. no \_\_\_\_\_

## II. Confidence in Others

Philippians 1:6-7 (NASB)

<sup>6</sup> For ***I am confident of this very thing***, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus. <sup>7</sup> For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all, because I have you in my heart, since both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers of grace with me.

## A. Confidence in God vs Confidence in men

2 Thessalonians 3:3-5 (NIV)

<sup>3</sup> But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. <sup>4</sup> We have confidence in the Lord that you are doing and will continue to do the things we command. <sup>5</sup> May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance.

## B. Confidence in another--\_\_\_\_\_

Hebrews 12:2 (NIV)

<sup>2</sup> Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

**C. God never started anything which**

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