

"THE STABILITY OF YOUR TIMES"

Isaiah 33:5-6

"THE STABILITY OF YOUR TIMES"

▪ THE UNSTABLE CONDITIONS OF TODAY

- Many are common in every age - cf. Job 14:1
 - Sickness
 - Death
 - Natural Disasters
- Some may be peculiar to our day and age
 - Threat of nuclear holocaust, environmental pollution
 - Inflation, recession, unemployment
 - AIDS, cancer, heart disease
 - Road rage, drive-by shootings

"THE STABILITY OF YOUR TIMES"

▪ THE EFFECT SUCH THINGS CAN HAVE

- For some, there is anxiety and fear
- Others react with depression
- Even Christians can be affected
 - They may murmur or complain
 - They may simply exist in a state of "unhappiness"
- YET SOME ARE NOT DISTURBED BY SUCH THINGS
 - Even though they experience the same things which devastate others
 - The same financial crises, diseases, uncertainties, etc.

"THE STABILITY OF YOUR TIMES"

▪ THE STABILITY PROVIDED BY THE LORD

- Comes Through Wisdom and Knowledge
 - By guiding and protecting one from the pitfalls of life - Proverbs 2:6-22
 - By providing comfort and confidence in times of turmoil - Proverbs 3:21-26
- God is willing to provide such wisdom to those willing to look to Him!
- James 1:5-8

"THE STABILITY OF YOUR TIMES"

▪ THE STABILITY PROVIDED BY THE LORD

- COMES THROUGH SALVATION
 - "the strength of salvation" (NKJV)
 - The salvation of the Lord can help us face DEATH
- Consider the example of the Apostle Paul
 - He had a strong hope - 2 Corinthians 5:1, 5-8
 - His attitude as a result of that hope - 2 Corinthians 4:16-18; Romans 8:31-39

"THE STABILITY OF YOUR TIMES"

▪ THE KEY TO THIS STABILITY

- IT IS "THE FEAR OF THE LORD"
- NIV: "*the fear of the LORD is the key to this treasure*"
- The fear of the Lord is essential:
 - To having wisdom and knowledge
 - It is "*the beginning of knowledge*" - Proverbs 1:7
 - It is "*the beginning of wisdom*" - Proverbs 9:10
 - To receiving salvation
 - It is necessary to be accepted by God - Acts 10:34-35
 - Given to those who have it - Acts 13:26
 - It is necessary for spiritual growth - Philippians 2:12

"THE STABILITY OF YOUR TIMES"

- **THE KEY TO THIS STABILITY**
- **WHY THE FEAR OF THE LORD IS NECESSARY**
- NIV: *"the fear of the LORD is the key to this treasure"*
- *"... by the fear of the Lord one departs from evil" - [Proverbs 16:6](#)*
- *"In the fear of the Lord there is strong confidence ... a place of refuge" - [Proverbs 14:26](#)*
- When we turn to God, the fear of the Lord becomes a source of great blessings!
- Such as wisdom, knowledge, salvation, confidence, refuge; indeed *"the fear of the Lord is a fountain of life"!* - [Proverbs 14:27](#)

"THE STABILITY OF YOUR TIMES"

Conclusion:

"The Stability of Your Times"!

With such stability, we can rightly say along with the writer to the Hebrews - [Hebrews 13:6](#)

"The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"