

# Confidence in Christ

I am reminded of the confidence that is available to the Christian through Christ as Paul states, *“Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”* (Philippians 4:11-13)

The Christian can have confidence that he or she will be victorious over temptation as Paul instructs, *“No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.”* (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 10:13) That way of escape is involves putting on the whole armor of God, *“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.”* (Ephesians 6:10-11) Peter teaches, *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.”* (1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:8-9)

The Christian can have confidence that he or she will be able to survive various trials of life as long as one continues to build upon the rock. Jesus states, *“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.”* (Matthew 7:24-25)

The Christian can have confidence even though there are many uncertainties in life, knowing that all of an individual’s needs will be met by God through His Son and our Savior Jesus. *“And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”* (Philippians 4:19)

The Christian is even able to face death with confidence knowing that as one lives for Christ, death will be gain. *“For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”* (Philippians 1:21)

Let us always remember, *“O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?” The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”* (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:55-58)

\* \* \* \* Chuck Kozens