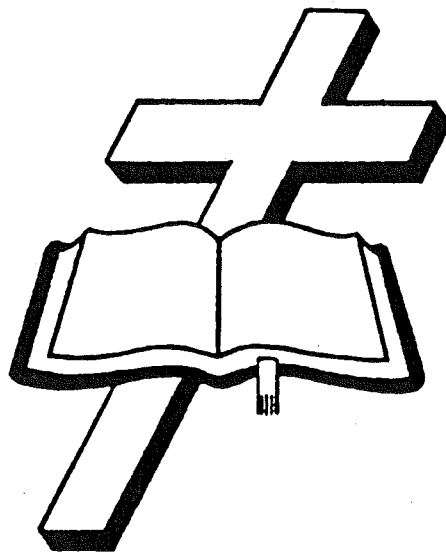


# PEACEFUL AND UNSHAKEN

(Resources From God That Produce Rooted Stability)  
Psalm 125:1-5



- ◆ Shaken Up Not Shaken Apart
- ◆ Painful Yet Beneficial
- ◆ Pursued But Peaceful

**“Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be shaken...and peace shall be upon Israel” (Psalm 125:1,5)**

Bill Kirk

# “PEACEFUL AND UNSHAKEN”

**Text:** Psalm 125:1-5

**Subject:** Resources From God That Produce Stability Of Spirit

## Introduction

**Fact:** Psalm 125 is a declaration of the security of the righteous.

**Fact:** It comes during a time of threatening and distress.

**Fact:** It most likely refers to the time after the captivity (when Sanballat, Geshem and Tobiah opposed the Jews while rebuilding).

**Fact:** The design of this Psalm is to encourage every believer who comes against the plots, schemes and malice of an enemy.

**Fact:** It is a Psalm (of truth) that results in great “**Rest of soul**” as we journey through the unpredictability of life.

**Fact:** It is a Psalm that is as practical today as the day it was written.

## (4 Secrets To An Unshakable Faith)

### I. What May Shake You Up, Will Not Shake You Apart (V. 1)

(V. 1) “Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be shaken but endures forever”.

**Question:** How are trusting believers like Mount Zion?

**Answer:** You are secure in an unshakable place:

- ◆ Zion was a mountain city built upon and surrounded by other mountains.
- ◆ This city of Zion (Jerusalem) had a natural fortification in the mountains surrounding it.
- ◆ This city of fortress was secure because of its location.

### (So Is The Believer)

- ◆ The spiritual Zion (Christ’s Church – you and me) is more secure than a material mountain.
- ◆ Our security and rest lies in the person of Jesus.
- ◆ No more than a material mountain could be moved, so you and I (in Christ) cannot be moved.

### (In Other Words)

- ◆ Regardless of enemy plots, plans and pursuits (you can remain unshaken).
- ◆ Regardless of circumstances that want to destroy your peace (you can remain unshaken).
- ◆ Regardless of fiery darts and lies from the evil one (you can remain unshaken).

### (The Church Is Called Mt. Zion)

“But ye are come unto Mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God” (Hebrews 12:22)

### (Hold Tight To This Truth Beloved)

- #1. That mountains are emblems of firmness and stability.
- #2. That mountains are unmovable by enemy attack.
- #3. That mountains are places to rest well and be secure.

### (So You Are As Well...)

- ◆ ...Unmovable as you remain trusting in the Lord.
- ◆ ...Unmovable regardless of what comes your way.
- ◆ ...Unmovable while you maintain your walk with Jesus.

- “The root of the righteous shall not be moved” (Proverbs 12:3)
- “The righteous are an everlasting **foundation**” (Proverbs 10:25)
- “**Rooted and built up** in him and **established** in the faith” (Colossians 2:7)
- “**Grounded and settled** in the faith” (Colossians 1:23)

## II. What May Come Against You, Cannot Come Within You (V. 2)

“As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about his people from henceforth even for ever” (v. 2)

**Fact:** Jerusalem was encircled by deep ravines and an amphitheatre of hills.

**Fact:** There was a natural ring of protection in the location of God’s people.

**Fact:** Enemies found it extremely difficult to break through the circle of defense.

### (What Great Meaning For Us!)

- #1. As mountains totally surround the city of Jerusalem (so the Lord totally surrounds those who belong to Him).
- #2. As the mountains never moved regardless of the stormy weather (so the Lord guards us in every season and storm of life).

### (In Other Words)

- ◆ Nothing can touch you unless it first goes through His hands (and)
- ◆ At no time is the Lord ever caught “**off guard**” by what touches you, (“forever” means “at all times the Lord is at His post.

### (Hear V. 2 Speaking)

- ◆ The city of Jerusalem is shut in by the two valleys of Jehoshaphat and Hinnom.
- ◆ The city is “**encircled**” from enemies without.

### “So The Lord Is Round About You” (Which Means:)

- #1. The Lord Himself is your wall of defense!
- #2. The Lord Himself shall be hurt before you are hurt!
- #3. The Lord Himself is your keeper and protector!

- ◆ In (v. 1) we understand that we will not be shaken (removed) by anyone or anything.
- ◆ In (v. 2) we discover that we are hemmed in by infinite love.

### What A Discovery Here:

- #1. That, **what** God lets through His circle around your life, He gives you grace to handle!
- #2. That, **who** God allows to touch your life, He trusts you to handle correctly!
- #3. That, nothing that touches your life (even your bruises) can stop God’s will from being fulfilled in you.

### If You’re Doubting, Remember This:

“It pleased the Father to bruise the Son” (Isaiah 53:10)

“The Lord is thy keeper...He shall preserve thee from all evil” (Psalm 121:5,7)

## III. What To You Is Painful, God Will Ultimately Redeem As Useful

“For the rod of the wicked shall not rest upon the lot of the righteous; lest the righteous put forth their hands unto iniquity” (v.3)

**Question:** What is “The rod of the wicked”?

**Answer:** The “rod of the wicked” refers to any oppressive attack of evil to dishearten, detour, destroy, disable or defile you.

**Question:** What does it mean that it “Shall not rest upon the lot of the righteous”?

**Answer:** It doesn’t mean that we are immune from trial (everybody faces tribulation).

### **It Does Mean...**

- #1. That God will never allow His own to be pushed beyond extreme.
- #2. That God will never waste your painful (growing) seasons in life.
- #3. That God will never let evil prevail over His plan for you.
- #4. That God will never relinquish His intentions for you over to anyone else.

### **“The Rod Shall Not Rest”**

(Example)

- ◆ Joseph (was temporarily put on a painful hold).
- ◆ Job (was temporarily sifted as pure gold).
- ◆ Jeremiah (was temporarily unsuccessful in ministry).
- ◆ Jesus (was temporarily tortured and put in a tomb).

**Question:** What does it mean, “...Lest the righteous put forth their hands unto iniquity”?

**Answer:** It means something we must remember:

- #1. That God will not allow your pain to push you away from His purpose.
- #2. That God will not allow you to reward evil for evil with a clear conscience.
- #3. That God will not allow you to become so downcast that you cast off your faith for iniquity.
- #4. That God will not allow you to lower yourself to retaliate (if you really want to please Him).

### **(In Plain Vanilla)**

- ◆ God proportions trial according to the strength of the sufferer.
- ◆ God permits our pain to accomplish the benefit of His purpose.
- ◆ God deems useful what you deem wasteful, (He will use your “all things” to comfort many people if you refuse to blame and get sour).

“Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, you are in heaviness through manifold temptations” (I Peter 1:6)

## **IV. What You Receive From Others Does Not Determine What They Receive From You!**

“Do good O Lord unto those that be good, and to them that are upright in their hearts” (v. 4)

**Question:** What is the great temptation when you face “The rod of the wicked (oppressor)” (v. 3)

**Answer:** The temptation is to “Not be good” and forfeit God’s reward and your personal destiny.

**Question:** How is it possible to “Be good” in your heart when facing an injustice?

**Answer:** Because you know that every “Rod of the oppressor” will be used as a trowel in the hands of the Master Builder in building your life and His church.

**Question:** What is our part in the process?

**Answer:** To maintain an “Upright heart” (v. 4)

### **(How An Upright Heart?)**

- #1. Allow forgiveness to protect you from an angry spirit.
- #2. Thank God for His mercy extended towards you.
- #3. Make the most of the best and the least of the worst.
- #4. Give people what they need not what they deserve.
- #5. Refuse to strike the second blow.
- #6. Do not allow frustrations to dictate your actions.
- #7. Let God be the judge of those you would like to judge.

**Remember:**

- ◆ There is never a time to do wrong when things don't go right for you.

**Conclusion**

“As for such as turn aside unto their crooked ways, the Lord shall lead them forth with the workers of iniquity; but peace shall be upon Israel”. (v. 5)

**Fact:** The unfaithful get caught in the crooked web of the world (and misery consumes them).

**Fact:** The faithful are rewarded with the jewel of peace. (v. 5)

**(What Is Peace?)**

- ◆ That fruit of the Spirit enabling us to have quiet assurance regardless of the circumstances.
- ◆ That tranquility of heart because of God's presence.
- ◆ That security and rest born out of fellowship with Jesus.
- ◆ That fruit of God's nature which gives us order and harmony on the inside.
- ◆ That calmness from the Lord which is greater than all agitations of the mind.

AMEN!  
Bill Kirk, Pastor

(Pg. 4 of 4)