

Tuesday, September 1, 2020
Devotional Thoughts from Pastor Jim Murr...

**"Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever."**

Psalm 125: 1

How interesting it is that Psalm 125 compares people of faith to a mountain! Mountains are where they are. If they are in your way, you need to go around them or over them. If a mountain is not too big, sometimes you can go through them, as in a tunnel. This is not as big an issue in the midwest as it is in the western part of our country, and even in some eastern parts of our country. On the Pennsylvania Turnpike, there are several mountains that need to be dealt with. These mountains are dealt with either by following the road that navigates around them, or by going through several tunnels that have been dug out through which the Turnpike has been paved.

One thing that is not easily accomplished is the REMOVAL of mountains. A mountain is not like a tree. Trees are fairly easily removed if they are in the way. A mountain is a different story! A mountain is basically permanent! A mountain needs to be accounted for. It needs to be factored into your plans if you plan on getting by it. A mountain is mighty. It is never overlooked or discounted. You might say that a mountain is a "force to be reckoned with."

This is why I find it interesting that Psalm 125: 1 says, "Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever." Storms don't remove mountains. Time does not remove mountains. The largest mountains I have ever seen in person are the Rocky Mountains. It was a very humbling experience. Mountains have a way of reminding you how small you are. I cannot imagine how humbling it would be to stand at the foot of Mount Everest. Mount Everest is so tall that many have lost their lives just by trying to climb to its summit.

Again, those who trust in the Lord are like a mountain! When we trust in God and in His Word, nothing can move us. Storms cannot move us. Time cannot make us lose our significance. Trusting in God through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ keeps us strong through all of the challenges and struggles of life. Not even a hurricane or a tornado can remove a mountain. They can remove buildings and trees; but not mountains. The next time you look at a mountain, even if it's only a picture of a mountain, just imagine all of things that that mountain has endured, and it's still standing proud and strong. It has endured harsh weather, droughts, heat, cold, wind, time ... and it's still there, standing proud and strong.

How great it is that those who trust in God are compared to a mountain! Hard times may come into our lives, but they will not topple us! They may land on us like rain and snow land on a mountain. They may even go through us. But they will not remove us. They will not take away the hope and the certainty that are ours because of the love that God has for us. You and I will reach the end of our earthly lives and, just like a mountain, we will have a history of storms that we have endured. But we will always be protected by our God. Verse 2 of Psalm 125 says, "As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people, from this time forth and forevermore."

God's Peace!
Pastor Jim