

We have great confidence in God; in His Word, His love, His salvation, His grace (ability to empower our lives); in the Blessed Hope – the rapture and return of Christ. We must hold fast our confidence and not shrink back. We cannot know the times but we can see ‘that Day’ approaching.

2 Timothy 2:11-15 ‘For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say ‘no’ to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope – the glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, eager to do what is good. These then, are the things you should teach. Encourage and rebuke with all authority. Do not let anyone despise you.’

God has confidence in us; He has entrusted certain things to us. We are entrusted with the gospel, 1 Thessalonians 2:4; the secret things, 1 Corinthians 4:1-2.

The central theme of the Word, of Christianity is to trust God – to do this is to have no confidence in the flesh. There is a shaking – a removing of what can be shaken so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Hebrews 12:27

Consider Uzziah’s story; 1 Chronicles 26 – ‘grew strong’... after his death, Isaiah encountered the Lord.

Matthew 25; we must be aware of our need; we must be aware of being ready. We cannot get from others what must come from God.

(Matthew 25: entrusted to be ready for the bridegroom with the Holy Spirit and with gifts/talents/resources for multiplication all tied in with caring for others as unto the Lord)