Unmoved Isaiah 26:3-4 Dr. Paul Cannings

A. Steadfast (v. 3):

1. <u>Steadfast</u> – We must allow the Spirit of God to guide us to uphold the Word of God in our minds as we trust God for His favor. Like a person who has a broken leg, resting on their crutches, we put our full weight on it. The Spirit of God does a lot to help us stay on track (Philippians 2:13):

- a) He reminds us of God's Word (John 14:26).
- b) He helps us understand the Word (1 Corinthians 2:10-15).
- c) He guides us to obey God's Word by convicting us when we sin (John 16:7-11).
- d) The Spirit is a shield against the forces of satan (1 John 4:4).
- e) The Spirit prays for us when we are in deep pain (Romans 8:26).

f) The Spirit remains with us forever (John 14:16-17) so the Lord never leaves us, nor forsakes us.

2. <u>Mind</u> – The scripture views our minds as the place of conceptualization of thoughts which when formulated, directs our will. This process shapes our purposes and plans, determining how we respond to God and man.

3. <u>Mind</u> – Our minds can be controlled by our emotions affecting our imaginations and the understanding of every issue we face. This can shape our attitudes and our actions.

4. <u>Keep</u> – When our feelings and opinions are contrary to the Word of God, we will purposefully remain faithful to preserve ourselves and those around us by continuously leaning on the assurance and power of God's Word empowered by the Holy Spirit.

5. <u>Perfect peace</u> – This process grows the Spirit of God in us to become such a dominant force in our lives; God's presence transforms our feelings so that we know His peace which provides a sense of well-being.

a) The Hebrew word for "peace" (shalom) means much more than a cessation of war. It includes blessings such as wholeness, health, quietness of soul, preservation, and completeness. "What is your peace?" is the way Jews often greet one another; and Isaiah's reply would be, "My peace is from the Lord, for I trust wholly in Him!" Paul's counsel in Philippians 4:6–9 is based on Isaiah 26:3.^[1]

6. <u>Trust</u> – To trust is to have complete confidence, not constant anxiety because one is constantly relying on the power and the hope the Lord provides (Proverbs 3:25-26).

a) This availability of inner tranquility encourages believers to continue trusting the Lord (Isa. 26:4) because He is firm like a Rock (cf. 17:10; 44:8; see comments on Ps. 18:2) and He is eternal.^[2]

B. God, an Everlasting Rock (v. 4):

1. <u>Trust</u> – When we trust the Lord it allows the inner working of the Holy Spirit to empower us. It is this inner strength that becomes our confidence so that we do not live with constant anxiety (Psalm 28:7).

1. <u>Lord forever</u> – Having complete confidence in the Lord's power and authority and the certainty that the Lord cares, strengthens us to endure all circumstances, moments of anxiety,

and fear or uncertainty (Psalm 29:25). This inner strength empowers us to remain unmoved in our faith.

2. <u>So that in God</u> – We can trust forever because God is sovereign, rules over all, is supreme and reigns forever. No person or power can supersede His authority and might.

a) The union of the two names expresses in the highest degree God's unchanging love and power (compare Ps 68:4). This passage, and Is 12:2; Ex 6:3; Ps 83:18, are the four in which the *English Version* retains the Jehovah of the original. Maurer translates, "For Jah (the eternal unchangeable One, Ex 3:14) is Jehovah, the rock of ages" (compare Is 45:17; De 32:15; 1 Sa 2:2).^[3]

4. <u>Lord</u> - Isaiah uses the personal name for the Lord that is descriptive of His nearness and passion to redeem man back to Himself.

5. <u>Forever</u> – No matter how long the circumstances may persist our future is not uncertain (1 Peter 1:9-11). Our decisions, because we chose to trust in Him, have His guaranteed results for generations to come because the Lord's existence is timeless (Psalm 118:5-8).

6. <u>Rock</u> – The Lord being representative as a Rock means that He is unmovable. He is represented to be a huge boulder, which means His word stands the test of time (Psalm 18:1-3).

a) God's power and faithfulness are described as "an everlasting rock" (Isa. 26:4). In 17:10 God is called the Rock of refuge and God of salvation. This image is found frequently in the book of Psalms (e.g., Ps. 18:2; 31:2; 62:7; 71:3; 144:2). Yahweh is the sure and unmovable foundation on which people can stand firmly amidst the roaring waves of the ocean.^[4]

7. <u>Rock</u> – Nothing can separate us from His love, and when He stands for us, because we willfully decide to remain in His Word, nothing or no one can defeat us (Psalm 27).

^[1] Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). <u>*Be Comforted*</u> (p. 65). Victor Books.

[2] Martin, J. A. (1985). Isaiah. In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 1, p. 1074). Victor Books.

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