

Living Securely in a Chaotic World

Text: Psalm 46

South Orlando Baptist Church

Topics: Protection, Fear, Survival

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Responding to Tragedy in Orlando

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Context -

This is one of a number of victory songs sung by the people of Israel when God had turned what looked like certain defeat into a spectacular victory. It may have been sung before the army left the field of battle, which would give meaning to verses 8–9, which sound like someone surveying the desolations a battle leaves behind. It confirms the words of the prophet: *The battle is not yours, but God's* (2 Chron. 20:15). **Alamoth** means 'girls', indicating that it was led by the sopranos, whose high voices were best suited to the note of triumphant joy sounded here. (Eric Lane)

To live securely in this chaotic world...

1. Spend time in the Refuge (1-3)

- A. A refuge is a safe place of protection from the dangers of nature and enemies.
- B. God Himself is our refuge during times of trouble.
- C.

2. Stand firm with God's help (4-7)

- D. "There is a river" - The great fear of an Eastern city in time of war was lest the water supply should be cut off during a siege; if that were secured the city could hold out against attacks for an indefinite period. In this *Verse*, Jerusalem, which represents the church of God, is described as well supplied with water, to set forth the fact, that in seasons of trial all-sufficient grace will be given to enable us to endure unto the end. (Spurgeon)

3. Study God's nature (8-11)

- A. You don't even know what tomorrow will bring—what your life will be! For you are like smoke that appears for a little while, then vanishes. James 4:14. Man is like a breath; his days are like a passing shadow. Psalm 144:4. Our lives last seventy years or, if we are strong, eighty years...indeed, they pass quickly and we fly away. Psalm 90:10.
- B. "Be courageous like a man". An expression of encouragement (Deut. 31:7, 23; Josh. 1:6, 7, 9, 18; 1 Sam. 4:9) with which David sought to prepare Solomon for the difficult tasks and the battles in his future. (John MacArthur)

4. _____ your children to their heavenly Father (vs. 3-4)

- A. David encourages Solomon to be faithful to God which will result in experiencing His blessing.

B. Fathers, don't stir up anger in your children, but bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. Ephesians 6:4.

Application Questions

1. Which of your life goals or values would you like to see carried on by your children?
2. What did David feel it was important to do before he died? (2:1)
3. With what words of encouragement did David begin his charge to Solomon? (2:2-3)
4. In what sense was Solomon responsible for the continuation of God's promise to David? (2:3-4)
5. According to David, what must Solomon do as king in order to prosper?
6. What condition had God built into His covenant with the house of David?

Great Books for Fathers

For links to these books see the blog page in our app or on our church website

Point Man - How a man can Lead His Family by Steve Farrar

Anchor Man - How a Man Can Anchor His Family for the Next 100 Years by Steve Farrar

The Father Connection by Josh McDowell

Great Books for Fathers to use to Teach their Children

Young Children -

The Jesus Storybook Bible by Sally Lloyd Jones

The Big Picture Story Bible by David Helm

Older Children -

Long Story Short - 10 Minute Devotions to Draw Your Family to God by Marty Machowski

Old Story New - 10 Minute Devotions to Draw Your Family to God by Marty Machowski

The Gospel Story Bible - Discovering Jesus in both the Old and New Testaments by Marty Machowski

Teenagers -

Don't Check Your Brains at the Door by Josh McDowell

Concise Theology by J.I. Packer

Everyone's a Theologian by R.C. Sproul