

Morning sermon series – Anchored: Find Grace, Stand Firm

Confident Hope (Hebrews 6v12-20)

Without confidence, we find it hard to keep going with any optimism.

What kind of assurance is enough to fuel our confidence and faithfulness?

1) Unfailing Promise (6v12-15)

We are heirs of God's sure and certain promise to Abraham (2v16). The writer wants us to hold on firmly and patiently to God's promise to us through Abraham's offspring, Jesus (v12-13). Only one person, or thing, is big or great enough to ground our confidence adequately (v13-14). Our confidence comes from what God is like, from who he is.

2) Unchanging Will (6v16-18)

God's truthfulness and faithful love are fundamental to who he is. To make the truthfulness and unchanging nature of his promise very clear to us, God even confirmed it with an oath (v17).

It is the Father's unchanging will, purpose and desire to save us (John 6 v40, v54). He has irrevocably committed himself to us (v17-18). Just like Abraham, our failures and our inability sometimes to understand cannot, in any circumstances, derail his promise from coming to pass.

The relief and joy of taking refuge in Christ.

3) Unfailing Presence (6v19-20)

Hope and trust in Jesus is, therefore, completely firm and secure, because it is anchored in God's own trustworthiness, goodness and power. We are anchored in and tied to God himself, brought right into the relational presence and embrace of God forever (v19-20). Joy and safe harbour at last!

Anchored in the Person of the Son!

Evening sermon series – Knowing Christ

Don't be Moved! (1 John 2v18-27)

How can we be confident as Christians in the midst of the spiritual confusion and conflict that surrounds us?

A group has left the fellowship John is writing to. This group is opposed to the truth about Jesus (v18-19), and is trying to lead them astray.

1) The Truth is In You (v20-25)

By denying that Jesus Christ, the eternal Son, has come in the flesh, someone denies the Father (2v22-23, 4v2). What we make of Jesus is critical (4v15).

The very fact that we see who Jesus is and acknowledge him shows that we belong to him personally (4v15). Therefore, don't be moved from the truth about Jesus (2v24-25), from this promise of eternal life.

It is the anointing we have from God (v20), that is the Holy Spirit, who enables us to acknowledge who Jesus is (v20-23). If we're trusting Jesus, that means God has given us himself, permanently, in the person of his Spirit. That's a source of great confidence!

2) The Spirit is In You (v26-27)

The Spirit is "in you", permanently (v27) and teaches you all things about Jesus.

Therefore, just as the Spirit has taught you, don't be moved from Christ (v27).

New Testament faith is Christ-centred and Spirit-enabled.