The Right Amount of Confidence

Ken Chapman · Hebrews 3:5–6

INTRODUCTION

- Confidence is a funny thing. It's kind of like salt. Not enough or too much can mess things up.
- We are set up for failure if we have too little or too much. We must have the right amount, and it must be founded upon reality.
- My goal this morning is to give you some confidence as a Christian. To help equip you as you leave this building and go back out into a world that cares little for Christ and the things of God.

1 The Danger of Overconfidence

1 Corinthians 8:1; Revelation 3:17; James 2:14

- Peter is a perfect illustration, a negative illustration of how personal overconfidence can be our downfall.
- Don't ever think it's not me. It can never happen to me.
- Being right about something, Paul is arguing, is not the end all be all. How we use that right knowledge changes everything.
- Because you say, I am rich and have become wealthy and have need of nothing, and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked.
- If we think that we occupy a pew in a building where the truth is taught and practiced, that somehow we're insulated and isolated from the dangers of this world… that is dangerous overconfidence.
- What does it profit, my brethren? If someone says he has faith but does not have works, can faith save him?

2 The Danger of Underconfidence

Hebrews 3:6; 1 Peter 1:3; 1 Peter 1:13

- There's also a danger of underconfidence, just as dangerous. And maybe more prevalent and more common is this idea of underconfidence.
- Without that hope, the very next step, and it's not a leap, it is a baby step to just throwing our hands up in frustration and quitting.
- Confidence, the right amount, is the key to our hope.
- Confidence is the key to hope. Hope is the key to joy.
- Without the right amount of confidence, we lose our incentive to try. To keep on.
- Therefore, gird up the loins of your mind. Be sober and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

3 Just Confidence, Rooted in God

Romans 5:10; Romans 8:31

- He doesn't want us to be overconfident, arrogant like Peter or the Corinthians or the Laodiceans.
- God wants you to be confident. God wants you to know that this can and will be done.
- There is no confidence aside from God and the help that he affords. But our confidence is rooted in him.
- For if when we were his enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his son. Much more having been reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.
- If God is for us, who can be against us? There's our confidence.
- If God is for you, it doesn't matter who's on the other side.

4 God Wants Us to Be Engaged

2 Peter 1:8–10

- Though our confidence is finally and fully rooted in God, that does not mean that God expects us to just sit there and let Him do all the work. God wants us to be engaged.
- For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things, you will never stumble.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Strap on the armor of God. Go out into that world where you are outnumbered and outgunned. And know that you've got this. Because God is with you.**

MY NOTES