



DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NV • MOTHER'S DAY, MAY 10, 2020
All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pastor Joe's Email Address is Joe@SouthReno.com.

A – Today's Scripture Passage

Hebrews 13:5-7, NIV -5 ... God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.” 6 So we say with confidence, “The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?” 7 Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.

Hebrews 13:5-7, TLB -5 ... For God has said, “I will never, never fail you nor forsake you.” 6 That is why we can say without any doubt or fear, “The Lord is my Helper, and I am not afraid of anything that mere man can do to me.” 7 Remember your leaders who have taught you the Word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives, and try to trust the Lord as they do.

Hebrews 13:6, MCT -6 That is why we can say without any doubt or fear, “The Lord is my Helper and Protector, and I am not afraid of anything that mere children can do to me.”

Notice God's Abiding (v. 5), Assisting (v. 6) and Anchoring (v. 7) Presence.

B – Study Section

Hebrews 13:5-7, NIV -5 ... *God* [Gk: Θεός, (théos), the highest name for God in the NT] *has* [actually in the present (ongoing) tense, lit., *God is saying (and doing)*] *said*, “Never. [a double negative, lit., “never, never” which is another way of expressing the emphatic tense] will I leave [meaning “fail”; or lit., “to let someone fall” (ie, “give over to an enemy”)] you; never. [again, a double negative, lit., “never, never” which is another way of expressing the emphatic tense] will I forsake [a word meaning to leave or abandon] you.”

Hebrews 13:5, YLT: *God is saying right now*, “No, I will not fail you, never; and no, I will not abandon you, ever!” [Notice the insight of the emphatic, present tense.]

C – “God’s Answer to Fear” by C.H. Spurgeon

When C. H. Spurgeon preached on this verse, he pointed out four examples (out of many in the Bible) where God said to someone, “I am with you:”

1. Jacob the Cheater

These are the words the Lord spoke to Jacob when he was running away from his problems:

Genesis 28:15, NLT -15 *What’s more, I am with you, and I will protect you wherever you go. One day I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have finished giving you everything I have promised you.*”

2. Israel the Terrified.

The Jews had gathered on the eastern side of the Jordan River. Moses is now an old man and about to die. Knowing the enemies his people would face as they enter Canaan, he gives this amazing promise:

Deuteronomy 31:6, NLT -6 *So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the LORD your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you.*”

3. Joshua the Fearful.

Now we run the clock forward a few weeks. Moses is dead, and Joshua now leads the people of Israel. They still must cross the Jordan River and begin the long series of battles that would take seven years to complete. The question has become very personal: Is Joshua up to the challenge? Here is God’s promise to him:

Joshua 1:5, NLT -5 *No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. For I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not fail you or abandon you.*

4. Solomon the Timid.

As King David grew older, he wanted to build a temple for the Lord in Jerusalem. But the Lord told him he couldn’t build it because he was a ‘man of blood.’ God’s house must be built by a man of peace. David accepted God’s decree and called on his son Solomon to build the Lord’s temple:

Chronicles 28:20, NLT -20 *Then David continued, “Be strong and courageous, and do the work. Don’t be afraid or discouraged, for the LORD God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you. He will see to it that all the work related to the Temple of the LORD is finished correctly.*

D – “A Word to our Moms”

- A. If like Jacob, you are guilty, take heart. God will never leave you nor forsake you.
- B. If like Israel, you are terrified, take heart. God will never leave you nor forsake you.
- C. If like Joshua, you feel unqualified, take heart. God will never leave you nor forsake you.
- D. If like Solomon, you are timid, take heart. God will never leave you nor forsake you.