

A SERIES OF DEVOTIONS BASED ON THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

GOD'S HOUSE – PART II

Hebrews 3:6 “But Christ is faithful as the Son over God’s house. And we are His house, if indeed we hold firmly to our confidence and the hope in which we glory.”

As you read in yesterday’s devotion, you are a member of the household of God. (See 1 Corinthians 3:16 and 1 Timothy 3:15) The writer to the Hebrews has more to say here in verse 6 about this house created by Christ Jesus. First, he says that Jesus is the one who is over, who has control and authority over God’s house and all those who live within it. Jesus is the reason why those who live in God’s house are there and secondly, He is responsible for them remaining.

The verse continues, “And we are His house. . .” Think of this. By virtue of your baptism and that you have received God’s gift of faith in Jesus you are His house. You are a resident, a participant in all that occurs there, and have all the rights and privileges God grants to all who reside with Him there.

This is true, the writer says, “If indeed (you) hold firmly to (your) confidence and the hope in which (you) glory.” As the opening words of yesterday’s hymn said, your hope, this hope to which the writer refers, is “built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness.” Read carefully the verses of hymn 645 (LSB) found below that have more to say about why you can be confident, you can hold firmly to the hope you have God will keep you in His household even into all eternity.

It is by God’s grace you hold firmly with confidence and hope in the glory God has promised you in Christ Jesus. God is faithful in keeping His promises. The promise you have through His Son is, “. . . be faithful unto death and I will give you the crown of everlasting life.” (Revelation 2:10) In the meantime you live confident in Jesus’ promise, “I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand.” (John 10:28-29)

Prayer: Jesus, keep me always a resident in God’s house. Amen.

Built on the Rock the Church shall stand
Even when steeples are falling.
Crumbled have spires in ev’ry land;
Bells still are chiming and calling.
Calling the young and old to rest,
But above all the souls distressed,
Longing for rest everlasting.

Surely in temples made with hands, God, the Most High, is not dwelling;
High above earth His temple stands, All earthly temples excelling.
Yet He who dwells in heav'n above Chooses to live with us in love,
Making our bodies His temple.

We are God's house of living stones, Built for His own habitation.
He through baptismal grace us owns Heirs of His wondrous salvation.
Were we but two His name to tell, Yet He would deign with us to dwell
With all His grace and His favor.

Here stands the font before our eyes, Telling how God has received us.
The altar recalls Christ's sacrifice And what His Supper here gives us.
Here sound the Scriptures that proclaim Christ yesterday, today, the same.
And evermore, our Redeemer.

Grant, the, O God, Your will be done, That, when the church bells are ringing
Many in saving faith may come Where Christ His message is bringing;
"I know My own; My own know Me. You, not the world, My face shall see.
My peace I leave with you. Amen."
(LSB 645)