

In His Hands

Scripture: Acts 20:32
1 Chronicles 29:12-13

Acts 20:32 (NKJV) "So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

1 Chronicles 29:12-13 (NKJV) Both riches and honor come from You, And You reign over all. In Your hand is power and might; In Your hand it is to make great And to give strength to all. 13 "Now therefore, our God, We thank You And praise Your glorious name.

Introduction

Always Paul carried the churches in his heart. He had spent three years in Ephesus. His ministry there was marked by the miraculous. By his own testimony, his ministry there took on almost 24 hour proportions. But he could no longer carry that load. The Holy Spirit had signaled change is in store. He doesn't know what the future holds for him, but he knows this church is secure in God's mighty hand.

I. Placed in His hands

Acts 20:32 (NKJV) "So now, brethren, *I commend you to God*

2 Timothy 1:12 (NKJV) For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that **He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.**

A. Give Him control and influence

1 Peter 5:6 (NKJV) Therefore **humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God**, that He may exalt you in due time,

1. Paul relinquishes his own personal influence and control
2. Paul points these men to God

B. Releasing the trust to Him

1 Corinthians 9:16-17 (NKJV) For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel! 17 For if I do this willingly, I have a reward; but if against my will, **I have been entrusted with a stewardship.**

1. He is released from his stewardship
2. Another will receive that stewardship

C. Given back to God for Him to reassign authority

2 Chronicles 30:12 (NKJV) Also the hand of God was on Judah to give them singleness of heart to obey the command of the king and the leaders, at the word of the LORD.

II. Placed in His care

Acts 20:32 (NKJV) "...and to the word of His

grace, which is able to **build you up and give you an inheritance** among all those who are sanctified.

1 Peter 5:7 (NKJV) casting all your care upon Him, for **He cares for you.**

A. Pointing to Him as primary care giver

1. He is the source of the gifts
2. He is the source of the miraculous
3. He is the source of our strength

B. Pointing to Him as the One who brings maturity

1. Maturity comes only when we must depend upon Him alone
2. Maturity is signaled by our trust in Him

C. Pointing to Him who is always there

Psalms 121:3-5 (NKJV) He will not allow your foot to be moved; **He who keeps you will not slumber. 4 Behold, He who keeps Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. 5 The LORD is your keeper; The LORD is your shade at your right hand.**

III. Placed in His strength

1 Chronicles 29:12-13 (NKJV) ...In Your hand is **power and might**; In Your hand it is to **make great** And to **give strength** to all.

Colossians 1:9-11 (NKJV) For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11 **strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power**, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;

A. He alone can strengthen you

Deuteronomy 33:25 (NKJV) Your sandals shall be iron and bronze; As your days, so shall your strength be.

B. He alone can sustain you

Philippians 1:6 (NKJV) being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;

C. He alone can keep you

Jude 1:24 (NKJV) Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,