

“Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord...” - 1 Cor 15:58

NORTHSIDE EXHORTER

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“Just Like A Tree: Our Testimony”

In last week's article, we looked at *Psalm 1:1-3* & the hymn, “**I Shall Not Be Moved**” to show how this song in conjunction with these verses should serve as our anthem & victory cry. Today, we will see how they are also the testimony of the Christian.

The song, “**I Shall Not Be Moved**” is the testimony of those who experienced a taste of hell right here on earth & Jesus brought them through the fire. In the story of Daniel,

- The decree was signed (*Daniel 6:9*).
- The letter was sealed & so was the den (*Daniel 6:17*).
- Nevertheless, when hell rises, God rises even higher & He was able to metaphorically “reach down” & deliver Daniel from the lion's den (*Daniel 6:27*).

In the story of Hananiah, Mishael, & Azariah,

- They were unmoved by the decree to worship the golden image (*Daniel 3:12*).
- When the music played, they refused to “dance” & “get down” with the rest of the Chaldeans (*Daniel 3:7-12*).
- Nevertheless, when hell assailed, they continued to believe God is able (*Daniel 3:16-18*).
- The devil may tie us up, throw us into the heat of foolishness, & sacrifices many in doing it, but every child of God has this testimony, “*Jesus untied me. He walked with me. He provided a balm that eliminated my hurt. The devil treated me like ham & threw me to the dogs. Satan intended to smoke me, but Jesus delivered me from the fire. I emerged as one, not smoked, but cured*” (*Daniel 3:19-27*).

This song reminds us of how boisterous the waves can be in the sea of life, but no matter how strong & rapid the rages are of the tempest, our hope is built on Christ the solid Rock. Therefore, we are unmoved by the counsel of the ungodly. We take stands for righteousness & are not positioned by the sinner. We are a people planted by God near the wells of living waters & not in the pathway of violators. We are a going church for a coming Lord, which does all that God authorizes. We do not have the time or the desire to sit with the mockers. We love God & His word too much. We shall not be moved!

If “Glory Hallelujah” is our chant, if being anchored in Jehovah is our position, if we are abiding in the love of God & confiding in Him, if Jesus has not failed us, if we are blessed by God, & delight in His word, then we are unmoved because we are like a well-watered tree (*Jeremiah 17:7-8*).

When we trust & place our confidence in God, then we not only have the security of an endless supply of a spiritual thirst quencher, but we have positioned ourselves to grow stronger, sturdier, & taller in His doctrine, our disposition, & discipleship. If we follow the divine examples of Jesus, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, & Azariah, then their end will be our end.

Let us delight in God's word. Let us talk to God through prayer & let him talk to us through His word. May we, who have been washed by the same blood of the Lamb as the faithful before us, know the love of God expressed in God's commands to us. May God refresh us with the living water, so our faith may be steadfast, honest, & true. May God keep us deeply rooted in His word & love forever. May we be like trees planted by the water. May we not be moved!

– *Antoine N. Holloway*