

alive
magazine
August '18

Subject to

Change



Support

**ALIVE TO GOD IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOU!
AND OTHER GENEROUS READERS SUCH AS YOURSELF**

BANKING DETAILS

Account Name: Alive to God
Bank: Standard Bank
Account Number: 411338196
(Cheque/transmission)
Branch: Menlyn
Reference: Your email address

DEBIT ORDERS

You can give regularly by means of a debit order. If you would like to make use of this option, please email us at andrew@alivetogod.com



www.AliveToGod.com/donate-support



<https://paypal.com/webapps/mpp/send-money-online>

CONTENTS

+ featured articles

- 4 A SURE FOUNDATION IN WHICH WE
CAN TRUST**
- Andrew Roebert -
- 8 CAN RICH PEOPLE GET TO HEAVEN?**
- SeedTime.com -
- 10 WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT
RESILIENCE?**
- GotQuestions.org -
- 12 WHERE DID SIN COME FROM?**
- GotQuestions.org -
- 14 LONGING AND THIRSTING FOR GOD**
- Andrew Roebert -
- 16 EXPECTING GREAT THINGS FROM GOD**
- Andrew Roebert -
- 18 SUBJECT TO CHANGE**
- Andrew Roebert -



A Sure Foundation In Which We Can Trust

By: Andrew Roebert

We all need a sure foundation in our lives on which we can build. We need to know that what we are building is not in vain. God has provided a firm foundation for us on which to build our lives. If we hold to this foundation we will stand regardless of the winds and storms that life might bring our way. You have a sure foundation and it is a foundation that has stood the test of time. It is a foundation that will hold you up as well.

WE NEED A SURE FOUNDATION

Without a sure foundation you will surely fall. This is so true and especially in the physical realm. Some years ago I was involved in a project to build a new facility on our church property. It was a much-needed facility. We made one mistake and that was that we elected to build the facility on an area of landfill that had not been compacted and we did not give enough attention to the foundations on this unstable ground. The building was completed and looked really grand. But within weeks, cracks and crevasses started to appear. Some of the doors would not close and others were impossible to open. The structure became unstable and the facility could no longer be used, for safety purposes. Experts were brought in and the foundations were opened and underpinned with supports to lift and carry the foundation so that the building could be secured. The same is true in our lives. If the foundation is not sure the cracks will begin to show and the very building that we thought was so grand will begin to crumble around us. We need a sure foundation in our lives!

BUILDING ON SAND SPELLS DISASTER

When we build on anything less than a sure foundation it has the potential to collapse and fall around us. This can be applied to life, marriage, business, careers and families. The Bible tells us to build on something that is not sure is foolish!

Matthew 7:26 – 27 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.

What have you built your life on? If it is on a sure foundation it will stand.

IF THE FOUNDATION IS SURE WE CAN BE SURE

If we have a sure foundation in our lives we can be sure that what we build on that foundation will be able to stand. When we begin to build, the building can only be as strong as its foundations. If the foundation is sure and strong we can build a strong lasting building that can stand the test of time. The Bible tells us that what we build in our lives will be tested.

1 Corinthians 3:13 – 15 There is going to come a time of testing at Christ's Judgment Day to see what kind of material each builder has used. Everyone's work will be put through the fire so that all can see whether or not it keeps its value, and what was really accomplished. Then every workman who has built on the foundation with the right materials, and whose work still stands, will get his pay. But if the house he has built burns up, he will have a great loss.



BUILDING ON A SURE FOUNDATION

Building on a sure foundation brings lasting results. On a trip to England I visited a cathedral that was built 1000 years ago. It is a magnificent structure that dominates the entire landscape and had done so for centuries. This is how it is with our lives. If we build correctly on the sure & strong foundations, we can build something that will last long after we are gone. Building on a sure foundation brings lasting results. The Bible tells us that to build on something sure is wise!

Matthew 7:24 –25 Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

GOD HAS PROVIDED A SURE FOUNDATION

1. Jesus Christ is the Sure Foundation.

Mark 12:10 The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

Jesus wants to be the SURE FOUNDATION of our lives.

2. There are other aspects that also form part of the firm foundation that God has laid for us.

The promises of God in general—His Word, on which we can hope. God wants to be God to you; this is a foundation, a foundation of stone, firm and lasting, for you to build your faith upon.

TRUSTING THE SURE FOUNDATION

Not only do we have to build on a sure foundation but we must also trust the foundation to carry us. When we build a wall upon a foundation, that wall relies fully on the foundation to hold it up and carry it. It does not try to carry itself or hold itself up. It relies fully on the foundation and rests completely on it. This is exactly how we need to build our lives. We need to believe in, rely on and trust the sure foundation without looking at the prevailing circumstances and conditions.

Isaiah 28:16 Therefore thus says the Lord God, Behold, I am laying in Zion for a foundation, a Stone, a tested Stone, a precious Cornerstone of sure foundation; he who believes (trusts in, relies on, and adheres to that Stone) will not be ashamed or give way or hasten away [in sudden panic].

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO TRUST?

To trust in God can be described in several ways.

1. *To place our confidence in God. To be confident in God.*
2. *To depend on God.*
3. *Trust also speaks of the future and things that are not yet a reality and as such trusting God includes the aspect of hope.*
4. *To trust God is to rely on His character, ability and strength.*
5. *It is a complete assurance and certainty regarding the character, ability and strength of God.*

Trust speaks of confidence, dependence, faith, hope and reliance. The opposite would be doubt, skepticism, suspicion and uncertainty.

MANY OF THE THINGS WE PUT OUR TRUST IN ARE UNCERTAIN

Beauty, Health & Physical Strength – Proverbs 31:30 ‘Charm is deceptive and beauty is fleeting...’

- a. *Other People – Psalm 146:3 ‘Do not put your trust in princes or in mortal men, who cannot save.’*
- b. *Wealth and Money – Proverbs 23:5 ‘cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone, for they shall surely sprout wings and fly off to the sky like an eagle.’*
- c. *Tomorrow – Proverbs 27:1 ‘Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day will bring forth.’ (Tomorrow’s another day).*
- d. *Life – James 4:14 ‘...you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.’*
- e. *Fame and Glory – 1 Peter 1:24 ‘All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flower fall...’*

A SURE FOUNDATION FOR YOUR TIMES

Life is a series of seasons and times through which we pass. Each season has its own challenges and difficulties. Trouble is a part of life. It is not a matter of if we have trouble but rather a matter of when we have trouble. If the foundation is sure, we will be able to stand. Perhaps you are facing a difficult season or time right now. If you are, then hold onto the sure foundation, God will see you through and bring you out on the other side.

**Isaiah 33:6 He will be the
sure foundation for your
times, a rich store of
salvation and wisdom and
knowledge; the fear of the
LORD is the key to this
treasure.**

This scripture indicates that this sure foundation is a treasure in our lives. There is a key to experiencing this treasure and it is the fear of the Lord in our lives!

A SURE FOUNDATION THAT WILL NOT BE MOVED

The foundation that God is offering us is a foundation that will not be moved. It is a tried and tested foundation upon which the saints have relied and trusted and it did not fail them. Think of Joseph, David and Abraham. Just as the foundation has carried others, it can carry you as well. If we will build, rely and trust in this foundation then we will not be ashamed, nor will we give way under the pressures of life, nor will we be destroyed when troubles come.

***Isaiah 28:16 Therefore thus says the
Lord God, Behold, I am laying in Zion
for a foundation a Stone, a tested Stone, a
precious Cornerstone of sure foundation;
he who believes (trusts in, relies on, and
adheres to that Stone) will not be
ashamed or give way or hasten away [in
sudden panic].***

Let's build on the SURE FOUNDATION!





Can Rich People Get to Heaven?

SeedTime.com

If I am going to write about rich people getting to heaven, we had better clarify what we mean by “rich”. Because most of us compare ourselves with neighbours or fellow workers or bank presidents or movie stars, we can agree that the “richness” is a relative trait. Right?

In that case, by that standard, we have just defined you as rich. According to Global Rich List, if you have an annual income of more than \$850 (that is R11249.84 per year – which is R937.49 per month), you are richer than half the people in the world. If you prefer to think of richness in more elitist terms – say the top 10% of income earners – you are rich if you make over \$25,000 annually (that is R330 855 per year – which is R27 571.25 per month). So...my guess is that you are rich even by the “elitist” definition.

“So,” you may be wondering, “does the bible say that rich people can’t get to heaven?” Well...sort of. Some have made that conclusion based on Jesus’ conversation with a rich young man (Matthew 19:16-26) who, although he was morally upright, was not willing to give his possessions to the poor in order to gain treasures in heaven. As this young man, who evidently had great wealth, walked away with his head down, Jesus told his disciples that a rich man has about as much chance of entering the kingdom of heaven as a camel does of passing through the eye of a needle.

“Well.”, you are thinking. “Doesn’t that settle it? Jesus is the ultimate authority and it is impossible for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle. By world standards, I am rich. I am also doomed. Right?”

Not so fast. Let’s examine exactly what took place during this encounter.

The young man had a false concept of entrance to heaven.

He started his conversation with Jesus by asking, “Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?” If our entrance to heaven is based on our good deeds, we are all in serious trouble.

The young man was self-righteous.

When asked about keeping the commandments (at least six of them), he said, “All of these I have kept.” Really? ALL of them? Without ever slipping even once? I don’t think so, and he was deceiving himself if he thought so.

His possessions came between him and God.

Those six commandments were all about how well one treats his fellow man. Because the other four (there are ten altogether) are about one’s relationship with God, Jesus tested that relationship by offering treasures in heaven if the young man would give his possessions to the poor. Of course, we know what happened: he walked away sorrowfully. Why? Because his stuff was more important than his relationship with God.

All things are possible with God.

After the man walked away, Jesus' dumbfounded disciples asked what you and I would have asked, "Then who in the world can be saved?" Jesus answered, "Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible."

"This is all a big riddle to me. Tell me flat out: can a rich man get to heaven?"

OK. The answer is yes. Here is why:

- Access to heaven is a free gift. (Ephesians 2: 8,9) It has absolutely nothing to do with being good or having money or keeping commandments. Just as good deeds will not open heaven's doors for Mother Teresa or Billy Graham, riches will not close those doors for Bill Gates or Warren Buffett. Entrance is based on one thing and one thing only: accepting God's free gift.
- By seeking right standing with God through his good deeds, the young man was asking the wrong question: Jesus simply pursued this erroneous line of thinking until he reached this young man's chink in his armour: his possessions. We all have similar "chinks", whether they be our stuff or our time or our selfishness or temper or...well, you get the idea.

Other questions

Maybe this free gift stuff makes sense, but Jesus DID ask the man to give all of his possessions to the poor. Doesn't that mean we should do the same? Not necessarily. We are reading a narrative of a one-time only event where Jesus confronts a rich man about what is standing between him and God.

We should not read into this narrative a command that Jesus expects all of us everywhere to always give every penny we have to the poor. Think about it: we would then be the poor and the recipients would then be expected to give it back. Very confusing.

But shouldn't we be willing to give to the poor?

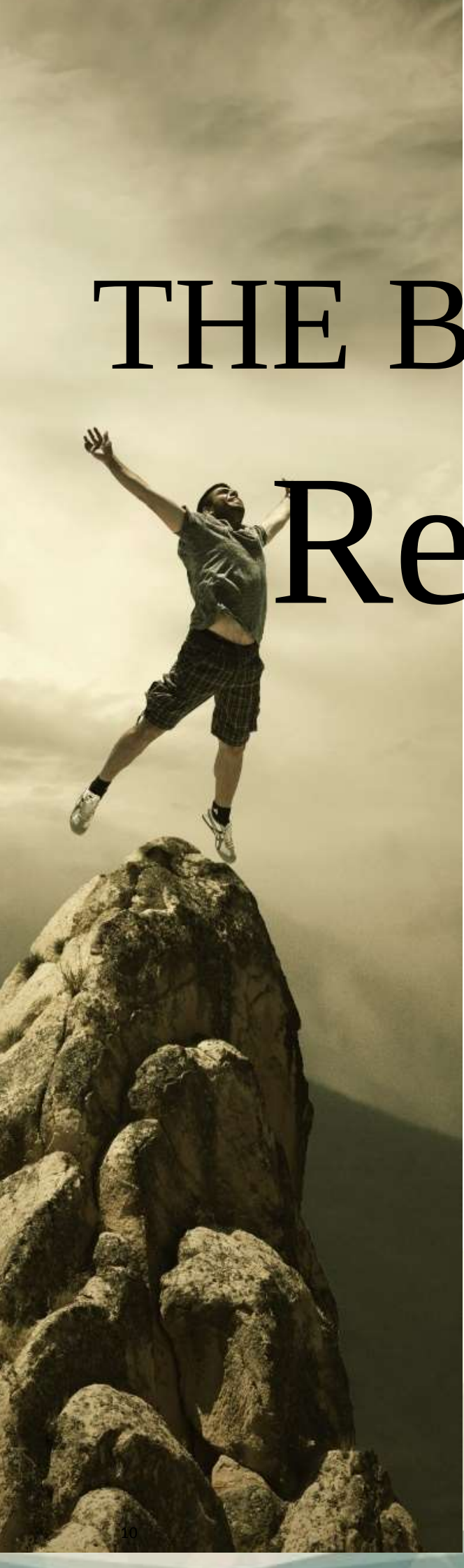
Ahh. Great question. We should be willing to do whatever God leads us to do. If he wants us to be very generous (and he does), we should be very generous. To reiterate, this generosity has nothing to do with earning a spot in heaven; it is the natural result of being changed on the inside when we become God's children.

OK. This is starting to sink in. Should I, therefore, go ahead and seek my millions?

Maybe. If you are able to handle those millions in a way that pleases God. Some have misconstrued Jesus' words "with God everything is possible" as license to go ahead and accumulate wealth. I would remind them that Jesus also said, "When someone has been given much, much will be required in return; and when someone has been entrusted with much, even more will be required." Luke 12: 48.

A rich man can indeed enter heaven, but a rich man is also responsible for how he handles those riches.



A man in a grey t-shirt and dark shorts is captured mid-jump, leaping off a jagged, rocky cliff. His arms are outstretched upwards, and his legs are in a dynamic jumping position. The background is a vast, cloudy sky with soft, diffused light. The overall mood is one of freedom, triumph, and resilience.

What does THE BIBLE SAY about Resilience?

GotQuestions.org

Resilience is the quality of being able to adapt to stressful life changes and “bouncing back” from hardship. Resilience is a response to tragedy, crisis, or other life-altering changes that allows us to move on despite the loss. Showing resilience does not mean that a person is unaffected or uncaring about the life change.

Resilience is the human heart’s ability to suffer greatly and grow from it. We see examples of national resilience, such as the United States showed after the events of September 11, 2001. We observe personal resilience every day in people who suffer handicaps, deaths of loved ones, and other losses. When people refuse to give up on themselves and the world, even after misfortune, they are being resilient

Resilience is the biblical norm for Christians. The Bible contains many admonitions to press on (Philippians 3:13–15), overcome hardship and temptation (Romans 12:21), and persevere in the face of trials (James 1:12). It also gives us numerous examples of people who suffered greatly but continued to follow God’s plan for their lives. Proverbs 24:16 could be seen as the theme verse for the resilient: “Though the righteous fall seven times, they rise again, but the wicked stumble when calamity strikes.”

Paul showed great resilience after his life-altering encounter with Jesus (Acts 9). When he was transformed from religious Pharisee to radical Christian, many were not happy with his message. He was beaten, stoned, criticized, jailed, and nearly killed many times (2 Corinthians 11:24–27). One incident especially shows Paul's exceptional resilience. In Lystra in Asia Minor, he was stoned, dragged out of town, and left for dead, but, when his enemies left, Paul simply got up and went back into the city (Acts 14:19–20). His missionary endeavors continued unabated. Godly resilience enables us to be undeterred from our mission, regardless of the opposition.

In the Old Testament, Job demonstrated great resilience, and God honored him for it. After losing everything, Job was in great agony of soul and body, yet he refused to curse the Lord or give up: "In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing" (Job 1:22). Later, when the suffering intensified, Job's wife counseled him to "curse God and die!" (Job 2:9), but Job would not even consider such a thing. Despite his suffering, Job knew that God was in control, and that knowledge helped him maintain resilience instead of giving in to defeat. His faith resulted in resiliency.

The believer in Jesus Christ is upheld by God's power and so is naturally resilient. "We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed" (2 Corinthians 4:8–9). Christians keep bouncing back. The key to resiliency is faith in the Lord: "The Lord makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand" (Psalm 37:23–24).

One enemy of resilience is the incorrect assumption that we know how things will end. When a situation seems out of control or does not appear to be headed in the right direction, we tend to write "The End" over the story. We think we know the final result, so, instead of exercising resilience, we give up or take matters into our own hands. Proverbs 3:5–6 is a good passage to cling to whenever we can see only disaster ahead: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not to your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths."

Choosing to trust in the Lord rather than rely on what we understand is the best way to stay resilient.





Where did Sin come from?

GotQuestions.org

God did not create sin, but He created beings with free will who have the ability to sin. This includes Satan, fallen angels (demons), and humans. To be clear, sin is a falling short of God's standards. Sin is not an entity or a thing that "exists"; it has no independent being. Rather, sin is a lack of something, a failure to fully obey God's law and live up to His glory (Romans 3:23).

When He created the universe and our world, "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good" (Genesis 1:31; cf. 1 Timothy 4:4). This "very good" creation included humanity and the angel that would later become known as Satan. At this point, no humans or angels had yet sinned, but they had the potential to do so. God did not create any being sinful, yet a group of angels rebelled against God in heaven and became sinful.

Satan's fall from heaven is symbolically described in Isaiah 14:12–14 and Ezekiel 28:12–19. An angel named Lucifer wanted to "ascend to the heavens" and be "above the stars of God" (Isaiah 14:13). Verse 14 adds he desired to make himself "like the Most High." God judged Lucifer by removing him from God's ongoing presence (Isaiah 14:15). That fallen angel is now known as Satan ("adversary") or the devil ("slanderer").

In Ezekiel, we find Satan was created as a perfect, wise, and beautiful angel (Ezekiel 28:14). But then Satan rebelled: "You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you" (verse 15). That's when the situation changed. Scripture hints at the reason Satan chose to sin: "Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor" (verse 17; cf. 1 Timothy 3:6). Satan's fall took place at some point before he came as a serpent to tempt Eve in the Garden of Eden in Genesis 3. After being thrown to the earth (Ezekiel 28:17), Satan tempted humanity to sin, and he has continued that practice ever since (see Matthew 4:1–11).

Since Adam's sin, humans have inherited Adam's spiritual corruption and have been born with a sin nature. We are naturally inclined to sin (Romans 6 – 7; James 1:13–15). But in Christ Jesus we can be forgiven of our sins. "God made [Jesus] who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God" (2 Corinthians 5:21).



We receive forgiveness from the eternal penalty of sin when we put our faith in Jesus. We also receive freedom from slavery to sin and can learn, by yielding to the Holy Spirit, to live righteously. This process of acting less like Adam and more like Christ is called sanctification.

Some have wondered why God created beings who could sin. Why didn't He create angels and humans without the ability to sin? The alternative would be to create beings unable to choose right and wrong. But, in that case, angels and humans would be like robots, unable to truly show love and affection to the Lord. God could either make sin impossible, or He could make beings free to choose, but He could not logically do both. Without an ability to choose, no being can have a meaningful relationship with God. There would never be a meaningful experience of His mercy and love, His justice and righteousness. The fullness of God's nature and glory would not be on display.

The existence of sin is negative (Romans 6:23), but it is not the end of the story. Satan will ultimately be defeated. His end has been declared, and his evil will not continue forever (Revelation 20:7–10). Through faith in Jesus Christ, we can receive forgiveness of sins and restored fellowship with God (John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8–9). This relationship provides eternal life as well as abundant life through our connection with the Lord (John 10:10). Jesus conquers sin and death and brings us to a fullness of relationship with God we can only begin to imagine (1 Corinthians 15:50–58; Revelation 21 – 22).



Longing and Thirsting FOR GOD!

By: Andrew Roebert

Humans have a desire to experience God. It is as if human beings have a thirst for the divine. We were created with a God shaped vacuum. A space that only God could fill. We may try to fill it with other things. But they do not satisfy. Only the presence of God can fulfill that desire.

IT IS NATURAL CHRISTIANS TO THIRST AND LONG FOR GOD

The men and women of the Bible longed for God. Even today Christians long for more of God. A desire for more of God is not unusual. The absence of such a desire is the thing that is unusual. David longed for God. Many of the Psalms testify to this.

Psalm 63:1 O God, my God! How I search for you! How I thirst for you in this parched and weary land where there is no water. How I long to find you!

Listen to David:
'How I search for you'
'How I thirst for you'
'How I long to find you'

Can you hear the heart's cry?

THE RESULT OF DAVID'S LONGING FOR GOD

He would actively spend time seeking Him. He would spend time looking for Him.

Psalm 63:2 So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, To see Your power and Your glory.

David would go into the sanctuary to look for God. David had a level of expectation. Expectations that He would find God.

WHY DID DAVID LOOK FOR GOD?

He knew he needed God. He realised that God's blessings was important. God's blessings are worth more than life.

Psalm 63:3 For Your love and kindness are better to me than life itself.

God's love and kindness are very important. David understood how important this was. We need to realize the same. And it should bring about the same response – to look for God.

KNOWING THE PRESENCE OF GOD RESULTED IN PRAISING GOD

David experienced and enjoyed the presence of God. It was something he looked for. It was something he searched for. The result of experiencing the presence of God was that David starting praising God.

Psalm 63:3-4 My lips shall praise You. Thus I will bless You while I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name.

Praise should be our automatic response to God's presence.

CONNECTING WITH GOD LEADS TO INNER SATISFACTION

Touching God is important. As we experience Him, that God shaped vacuum within each of us is filled. When we experience God's presence, the human thirst for the divine is quenched. And we know what we have been missing. This also results in praise.

Psalm 63:5 At last I shall be fully satisfied; I will praise You with great joy. (Living)

Psalm 63:5 My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow and fatness, And my mouth shall praise You with joyful lips. (NKJ)

ENCOUNTERS WITH GOD LINGER WITH US

Meeting or connecting with God are special times. They have a way of carrying us. We remember them.

Psalm 63:6 On my bed I remember You; I think of You through the watches of the night.

We can enjoy God's special presence.

MEETING WITH GOD IS MEETING WITH OUR HELPER

Psalm 63:7 You have been my help, Therefore in the shadow of Your wings I will rejoice.

God wants to help us. He wants to be our Helper. God offers us security. We can live in the shadow of His wings. A place of security and strength. And there we can rejoice.

EXPECTING

Great Things from God

By: Andrew Roebert

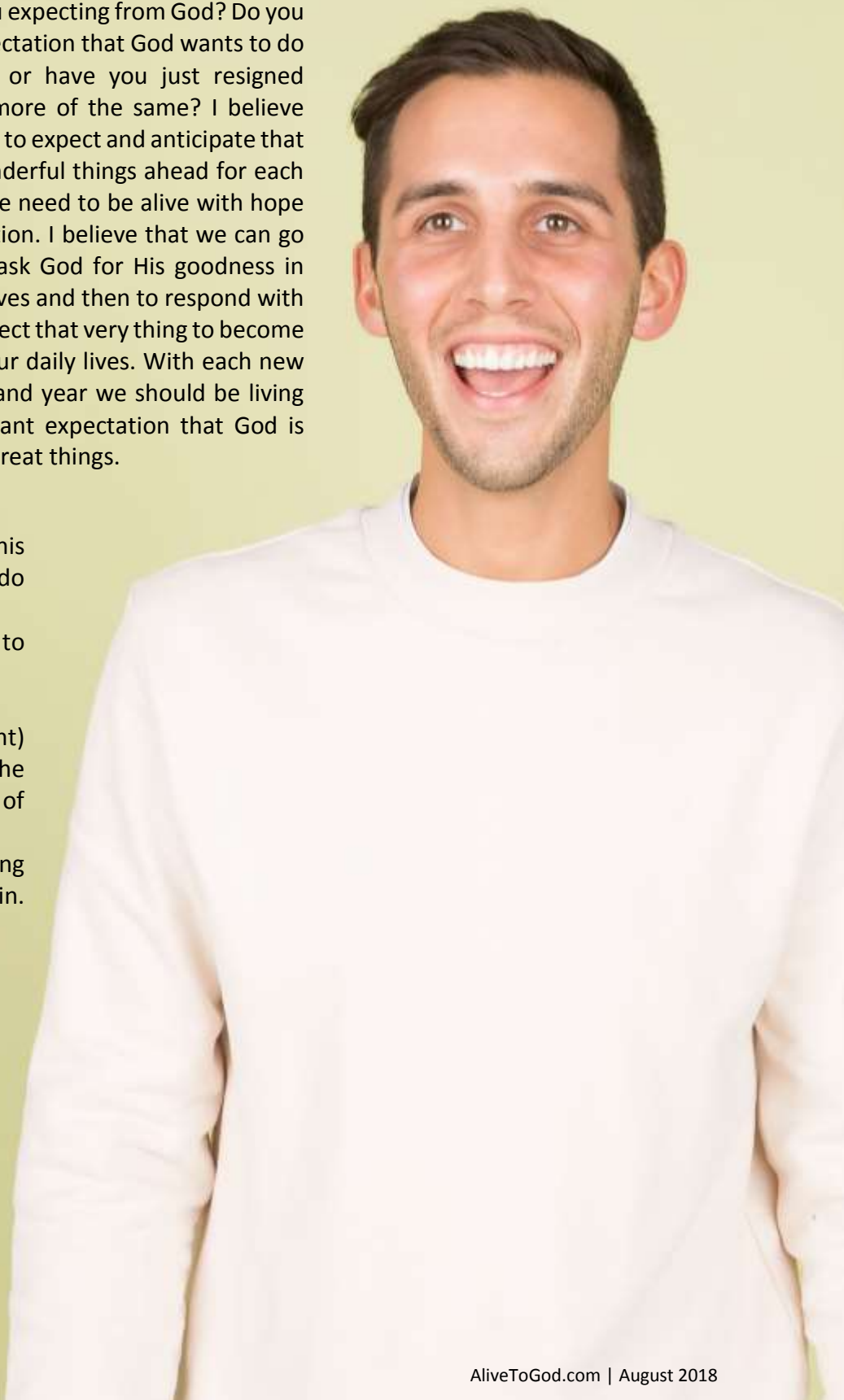
What are you expecting from God? Do you have an expectation that God wants to do great things or have you just resigned yourself to more of the same? I believe that we need to expect and anticipate that God has wonderful things ahead for each one of us. We need to be alive with hope and expectation. I believe that we can go further and ask God for His goodness in and on our lives and then to respond with faith and expect that very thing to become a reality in our daily lives. With each new day, month and year we should be living with a constant expectation that God is going to do great things.

DEFINITION:

What does it mean to live with this expectation that God wants to do wonderful things?

- A. To look forward to something.
- B. To be pregnant.
- C. To anticipate (excitement) or look forward to the coming or occurrence of something.
- D. To consider something probable, likely or certain. (Faith)

Hebrews 11:1 What is faith? It is the confident assurance that something we want is going to happen. It is the certainty that what we hope for is waiting for us, even though we cannot see it up ahead.



To expect implies a high degree of certainty and usually involves the idea of preparing or envisioning.

EXPECTATION – GIVES REASON TO LIVE

If we can live with expectation then we are really living. Living with an expectation that God wants to show us His goodness and do great things, gives us reason to live. Without this expectation we die, slowly from the inside out. The Psalmist David understood this.

*Psalm 27:13 [What, what
would have become of me]
had I not believed
(expected) that I would see
the Lord's goodness in the
land of the living!*

God wants to be good to us in the 'land of the living'. This speaks of being good to us in this life. David says: 'What, what would have become of me had I not believed'. In the NKJV Bible it says: 'I would have lost heart, unless I had believed' In the ASV Bible it says: 'I would have despaired unless I had believed'. Without expectation we loose heart, despair and come to nothing. I once heard someone say that if you expect nothing you will never be disappointed. That is not living. God designed us to live with expectation and hope.

WHAT CAN WE EXPECT - EXPECT ANSWERS TO PRAYER

It is time to believe God for answers to the prayers that you have prayed. I am trusting for this very aspect in my life. There are many things I have prayed about, over the years and asked God to do. These things I am trusting and expecting God to answer and supply. I believe that this next season will be a season in which we will see many of these aspects, that we have prayed about, come to finality. This also speaks of fulfillment of things. These can include promises and prophecies or just the longing and desires of our hearts. What have you asked God to do? What promises and prophecies have you received that you are still waiting to see come to fulfillment? What are the desires and the longings of your heart? We need to live in expectation that God wants to do great things in all these areas. Remember that delay does not mean denial. However if there is a delay we must keep our expectation alive!

WHAT CAN WE EXPECT – BLESSING

You might say: 'How can I expect God to bless me?' I believe that we can trust God and live in expectation that He wants to bless us. As you face this new season you can also ask and believe God for His blessing on your life. There is an example of such a request in the Old Testament.

PRAYER OF JABEZ

*1 Chronicles 4:10 And Jabez
called on the God of Israel saying,
"Oh, that You would bless me
indeed, and enlarge my territory,
that Your hand would be with me,
and that You would keep me from
evil, that I may not cause pain!"
So God granted him what he
requested.*

You and I can pray this same prayer and believe God for a same out come.

WHAT CAN WE EXPECT - EXPECT GREAT THINGS FROM GOD!

God has wonderful things and plans in store for each of us. We must begin to expect, anticipate, look forward to, begin to consider probable, likely or certain and activate our faith that God has great things in store for us.

*Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the
plans I have for you," declares
the LORD, "plans to prosper
you and not to harm you, plans
to give you hope and a future."*

Don't look to man but look to God. Let your expectation be from Him.

*Psalm 62:5 My soul,
wait only upon God
and silently submit to
Him; for my hope and
expectation are from
Him.*



SUBJECT TO *Change*

By: Andrew Roebert

Sometimes we think that things will never change. Have you ever been in a situation that never seems to change or improve and then got to the point where you begin to think that it can no longer change? Perhaps it is a problem in your family, or in your marriage, or in your health. It could also be a situation in your work environment or with your finances. When we begin to feel like this we start losing hope. This can lead to a sense of hopelessness, despair or discouragement. We no longer expect and believe that God can turn things around. BUT everything in life is subject to change. We must begin to pray for, expect for and believe for change.

LIFE — A SERIES OF SEASONS

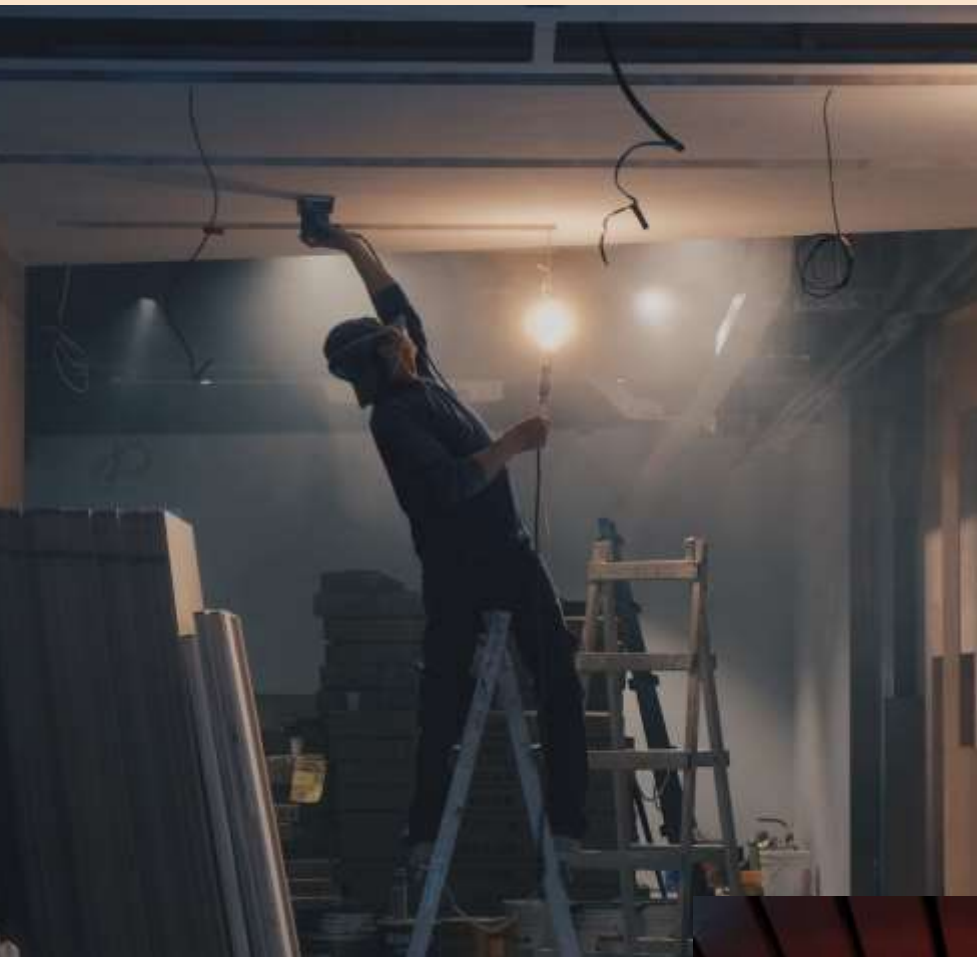
Nothing stays the same forever. It may feel like you are stuck in a time warp where things are not moving. What we need to remember is that life is a series of seasons. The great thing about seasons is that they change. We cannot live in a winter season all our lives. When we are in the depth of a winter season, it does feel like it will never end, but it will. God has another season awaiting you. We must not resign ourselves to the current state of affairs, but we must trust God to turn the tide and change the season in our lives.

Here is an example: some years ago I visited a country that has a very long winter season. It can last up to nine months of the year. The people that had invited me told me that in February, the middle of their winter, it is statistically the highest suicide month. They ascribed this to the fact that winter has already been so long and it is still a long way from over. As a result people can get discouraged and lose hope to the point where they take their own lives. When we face winter seasons in our lives this can also happen. But the good news is that season change!

NO SITUATION IS BEYOND THE REACH OF GOD

No situation and no circumstance is too hard for God.

Jeremiah 32:27 I am the LORD, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?



CONSTANT CHANGE IS HERE TO STAY

It is strange how we always want things to change and then when we arrive at a place where things seem to be going well, then we want things to remain the same. Change is part of every aspect of our lives. We need to grow accustomed to the truth that constant change is an inevitable part of our earthly life. Because of the fact that change is so much a part of life and because the future is uncertain, we need to learn to adjust, expect and be prepared for ongoing change.

The Bible speaks about change and how that God wants to take us from strength to strength and glory to glory. We need to embrace change and expect God to work in each stage of life.

BELIEVING GOD FOR BREAKTHROUGH

Faith is an essential element of our lives.

In some case it may even feel as though God has left you or forgotten about you. The truth of the matter is that God loves you and He has not and will not forget you.

Isaiah 49:15 Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you!

Never limit God! He is able to reach into your situation and bring about change. We must just live with expectant hearts.

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

No matter how difficult and complicated your situation may be, God is able to turn things around. With God in the equation everything becomes subject to change. God is the God of the impossible! He can bring about change in any situation.

Isaiah 43:19 I will make a road through the wilderness of the world for My people to go home, and create rivers for them in the desert!

You may find yourself in a wilderness or a desert. This is no obstacle to God.



We need faith as we face the different seasons and the change that they bring. But in all this we can expect and believe God for breakthrough.

Hebrews 11:1 What is faith? It is the confident assurance that something we want is going to happen. It is the certainty that what we hope for is waiting for us, even though we cannot see it up ahead.

We need to allow our hearts to be full of faith and expectation that at any time God could come through for us and that as a result we will experience breakthrough! The people in the Bible who God used were known for their faith and expectation in God.

Hebrews 11:2 Men of God in days of old were famous for their faith. Begin to put out your faith and expect a breakthrough from God.

Timeless Christian Resources

RoebertMinistries.co.za

ROEBERT
MINISTRIES

ADDICTION?

ELIEZER MINISTRIES CAN HELP

Contact us for ministry in discipleship, Christian healing and deliverance from addiction

EliezerMinistries.com | healing@eliezerministries.com

062 HEALING (4325464) | Pretoria, South Africa

Trevor & Violet

ON AIR
IMPACT

103FM

CHRISTIAN
COMMUNITY
RADIO STATION

LISTEN LIVE
IMPACTRADIO.CO.ZA

MIDWEEK SPECIAL
Santorini in
Ballito

FRONT ROW, GROUND FLOOR
SLEEPS 6, 2 BATHROOMS

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY
@R950 PER NIGHT

GET THURSDAY NIGHT FREE!

AKROTIRI19.WORDPRESS.COM

AKROTIRI19@GMAIL.COM

Igoda Mouth Resort

AFFORDABLE SELF-CATERING FAMILY
HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION IN EAST LONDON

IgodaMouthResort.co.za

+27 43 736 7017

FREE DAILY BIBLE VERSE

AliveToGod.com