

## Why A Christian Should Be Encouraged In Days of Difficulty?

### ⇒ Intro:

- This morning we want to look into the word of God and find the answer to the following Question – “Why A Christian Should Be Encouraged In Days of Difficulty?”

- ⇒ 1. **BECAUSE** he has a Father in heaven who loves him, cares for him and has blessed him with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ
  - John 16:27
  - Luke 12:22-28
  - Ephesians 1:3
- ⇒ 2. **BECAUSE** he has a Great High Priest in heaven to sympathize with him, succor and support him and to conduct him into the enjoyment of heavenly things.
  - Hebrews 2:17-18
  - Hebrews 4:14-16
  - Hebrews 8:1 –6
- ⇒ 3. **BECAUSE** he has a Great and Good Shepherd to lead him, care for him, protect him and sustain him until the time when the Lord takes him Home to Glory.
  - This is so clearly expressed in the Psalm 23.
  - Hebrews 13:20-21
- ⇒ 4. **BECAUSE** he has an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous, who pleads his cause and always prevails.
  - 1 John 1:8-10
  - 1 John 2:1
- ⇒ 5. **BECAUSE** he has a Divine Counselor to go to for counsel or advice at all times who will give him understanding and lead him in the right path.
  - Isaiah 9:6
  - Proverbs 3:5-6

- ⇒ 6. **BECAUSE** he has an Abiding Comforter (the Holy Spirit) to guide him in his understanding of the Word, to teach him spiritual truth and to take of the things of Christ and show them unto him.
  - John 14:16-17
  - John 16:13-14
- ⇒ 7. **BECAUSE** he has a Throne of Grace to go to at all times where he can obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.
  - Hebrews 4:14-16
  - 1 John 5:14-15
  - Philippians 4:6-7
- ⇒ 8. **BECAUSE** he has the Holy Scriptures to search and study which testify of the sufferings of Christ and the glory to follow; they also empower and transform him into Christ's likeness.
  - 1 Peter 1:6-11
  - 1 Thessalonians 2:13
  - 2 Peter 1:4-8
- ⇒ 9. **BECAUSE** he is an heir to an incorruptible inheritance, undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven, and is kept by the power of God until he comes into possession.
  - 1 Peter 1:3-5
- ⇒ 10. **BECAUSE** he has the interests of Christ and the work to which he has been called to engage him until the return of his Lord.
  - Ephesians 6:18-20
  - 1 Corinthians 1:23-26
  - 2 Timothy 2:1 –6

⇒ 11. **BECAUSE** he has before him the Blessed Hope of the Lord's imminent return to catch away His saints to comfort him in times of difficulty.

- Titus 2:13
- 1 John 3:2
- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- 1 Thessalonians 5:9-11

⇒ **Conclusion:**

- IN CHRIST WE HAVE:
  - Love that can never be fathomed.
  - Life that can never die.
  - Union that can never be severed.
  - Righteousness that can never be tarnished.
  - Peace that can never be understood.
  - Joy that can never be diminished.
  - Hope that can never be disappointed.
  - Glory that can never be clouded.
  - Light that can never be darkened.
  - Purity that can never be defiled.
  - Beauty that can never be marred.
  - Wisdom that can never be baffled.
  - Resources that can never be exhausted.