DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

Things Unshakable... by Gareth

READ: HEBREWS 12:27

• It is very encouraging that in a world of change and decay there are some things which can never be shaken. In *Hebrews 12* we learn that a time of shaking is to be expected, for the writer predicts that there is coming a terrible time in the world when everything, except certain things which can never be shaken, will be dissolved and removed (2 *Peter 3:10*). A great shaking is going on today, and in connection with this we should recall Jesus' parable recorded in *Matthew 7:24-29*. All that is not built upon the rock will fall and only things of eternal value will stand.

1. THE KINGDOM OR THRONE OF GOD CAN NEVER BE SHAKEN

- Psalm 45:6 "Your throne. O God, endures forever and ever"
- Lamentations 5:19 "But Lord, you remain the same forever! Your throne continues from generation to generation"
- We can lift up our hearts with gratitude that whatever else may happen, God's throne will remain secure.
- Even the heavens will be shaken one day *Isaiah 34:4*; but God, who is above the heavens, is eternal and immutable. Nothing can shake or change Him (*Hebrews 1:10-12*). It is a great encouragement to every child of God to know that when everything else is shaken the throne of God can never be shaken. We must of course reckon with God's throne. It is a throne of grace (*Hebrews 4:16*) and it is also a throne of judgment (*Revelation 20:11*). Are you part of the unshakable Kingdom of God? (*Colossians 1:13*)

2. THE WORD OF GOD CAN NEVER BE SHAKEN

- We are assured of this in Mark 13:31 and 1 Peter 1:23-25.
 - Its promises can never be shaken. There are thousands of them, but not one of them
 has ever failed or will ever fail. There are promises for every child of God and for every
 situation in life, and these become ours when we put our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ 2
 Corinthians 1:20.
 - Its power can never be shaken. Romans 1:16 and Hebrews 4:12 assure us of this. The Word of God has power to convict (Acts 2:37), to convert (Psalm 19:7), to cleanse (Psalm 119:9), to comfort (Psalm 119:49-50), and to counsel (Psalm 73:24), and its power will never change.
 - Its prophecies can never be shaken. Many of the Bible's prophecies have already been literally fulfilled and all the promises that await fulfilment will also be literally fulfilled.



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Week 16

The Word of God, the Bible, is thoroughly reliable. If it is a convicting Word, have I been convicted? If it is a converting Word, have I been converted? If it is a cleansing Word, am I being cleansed? If it is a comforting Word, do I receive its comfort? How we need comfort, in these days, God is the greatest comforter that I know.

• 3. THE CHURCH OF GOD CAN NEVER BE SHAKEN

- The words of our Lord recorded in Matthew 16:18 "I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it "
- In this amazing statement the Saviour was assuring His disciples (and us) that the Church is built on the solid foundation of His person and His work. There is no other foundation (1 Corinthians 3:11).
- Even today the churches, organised assemblies or communities of professing Christians, are being shaken on every hand; but the Church, which is the Body of Christ, cannot and will not be shaken. The visible church will be shaken but the Spiritual Church cannot be touched. The true Church is secure, permanent and abiding. Are you a member of the true Church? –that is, not only a professing Christian but a possessing Christian?

4. THE CHILD OF GOD CAN NEVER BE SHAKEN

- Many biblical promises assure us of God's concern for every one of His children and of His pledge to keep them secure until they are safely "home" with Him in heaven. For example, look up John 10:27-29; Romans 8:38-39; 2 Timothy 1:12.
- Are you a child of God? Have you been born into His family? John 3v7; John 1:12; John 3:5
- Let every Christian rejoice that in a shaking world these four things can never be shaken. Do you belong to the Lord? Are you a member of His kingdom and living in subjection to His Word? Do you belong to the true Church? Are you a child of God through faith in Jesus Christ? ■