

Text – Hebrews 10:35-36

“Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.”

Introduction: Imagine you are traveler in ancient times, with no knowledge of modern observatory announcements. You are set on a journey and all of a sudden you are faced with an eclipse; an unexpected obscuring of light from either the Sun or the Moon. You will surely be perplexed for a moment. You had trusted the journey would be smooth but with the new challenge now face the dilemma of either proceeding cautiously or abandoning it. Most folks would weigh the options and slow down, the one who keeps trusting based on experience, or recollection of stories from others or sheer optimism would decide to continue while the feeble-minded could panic and endanger themselves. Even in this modern times, you could set out on a trip and the weather could change all of a sudden contrary to forecast and expectations; you may encounter a rain or a storm and need to decide whether to proceed, slowdown or turn back. Whether you keep trusting that the trip should continue and will end well depends on many factors including your knowledge of the way, how well kitted you are and the state of your craft, boat or vehicle. If you were well prepared ab-initio, chances are you would keep trusting and forge ahead even with pauses rather than abandon the trip. ***This Sermon is not about journeys, it is about attaining set-goals in life for which you are willing to put necessary effort and trust God for success.***

Bible Reading: Risen Jesus's encounter with two disciples on the road to Emmaus

Luke 24:17 *And he said unto them, What manner of communications are these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad? 18 And the one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answering said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days? 19 And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people: 20 And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him. 21 But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, today is the third day since these things were done... 25 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: 26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? 27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.*

Thesis: When you trust the LORD on something, things may suddenly go awry as if He cannot keep His promises but keep trusting anyway.

When the circumstances indicate the situation appears hopeless, that is when to recall your favourite passages and memory verses. If you analyze the situation, you will be gloomy and teary but if you meditate on divine assurances, you would be persuaded that Romans 8:28 applies in your case and be thankful!

Those disciples were SAD since they TRUSTED but thereafter doubted because things didn't go as they wished, they knew Jesus as a mighty prophet, not as the mighty God. They failed to recall both the OT scriptures and the teachings of Jesus (Pls 16:10, Mt 16:21-22). Don't we do likewise today? (Jn 16:33)? Joseph, David, and even Jesus (Pls 22:8, Mt 27:43) all trusted in God yet things went South but they prevailed eventually.

Conclusion: No traffic hold-up lasts forever, no storm rages endlessly; each will eventually fizzle out so it's a waiting game. No matter the delay or winded detour, be assured you will make it to the desired destination if only you persevere, and refuse to give up trusting in God. The Lord has a characteristic of not abandoning or disappointing those who place ALL their trust in Him.

“Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.” -1 Peter 2:6