

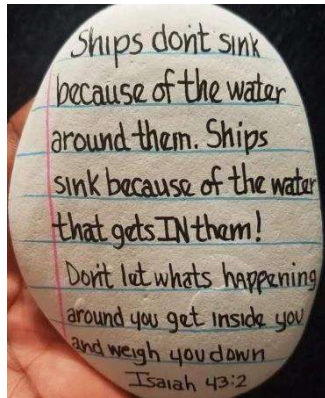
God's Assurance In Times Of Trouble

Text: 1 But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

2 When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. (Isa 43:1-2 KJV)

I. Introduction

- a. Isaiah 43:2 is a powerful verse that offers us profound assurance of God's unwavering presence, protection, and deliverance in our lives.



- b. I saw a saying a few weeks ago that fits with this passage of scripture: [Show image \(IMG_4305\)](#)

- i. Ships don't sink because the water around them. Ships sink because of the water that gets IN them!
- i. Don't let what's happening around you get inside you and weigh you down.
- c. This scripture reminds us that when we face overwhelming circumstances, **God is with us in the waters, guiding us through every challenge**.
- d. As we encounter situations that threaten to overwhelm us, we can trust in God's protection, knowing that the rivers will not sweep over us.
- e. And even during intense trials and suffering, we can have faith in God's deliverance, for the flames will not set us ablaze.
- f. This verse serves as a beacon of hope and strength, encouraging us to hold on to God's promises no matter what we face.

II. Body

- a. God's Presence In The Water
 - i. "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you..."

- ii. Key Message: Just as God promised to be with the Israelites, He promises to be with us in our times of trouble. The "waters" symbolize overwhelming circumstances, but we are not alone. God is with us, guiding us through every challenge.
 - iii. Words of Jesus -- 5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. (Heb 13:5 KJV)
 - iv. It's so easy to lose our tempers, curse, swear, become overwhelmed because of our overwhelming circumstances
 - v. But remember the words of our Lord – I will not leave you nor forsake you
 - vi. Never leave you – those are comforting words aren't they?
 - 1. They are words that are said between a husband and a wife as they make vows together.
 - 2. Sometimes it's the vows that hold a marriage together. Without them the marriage likely would have been over many times over.
 - 3. A child needs the comfort of knowing that their parents will not leave them. Too many children do not have that assurance that their parents will always be there.
 - vii. But with the Lord – He never leaves – He never forsakes. No matter how difficult the circumstances are.
- b. God's Protection In The Rivers
- i. Scripture Reference: "...and when you pass through the rivers, they will not overflow [sweep over] you."
 - ii. **Use the example while at the ocean and the waves would knock you over.**
 - iii. Key Message: The "rivers" represent situations that threaten to overwhelm us.
 - iv. God's protection ensures that we will not be overcome by these challenges.
 - v. He provides a way through, even when it seems impossible.

vi. Illustration: Exodus 14 Use the story of the Israelites crossing the Red Sea or another example where God's protection was evident.

c. God's Deliverance From The Fire

- i. Scripture Reference: "When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."
- ii. Key Message: The "fire" symbolizes intense trials and suffering
- iii. People – especially Christians – they claim they want peace, they claim they trust in a higher power – yet at the first sign of heat, **we want to quit, throw up our hands and say, “I’m Done”**
 1. I’ve heard this over and over throughout my preaching ministry.
 2. However, in most cases, after a couple of hours passed, a couple of days, they usually repented and gave in again and again.
- iv. Listen – the Fire is hot. Some fires you are being thrown in them but note – Just like Shadrack, Meshack, and Abednego, God is in the midst of that fire.

III. Conclusion

- a. In conclusion, Isaiah 43:2 offers us profound assurance of God's unwavering presence, protection, and deliverance in our lives.
- b. When we face overwhelming circumstances, we can take comfort in knowing that God is with us in the waters, guiding us through every challenge.
- c. As we encounter situations that threaten to overwhelm us, we can trust in God's protection, knowing that the rivers will not sweep over us.
 - i. And even in the midst of intense trials and suffering, we can have faith in God's deliverance, for the flames will not set us ablaze.
 - ii. Let us hold on to these promises and find strength in the knowledge that God is always by our side, no matter what we face.