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Substance of Sermon preached by our Pastor
on Sunday Evening. September 18. 1983.

Lesson. Daniel 6.

Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him:
God is a refuge for us. Selah. Psalm 62. 8.

In all parts of the holy, inspired Word of God - for we believe in the plenary and verbal inspiration of the Scriptures - there is a deep couching beneath. Those depths only the Holy Spirit is able to reveal to poor mortals possessing a life that is immortal and a soul that is immortal. If we are among the blessed number, as we believe through sovereign grace and redeeming love we are, there will ever be a prayerful, anxious concern to have opened to our astonished view the depth couching beneath. I wish to present to your view the position of the text in the economy of salvation in God, so you will be well taught and instructed and your souls strengthened with strong meat, so you do not just go over the surface of things but enter the heavenly, eternal depth and height. Therefore I present to you as a people the depth couching beneath in relation to verse 8. If you ^{are} able I shall be glad if you will antecede me. What do you think by spiritual exercise and receiving heavenly light, is the deep couching beneath the verse, especially the first clause? "Trust in him at all times." It is simple though glorious, eternal and everlasting. It is this. Those blessed with divine life, knowing revelation and being taught by the Spirit something of the Being of Jehovah in the Trinity of Persons, will be taught His holy, righteous character, the character of God. There is opened to our view in the Scriptures, especially by divine teaching and a spiritual experience of the same, a knowledge ~~a knowledge~~ of the divine attributes of God and a revelation of the perfections of Jehovah Jesus; Jehovah, the Trinity. I will emphasise now, a recognition of the perfections of Jehovah Jesus has a direct bearing on the one Church of God, the whole election of grace especially. A revelation of perfection in His divine faithfulness, divine goodness, divine love and

mercy and grace will promote in our souls a response: first an appreciation of His divine perfections, then a response to them.

I wonder if you are able to grasp this? You will highly value beyond everything the perfections of Jehovah, and this appreciation will lead you to a response to them. Who is He faithful and good to, and kind, merciful and gracious to? Chiefly His dear people. He is faithful to His Son. All the human race benefits from the goodness of God, but I am speaking of spiritual matters. This will arouse activity and a response from you. I wonder if this is clear to you? If God is infinitely kind, good, faithful, what will be your response by the Holy Ghost in your soul to the blessed One who is so faithful, good and true? To trust in Him. This will throw light on the depths and heights of the subject. There is a response. The Lord proposes to His dear people everywhere His divine faithfulness and fidelity. Your response by the Holy Ghost is to trust Him. I hope you will never forget that. It is the spiritually intelligent response of a gracious heart to a faithful God to trust Him. It is two ways. God is faithful. If He makes known His faithfulness to me, do I respond? If I do I trust Him. If He makes known His love, grace, mercy, immutability to you, your response will be to trust Him. This opens the whole verse and the Scripture. So proposing to us His divine faithfulness - "for he is faithful that promised." - your response by the Holy Ghost is to trust Him. You will see this is plenary; it covers the whole spiritual life of a child of God from the time the Lord makes Himself known to you, until the time when He will glorify you. You respond by trusting Him. It honours Him and He is glorified in your souls. The result is your peace, comfort, enlargement. If you do not honour Him because you do not trust Him, you will be in darkness, trouble, distress. If you are able at all times to trust Him He is glorified in you. I have seen this since tea-time. It shone as a light in my soul. It is my response to a faithful God to trust Him. What would you think if you were kind, loving, merciful, faithful to your dear wife, or husband, or children and they did not trust you? You would be grieved and hurt. You would say, "There is no response, They do not trust me." Therefore the Lord highlights this in our spirits. If I know a faithful God, as I do, if He has spoken a

word in my soul, and if ^{the} divine attributes of Jehovah Jesus shine in my soul my response is to trust Him. A wonderful field of delight this opens before you. You may wonder why you are in a condition of spiritual sickness, why you are not well spiritually. You are dark, confused, bound. It is likely this is the cause. God is faithful to you and you are not trusting Him. I put it to you in the Name of the Lord: are you able to trust in Him at all times? The word 'at all times' contains an inference. There will be many times when things appear to be against you, and when things are trying, painful, dark, mysterious. He says, "Trust in him at all times." even in the darkest occasions, in mysterious trials. The whole tenor of the exhortation is, living ^{faith} overcomes difficulties, darkness, trials, every mountain. So do you see the beauty and blessedness of the word? I suppose you could say (though this needs to be examined) when all is light, cheerful, prosperous it would be easy to trust Him. I do not know. Faith is at its best when things seem against you. The whole inference is, in dark, trying things, trust in Him at all times. Whatever you come into if you are a child of God, seek to trust in Him at all times.

You will say to me, "Where is there a commentary and confirmation and attestation and demonstration of it?" In this blessed Book and in the lives of the saints. That is why I read the Lesson in Daniel. This plot did not make any difference to Daniel. He still went into his house his windows being open, and knelt down three times a day. He trusted in his God. Trust in him at all times." So though the king laboured to find an escape clause there was none. Daniel must go into the den; but Daniel trusted in Him at all times. You see, and even the king knew it though he was distressed because he had a great affection for Daniel, - "Thy God whom thou serveest continually, he will deliver thee." Very much in spiritual experience has reference to trusting in the Lord. If you are enabled to trust in Him at all times, you may see no way of deliverance, but the Lord reigneth. All the Lord has exhorted you to do is not to sit down and try to find by human reasoning a way of deliverance. The only thing He has called on His people to do is to trust in Him, as though He said, "Trust in Me at all times and leave it with Me. Can't you trust Me?" O the wondrous scope, the dimensions of it! They

are eternal, world-wide. You will know when in the Battle of Britain it was as though the powers of darkness were prevailing, with thousands of bombers coming over to destroy London; one Saturday night the Lord dropped this word into my heart. "The God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly," and He did it. I believed it. All the Lord calls His people to do is to trust Him. You will have a better understanding of your path if this has been a profitable hearing to you. Don't try to work things out. Ask God to help you to trust in Him at all times. If you look at the Scripture and see the area of your holy responsibility, it is to trust in Him at all times. Everything else is wasted energy and breath. I could preach the sermon on this one clause, it is so beautiful to me. The Lord is saying to us, and I have proved Him to day, "Trust in Me at all times. Leave the rest to Me."

Let us think of a few cases. There was no belligerency with the lions. Their mouths were closed. Daniel was safe. "Trust in him at all times." Think of the three Hebrews in the furnace. "Trust in him at all times." They had no harm; only their bonds were consumed. The fire had no power over them. Wonderful, is it not? The One they trusted walked in the fire with them. "Trust in him at all times; ye people." Look at Israel at the Red Sea when there seemed to be no way. Trust in him at all times." Their enemies could not harm them. There will be times in the journey when you will plead that narrative for your own safety and deliverance, See the glory of the Lord when the Egyptians had overtaken them. The pillar of glory went from before to behind them, and came between them and the Egyptians - a shaft of glory. You will plead that. You will need the Lord to do it for you for His glory. It is ever the case. We need the pillar of glory between us and the powers of darkness. That is why the devil can never have the elect, because the shaft of glory stands between. "Trust in him at all times." Did the Egyptians consume them? No. "Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward." The waters were divided by a strong East wind, and when the Israelites were safely through the Egyptians followed. The Lord did what completely incapacitated them, as it would us. He took off the wheels from their chariots. If the Lord took the wheels off our cars it would be hopeless, even if there was fifty horse-power under the

bonnet. They got into the river and the Lord took their wheels off and the waters flowed over them. "Trust in him at all times." We have proved thousands of times the wonder of the Lord's love and care and government over His dear people. Will this help you? On several occasions on the Sea of Galilee the disciples thought because of the storm the ship was going down. "Trust in him at all times." Our Jesus says, "Peace, be still," and there is a great calm. Whatever your case, condition, your daily and hourly need, trust in Him at all times. It covers divine providence as well as grace. It is a grand subject to me. You may say, "I am in trouble." Are you? A number of us know what it is. Do you fear God? You hope so. Then trust in Him at all times. Things may be dark and exacerbated. It is often darkest before dawn. You are not to adopt, child of God, a hopeless attitude. With such a God it is a matter of trusting in Him at all times. Our God is honoured in the midst, and in this divine service. I can feel it. Therefore we gladly exhort you to trust in Him at all times. You find in the Scriptures some of the dear saints of God thought everything was against them. How did it issue? Remarkably. Take Psalm 31. David was full of trouble, persecution, fears. They 'devised to take away his life'. Then there was a change, and it is named. "But I trusted in thee, O Lord." He turned from earth and all his persecutors and foes, and looked to Heaven. "But I trusted in thee, O Lord: I said, Thou art my God. - That is sufficient. - My times are in thy hand." You see, if we go on in the Psalm he says, "Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men!" He is exulting in the goodness of God. See the turning point. "But I trusted in thee, O Lord." Look up to Heaven, poor soul. I have no fear concerning the issue, that you will come back to me and say you are deceived, disappointed if you are a child of God. He will appear for you.

"Ye people." I like that. I have a hymn that explains it.

"Ye souls, redeemed with blood,
And called by grace divine."

Ye people, redeemed by precious blood and called by grace divine. His people, His treasure, His portion. "Ye people, pour out your heart

before him." Your heart is a sanctified place, because it is in your heart that the Holy Spirit takes up His abode. In your heart He erects a throne of love for the Lord to reign on. The heart is vital. It is the seat of love, affection and all vital things. There is this aspect to present to you. The heart holds secrets, joys, sorrows. O this heart! In the early part of experience under condemnation there was the intolerable load of your guilt. Those redeemed by blood and called by grace divine, will need to pour out their hearts; to honour the Lord by it. I am using a figure to illustrate. To pour means great liberty and so, wonderful access, nearness to the Lord. You have His ear and heart and you pour it out. The principle in my mind is, you do not want the contents of your heart to become solidified or you will not be able to pour out. What does that? Three things: impenitence, pride, rebellion. If you are in that the contents of your heart are solidified. You need your heart to be liquified, fluid, so it can be poured out. What will liquefy it? A sight of Christ in Gethsemane, at the pillar, on the cross. That will produce penitence, submission. Think of it. Submission, penitence and love: you will pour out your heart. It is made soft. The contents of your heart are soft and you pour out. O this penitence, submission, humility! Do you think you are in a position to pour out your heart before the Lord? If you are broken-hearted over sin, and in repentance and submission by love at His dear feet, you will pour your heart out. "Ye people, redeemed with blood, and called by grace divine, pour out your heart before him." There is relief, hope, expectation of the Lord's appearing there.

Hannah poured out her heart to the Lord, and Hezekiah. What was the issue? Deliverance. I bless God for the privilege of preaching this glorious gospel. I love it. Are you in a place to pour out your heart? Then, "God is a refuge for us." God Himself, for this has been our dwelling place in all generations. His dear people have ever been in His heart. It is their dwelling place in all ages, from all Eternity. What a refuge! The devil can never touch the elect to harm them, or to pluck them out of His heart or hands. What a refuge is the riven side of Christ. The wounds of Jesus for my sin, and the cleft Rock; what a refuge! And concerning Ruth, "under whose wings thou art come to trust"

Wings set forth the love, mercy, grace, goodness of the Lord to His people. "under whose wings." He puts His wings over you and you are safe. What a refuge! And His precious blood for poor sinners deserving hell - "When I see the blood, I will pass over you." And His obedience, His righteousness are a refuge. For the law can have nothing to do with you to condemn. It can find no flaw or fault as you are clothed in His obedience. And the promises of God, The Word of God. David found refuge in a cave, and although he was hunted others gathered to him. He who often was fearful said, "But with me thou shalt be in safe-guard." With Christ you will be in safe-guard. If you have got Christ what a refuge!

"Selah." This is as it would appear a term in Hebrew music and poetry meaning, pause. It shows what has gone before was of tremendous importance to you. Pause to ponder these things in your heart; to consider the matter, to contemplate the blessedness of your state and standing before God in adoration. Blessed be God.