

1269.

The Tired Head in the Day of Fearfulness.

Psa cxii. 7.

Feb 20 1916

Hymns.

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|-----|------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| 467 | 340. | P. 11. | "Give to the winds thy fears" |
| | 345 | | "Calm me, my God, & keep me calm" |
| 417 | 372. | | "I would commune with Thee, my God" |

Scripture - Isa XLIII. 1-13.

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|-----|------|--------|--|
| 467 | 340. | P. 11. | "Commit thou all thy griefs" |
| 465 | 332. | | "Still will we trust, though earth seems dark & dreary." |
| 410 | 342 | | "O Blessed life! the heart at rest" |

467 340 P. 11
 465 332
 410 342
 467 340 P. 11
 465 332
 410 342
 467 340 P. 11
 465 332
 410 342
 467 340 P. 11
 465 332
 410 342

Date	Down	Place	Date	Region	Place
Feb 20. 1916	London	Westminster Chapel			
Mar 16 "	Manchester	Central Hall			
Jan 12. 1919	London	St. Andrew's Church			
" 23 "	Pontypool	Baptist Chapel			
" 28 "	Plymouth	Plymouth			
Sep 16 1939	London	Westminster			

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Psalm 113:7.

"He shall not be afraid of evil tidings;
His heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord."

INTRODUCTION.

The first part of the text describes a desirable state of mind, that of being able to hear evil tidings without trembling or panic.

The second part describes the secret of such fearlessness, that of a fixed heart, confiding in God.

This a day of "evil tidings".

Is it possible to be free from fear?

Can the heart be courageous?

Can the mind be calm?

Can the will be dauntless?

The text is the answer to these enquiries, and drives us to enquire;

A. Who is the man who is thus unafraid?

B. What are the secrets of his quietness?

A. THE MAN WHO IS NOT AFRAID OF EVIL TIDINGS.

The relation of Psalms 111 and 112.
Compare 111:10 with 112:1.

I. The Man--a Character Sketch.

i. A God-fearing man. Ver 1.

ii. A Home-making Man. Vers 2.3.

iii. A helping Man. Vers 4.5. & 9.

iv. A hated Man. Ver 10.

II. This Man in the Day of evil Tidings.

He gets the Tidings, but does not tremble.

He goes on with his Duty.

How is this Man to be accounted for?

B. THE SECRETS OF HIS QUIETNESS.

I. As to himself. "His heart is fixed".

Strong men are always fixed somewhere.
Per contrast, Reuben.

II. The Fixity. "Trusting in the Lord."

1. The central and fundamental fact.
a. Not himself, but God to whom he
is related.

b. Not Circumstances, but God, Who
controls them.

ii. This God revealed in Psa.111.

iii. The Result of this Fixity in
Character. Psa 112.
a. A Passion for Righteousness.
b. A Pity for all Need.

III. The Reasonableness of the Quietness.

1. The Tidings of Death not the final
News.

ii. Tidings of Peril not the only
Tidings.
"Good Tidings...behold your God".
Isa 40:9.

iii. The Tidings of Lawlessness not the
final Truth.

CONCLUSION.

1. The temporal Outlook.

Mr Chamberlain.

"It is an evil thing we are fighting
against;-brute force, bad faith,
oppression, injustice, and persecu-
tion."

2. The eternal Outlook.

Obadiah 1-4.

3. THE FACT.

"Mine eyes have seen the glory of the
coming of the Lord,
He is trampling out the vintage where
the grapes of wrath are stored.
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of
His terrible, swift sword.

* * * * *

He is sifting out the hearts of men
before His judgment seat."

4. What shall we do?

"Oh be swift, my soul, to answer Him, be
jubilant my feet,
Our God is marching on!"

Ps. CXII. 7.

"He shall not be afraid of evil tidings.
His heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord."

Introduction.

The first part of the text describes a most desirable state of mind; that of being able to hear evil tidings without trembling or panic.

The second part reveals the secret of such fearlessness, that of the fixed heart, Confiding in God.

This is a day of evil tidings ~ ~ Our newspapers are full of them.

1. Their good news is mixed with evil.

The boys are coming home ~ but we are not ready for them.

The prisoners are released ~ but look at them.

The Peace Conference is assembling ~ but it threatens to be a Council of War.

2. Their evil tidings are emphatic.

The New Europe. Dec. 5.

"The Bolsheviks in Russia have long since unfurled the blood-red banner of social revolution ~ ~ ~ We are faced with the prospect of a new & bloody quarrel in the family of the European peoples".

Russia.

Germany.

England.

The Spirit of lawlessness, which is the Spirit of Anarchy is abroad everywhere.

Is it possible to be free from fear?

Can the heart be courageous?

Can the mind be calm?

Can the will be dauntless?

The Answer of the text ~ ~ ~

Let us

He shall not be afraid of evil tidings,
His heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord.

A. Look at this man who is unafraid.

B. Enquire as to the Secret of his quietness.

A. The Man who is not afraid of evil tidings.

Notes.

The whole Psalm is in celebration of this man.

Observe the relation between Cx1. and Cx11.

Each 22 lines - Acrostic -

Cx1. Celebrates Jehovah.

Cx11. Celebrates the man who fears Him.

Cf. Cx1.¹⁰ and Cx11.

i. The Man.

(A Character Sketch - A Type).

i. A God-fearing man.

verse 1.

ii. A Home-making man

- 2-3.

a. His seed. His generation. Mighty. Blessed.

b. Wealth - Riches - Righteousness.

iii. A helping man.

verses. 4. 5. and 9.

a. He arises in darkness, a light to the upright.

b. Gracious, full of Compassion, righteous.

c. Deals graciously & hands out.

d. Manages his affairs with judgment.

e. Benevolent. Scattering to the needy.

iv. A hated man.

verse 10.

ii. This Man in the Day of evil Tidings.

i. He gets the news. His heart is stricken, but he does not tremble.

ii. He reads his newspaper. Then puts it down, and goes on with his duty.

If that man is destroyed in a ^{revolution} ~~affair~~ he will die at his post.

This is a strong man.

How is he to be accounted for?

"Fixed" = KŪWN = To be erect. L.S. Perpendicular.

Gau 49³⁻⁴

"Reuben, thou art my firstborn, my might, and the
beginning of my strength; the Excellency of Dignity,
and the Excellency of power.
Unstable as water, thou shalt not have the Excellency."

B. The Secret of his quietness.

I. As to himself. "His heart is fixed."

i. Men who are strong are always men who are fixed somewhere.

Some Conviction that is part of themselves, that holds them, that becomes a passion.

Sometimes narrow - but, Strong

Sometimes Boliviate - but, Dependable.

ii. Men not so fixed are weak, however strong.

← - Reuben.

II. The Fixity. "Trusting in the Lord".

i. The Central & Fundamental relationships.

a. Not himself - but the God to whom he is related.

b. Not Circumstances - but the God who Controls them.

ii. His God. Ex. 1.

a. Great in His works; (dis: "things done")

b. Majestic & Stately in His work; ("things made").

c. "Gracious & full of Compassion".

a. Faithful to His Covenants.

e. True and Just in His Deeds.

iii. The result of this fixity in character.

a. A passion for righteousness

b. A pity for all need.

III. The reasonableness of the quietness.

i. The tidings of Death is not the final news.

ii. The tidings of incompetence is not the last word.

iii. The tidings of danger is not the only tidings.

"Good Tidings - Behold your God"

Is 40 9.

iv. The tidings of lawlessness is not all the truth.

Conclusion.

Now let us take up our Newspapers again.

1. The Casualty Lists.

Rolls of Honour.

2. The Evil Rumours.

"We have heard tidings from the Land"

See - Obad. 1-4.

3. The Grave Situations.

"He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment Seat"

Oh be strong my soul to answer Him, be jubilant my feet.

Our God is marching on!

What then shall we do?

Our own duty.

Well

Cheerfully.

Leave the rest to Him.

Sorrow

Suffering.

The Sinner.