

1-Frequently in recent days I have heard many people calmly say, "The Lord is our refuge."
This is both encouraging and thought-provoking
2-That is a beautiful statement, and if true, a glorious truth.

2-To declare the Lord our refuge is to presume that our lives are acceptable in his sight.
1-It is not a claim to be made lightly or quickly, (That God is the refuge and strength of those who place their lives in his hands there is no possible doubt).

3-Jesus challenged his hearers on one occasion with these words, "Why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say." It is futile to say that the Lord is our refuge unless we can say with truth we are servants of the Lord.

4-There are some conditions that must exist in our lives before God will be our refuge.
1-There must be an obedient faith in God.
2-Each Christian must have a clear-cut conception of things as they should be.
3-It would not be enough to develop a Christian conception of what men should be and how men should live.
4-There must follow hard work over a long period of time to bring this vision of things as they should be into actual being, Jesus said of himself: "I must work the work of him that sent me while it is day, for the night cometh when no man can work," John 9:4.

5-When our forefathers crossed the Appalachian Mountains in the latter part of the 18th century and looked down upon the lovely valley of the Tennessee they did not behold; homes, schools, churches and other equipment of civilization. They beheld a trackless wilderness infested with wild beasts and savage men.

armed with their faith in God and in the dignity of man they took broad aim and carved out of that wilderness the degrading civilization which we have inherited.

work hard and long, will insure our complete and final overthrow. Paul said bluntly:

"For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busy bodies." 2-Thess.3:10-11.

7-In the midst of our labor and toil; our sorrows, sickness, poverty, public calamity and national disasters, we look about for a harbor of refuge

1-When trouble drives us to our refuge it fulfills its mission.

1-In fair weather the ships pass gaily by the harbor of refuge. In the storm they make for

2-It is easy to stand at the helm with a fair breeze and smooth sea. It is a very difficult task in the storm.

3-It is easy to stand sentry in time of peace.

4-It is easy to trust God with a well-spread table and home bright with blooming faces.

5-It may not be so easy to trust God: In the tempest; in war, when the bullet sings through the dark night, and the blast is freezing to the bone; or by the bed of sick, perhaps dying child--not so easy.

6-The unchangeable God is our refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. Deut. 33:27.

8-The Christian has only one thing to fear, AND THAT IS DOING WRONG. Do the will of God and fear nothing. Often we will not be able to understand the stormy events that surge around us. THE WORDS OF THIS SONG.....

"Not now, but in the coming years, *if in trust in God this*
It may be in the better land, *all the days, I fear not*
We'll read the meaning of our tears, *for he hath held thy hand*
And there, sometime, we'll understand. *tho' dark thy way, still bring and place*
some time sometime

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 ...and the everlasting arms. ...
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 ...it may not be so easy to trust God; in the
 ...table and home bright with His radiant presence.
 ...it is easy to trust God with a well-spread
 ...it is easy to stand firmly in time of trouble.
 ...
 ...if it is easy to stand in the rain with a fair
 ...
 ...if in rain, whether the eagle sees us in the
 ...
 ...in the midst of our labor and pain; our sorrow
 ...
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