

When I Was in Trouble

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

Psalms 66:13-14: “

I look at this verse and think of all the people who made promises to God in a difficult time. It may have been sickness, an accident, battle, or some problem that they realized that it could not be handled alone. God was called on and he delivered and blessed as only God can do. Then many people seem to forget God when things are going good and they don't think that they need his help anymore. At least until the next time they are faced with sickness, death, or some other fearful situation. How many times will God bless an unthankful, unholy, unrepentant sinner?

Why is it that it sometimes takes a bad situation to make a person think of God and his relationship with him? It is easy to take the blessing and to enjoy it, while going about our lives. Does man really think that this is what God is there for, just to help us in time of trouble? How much

effort does it take to make great promises? A lot of people do and don't appear to think of committing themselves to backing up those words. Some of us still expect a person to do what he has promised to do. I am disappointed often because people say, but make no effort to do what was promised. God still expects us to do what we promise to do. In fact he tells us to not promise if we are not going to do according to the promise. *Ecclesiastes 5:1-5:*

Jonah was a man who had made a vow unto God. We are not told the circumstances in which he made the vow, or promise, to the Lord, or what exactly he promised to do. It seems that it had to do with being a faithful servant to the Lord, but when called upon to do something that he didn't like to do, he decided that he would not do it. In *Jonah 2:9* we find that Jonah,

after he had run from God, and was in a bad situation because of it, said,

“ He learned a painful lesson, that it was not good to promise God something and then to not do it.

The writer in *Psalms 66* talked of God's power and how he made men to “ride over our heads,” *verses 11-12*. Then in *verse 13* he spoke of paying the vows that he had made earlier. Why should a man be forced to pay a debt, or fulfill a promise that he has made? We are commanded to keep our word to men, so how much more should we keep our word unto God? *Proverbs 1: 24-29.* “

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