

HOW TO KEEP A FRESH TESTIMONY

PSALM 119:41-48

Introduction:

Each person of faith has a testimony. Maintaining freshness in your testimony is a challenge in a world like this. The world in which you live is naturally skeptical when you begin to make faith claims. They are going to put your life under the microscope to make sure there are some proofs of your faith claims. It was the pressure to maintain such freshness in his testimony that prompted the young Hebrew psalmist to utter this prayer which found its way into the Great Psalm.

The world needs to hear what you have to say. It is the primary means that God uses to bear witness to the world. They come to know who He is by listening to our testimony.

However, if we are not careful, we become like a professor I had in college. He has been teaching the same course for many, many years. He still followed the original notes that he had made the first time he taught the course—the pages of his lecture notes had crumpled and yellowed with the passing of the years. Not surprisingly there was dullness in his lectures, the freshness was gone. Some of us have the same problem in our testimony—we are basing it on things we experienced many years ago, and it has lost its

punch. You can recover freshness in your testimony if you will follow the example of the young psalmist.

- I. PRAY FOR A FRESH EXPERIENCE OF GOD'S SAVING MERCY. (v. 41-43)
 1. Salvation is always a work of God's lovingkindness.
 2. Salvation is always in response to faith.
 3. Salvation is more than an initial experience.

- II. UPDATE YOUR OBEDIENCE TO THE WORD OF THE LORD. (v. 44-46)
 1. Obedience is to be continual.
 2. Obedience brings freedom.
 3. Obedience enriches the testimony.

- III. DEEPEN YOUR LIFE OF SPIRITUAL DEVOTION. (v. 47-48)
 1. Delight yourself in His word.
 2. Surrender to His Word.
 3. Meditate on His Word.

Conclusion:

It appears to me that a fresh testimony flows out of a fresh experience of mercy, a life of willing obedience, and the practice of devotion. It you will

give attention to these, you be ready to share a testimony with all kinds of people in all kinds of circumstances—including even kings.