



#EARSUP

Deafening Trials

Luke 8:13

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • June 14 & 15, 2014 • Gospel of Luke, week 57 • Msg. 14-20 • Social Media: #EarsUp

Luke 8:13 *And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away.*
(ESV)

1. Expect _____ (v.13c)

2. Don't _____ (v.13a)

3. Carefully _____ (v.13b)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Proverbs 17:3**. Describe some of the “fiery” circumstances God has used to put your heart's faith in Christ to the test.
2. Read **1 Peter 1:6-9**. Note carefully the words “*In this...*” that begin v.6. Looking back at the previous verses, describe how this “future focus” on our inheritance has helped you to endure the grief of faith-testing trials.
3. Read **Hebrews 11:24-27**. Why is our view of our identity (i.e., who we are and to whom we belong) so important to this discussion of faith-testing trials?
4. Read **John 6:61-65**. How does imagining this scene, picturing Judas in the group hearing these words impact the way you evaluate your relationship with Christ?
5. Read **James 2:14-26** and **Hebrews 6:18-19**. While considering aspects of this topic one might be tempted to think God would have us live with uncertainty, but that is clearly not the case in the Bible. How do passages like these help you find a greater confidence regarding your relationship with Christ?

This Week's Bible Reading Schedule

June 15th

Ezra 9-10 & Ac.1

June 16th

Neh.1-3 & Ac.2:1-13

June 17th

Neh.4-6 & Ac.2:14-47

June 18th

Neh.7-8 & Ac.3

June 19th

Neh.9-11 & Ac.4:1-22

June 20th

Neh.12-13 & Ac.4:23-37

June 21st

Esth.1-3 & Ac.5:1-16

June 22nd

Esth.4-6 & Ac.5:17-42

The following related sermons are also available for free as mp3 downloads or audio streaming on the Focal Point Website (FocalPointMinistries.org).

Msg. 13-30 – ***Apostasy & Stumbling Saints***

Msg. 06-22 – ***A Closer Look at Spiritual Defection***

Msg. 12-42 – ***A Controversial Baby: Simeon on the Polarizing Effect of Jesus Christ***

Msg. 07-21 – ***Trusting God When Your Back's Against the Wall***

Msg. 06-21 – ***Watching Out for the Pacifying Benefits of Dating Christ***

Msg. 07-03 – ***Motivated by the Fear of Being Phony***

Msg. 05-37 – ***A Question of Perseverance, Salvation & Eternal Security***

This Week's Social Media Hashtag

#EarsUp

For users of Twitter, Facebook, or other social media sites for the grouping of sermon quotes, helpful insights, or your sharable applications drawn from today's sermon.

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Carson, D. A. ***How Long, O Lord? Reflections on Suffering & Evil***. Baker Books, 1990.

Chantry, Walter. ***Today's Gospel: Authentic or Synthetic?*** Banner of Truth, 1970.

Foxe, John. ***Foxe's Book of Martyrs***. The John C. Winston Co., 1926.

Gromacki, Robert. ***Salvation is Forever***. Moody Press, 1973.

Guinness, Os. ***God in the Dark: The Assurance of Faith Beyond a Shadow of Doubt***. Crossway Books, 1996.

Hutchison, John. ***Thinking Right When Things Go Wrong: Biblical Wisdom for Surviving Tough Times***. Kregel, 2005.

Lawson, Steven. ***Absolutely Sure: Settle the Question of Eternal Life***. Multnomah, 1999.

Lloyd-Jones, Martyn. ***Assurance of Our Salvation: Studies in John 17***. Crossway Books, 2000.

MacArthur, John. ***The Gospel According to Jesus: What is Authentic Faith?*** Zondervan, 2008.

Roberts, Richard Owen. ***Repentance: The First Word of the Gospel***. Crossway Books, 2002.

Swindoll, Charles. ***For Those Who Hurt***. Zondervan, 1977.

Water, Mark, ed. ***The New Encyclopedia of Christian Martyrs***. Baker Books, 2001.

Watson, Thomas. ***The Doctrine of Repentance***. Reprint. Banner of Truth, 1987.

Whitney, Donald. ***How Can I Be Sure I'm a Christian? What the Bible Says About Assurance***. NavPress, 1994.

Wiersbe, Warren. ***The Bumps Are What You Climb On***. Baker Books, 1980.