

PULPIT MINISTRY: JANUARY 2015

Theme: **Trusting God in Troubled Times**

EVENING WORSHIP

11 January 2015

Text: **Psalm 4**

Title: **PUT YOUR TRUST IN THE LORD**

(I) WHERE DIFFICULTIES / CHALLENGES OF LIFE BECOME PROLONG ONES

"How long, O you sons of men, will you turn my glory to shame?" Psalm 4:2

1. Some relief from God (Psalm 4:1)

2. Other problems persist

a) Shame (**Psalm 4:2**)

b) Anger (**Psalm 4:4**)

(II) ESSENTIAL FACTORS TO HELP US TRUST IN GOD

1. Faith Factor – Development of faith

a) Growing our knowledge

i) God of righteousness (**Psalm 4:1**)

ii) The Lord sets us apart for Himself (**Psalm 4:3**)

b) Cultivating prayer

i) Pleading the Lord's mercy (**Psalm 4:1**)

ii) Confidence in the Lord to hear our prayer (**Psalm 4:3**)

2. Righteousness Factor – Living righteously

a) Personal righteousness (**Psalm 4:5**)

b) Self-control (**Psalm 4:4**)

3. Meditation factor - Deepening our meditation and being still (Psalm 4:4)

a) Heart, mind, soul involved

- b) Meditating until stillness comes

(III) THE CHALLENGE TO PLACE OUR TRUST IN THE LORD

“And put your trust in the Lord...” Psalm 4:5

1. The challenge to trust

- a) Challenging Self
- b) Challenging readers
- c) Challenging people outside

2. The challenge to continue to trust (Psalm 4:6)

- a) Negative and dark thoughts will come
- b) Continuing to pray for the Lord's light
- c) Light will shine through the dark thoughts

(IV) BELIEVING IN THE BLESSINGS OF FULLY TRUSTING THE LORD

1. Great Gladness in the heart (Psalm 4:7)

2. Peaceful sleep (Psalm 4:8)

3. Assurance of the Lord's protection (Psalm 4:8)