

# Facing the Future with Hope

Having a full glass of faith

Pastor Allen Stump





Photo by Kay Chermuath

Human trafficking takes many forms, from sexual exploitation to forced labor in agriculture, manufacturing and other industries. Pictured here, fishermen from Myanmar working in Thailand.





# The world inches closer to feared global warming 'tipping points': 5 disastrous scenarios

ELIZABETH WEISE | USA TODAY

5:01 am EDT Aug. 5, 2023

Climate change effects usually become clear over decades and centuries, but they seem to be everywhere this summer: temperature [records broken constantly](#), [ocean waters as warm as hot tubs](#) and world leaders so alarmed they've called this the "[the era of global boiling](#)."

And as concerning as these developments are, scientists have long worried about even more dramatic, looming and irreversible changes to the planet that could happen quickly. Even in the past year, there's evidence some of these scenarios are becoming more likely.

**Luke 21:26 (KJV) — 26 Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.**

**Daniel 12:1 (KJV) — 1** And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.



**Revelation 15:2 (KJV) — 2** And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God.



**Psalm 125:1 (KJV) — 1** They that trust in the Lord shall be as mount Zion, Which cannot be removed, but abideth for ever.

**Psalm 91:2 (KJV) — 2 I will say of the LORD,  
He is my refuge and my fortress: My God; in  
him will I trust.**

Faith is an essential element of prevailing prayer. “He that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.” “If we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us: and if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him.” Hebrews 11:6; 1 John 5:14, 15.

With the persevering faith of Jacob, with the unyielding persistence of Elijah, we may present our petitions to the Father, claiming all that He has promised. The honor of His throne is staked for the fulfillment of His word. (Prophets and Kings, p. 157.2)

**2 Corinthians 1:9–11 (KJV) — 9** But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead: 10 Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us; 11 Ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf.

**Psalm 27:1–3 (KJV)** — 1 The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? 2 When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell. 3 Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.



**Jeremiah 17:7 (KJV) — 7 Blessed is the  
man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose  
hope the LORD is,**

**Jeremiah 32:27 (KJV) — 27 Behold, I am  
the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any  
thing too hard for me?**

**Micah 7:7 (KJV) — 7 Therefore I will look  
unto the LORD; I will wait for the God of my  
salvation: my God will hear me.**

**Hebrews 13:6 (KJV) — 6** So that we may  
boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will  
not fear what man shall do unto me.

**Acts 24:14–15 (KJV) —** 14 But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets: 15 And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.

**Philippians 1:3–6 (KJV)** — 3 I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, 4 Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, 5 For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; 6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

**Isaiah 12:1–2 (KJV)** — 1 And in that day thou shalt say, O LORD, I will praise thee: though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me. 2 Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.

**Ephesians 3:12 (KJV) — 12** In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.



**1 John 3:21–22 (KJV) —** 21 Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. 22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

**John 14:1 (KJV) — 1 Let not your heart  
be troubled: ye believe in God, believe  
also in me.**



**All His biddings are enablings.**  
***(Christ's Object Lessons, p. 333.1)***

**Romans 15:13 (KJV) — 13** Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

**Psalm 115:9 (KJV) — 9 O Israel, trust thou  
in the LORD: he is their help and their shield.  
10 O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD: he  
is their help and their shield. 11 Ye that fear  
the LORD, trust in the LORD: he is their help  
and their shield.**

**Romans 12:12 (KJV) — 12 Rejoicing in  
hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant  
in prayer;**

**2 Chronicles 32:7–8 (KJV) — 7 Be strong and courageous, be not afraid nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude that is with him: for there be more with us than with him: 8 With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the LORD our God to help us, and to fight our battles. And the people rested themselves upon the words of Hezekiah king of Judah**

**2 Chronicles 31:1 (KJV) —** 1 Now when all this was finished, all Israel that were present went out to the cities of Judah, and brake the images in pieces, and cut down the groves, and threw down the high places and the altars out of all Judah and Benjamin, in Ephraim also and Manasseh, until they had utterly destroyed them all. Then all the children of Israel returned, every man to his possession, into their own cities.



**1 Peter 5:10 (KJV) — 10** But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

**2 Corinthians 7:4 (KJV) — 4** Great is my boldness of speech toward you, great is my glorying of you: I am filled with comfort, I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation.

**2 Timothy 1:12 (KJV) — 12** For the which  
cause I also suffer these things:  
nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know  
whom I have believed, and am persuaded  
that he is able to keep that which I have  
committed unto him against that day.

**3 John 3–5 (KJV) — 3** For I rejoiced greatly, when the brethren came and testified of the truth that is in thee, even as thou walkest in the truth. **4** I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth. **5** Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the brethren, and to strangers;

**Psalm 146:3 (KJV) — 3 Put not your trust  
in princes, Nor in the son of man, in whom  
there is no help.**

**Jeremiah 7:4 (KJV) — 4 Trust ye not in lying words, saying, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, are these.**

**Micah 7:5 (KJV) — 5 Trust ye not in a friend, Put ye not confidence in a guide: . . .**

guide = אֱלוֹף (alluph) close friend.

**Ezekiel 13:6 (KJV) — 6** They have seen vanity and lying divination, saying, The LORD saith: and the LORD hath not sent them: and they have made others to hope that they would confirm the word.



Faith claims God's promises, and brings forth fruit in obedience. Presumption also claims the promises, but uses them as Satan did, to excuse transgression. Faith would have led our first parents to trust the love of God and to obey His commands.

Presumption led them to transgress His law, believing that His great love would save them from the consequences of their sin. It is not faith that claims the favor of Heaven without complying with the conditions on which mercy is to be granted. Genuine faith has its foundation in the promises and provisions of the Scriptures. (*The Faith I Live By*, p. 122.5)

**Philippians 4:4–6 (KJV)** — 4 Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. 5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. 6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

**Philippians 4:7–8 (KJV) — 7** And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. **8**

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

I ask you to read the fourteenth chapter of John and to study its lessons. We need to crowd into our lives all the comfort we possibly can. We need to dwell on the words of courage that Christ spoke to His disciples toward the close of His earthly ministry. The fourteenth and fifteenth chapters of John should be very precious to every believing heart.

Though a cruel death was just before Him,  
Christ's words to His followers were full of hope.  
He desired to bring all the comfort possible to  
their hearts. Let us be strong in Him. (*Letters  
and Manuscripts*, vol. 25, Lt 24, 1912, par. 3)

