

# This Morning's Sermon

## Holy Confidence

What do you think of you? Many of us struggle with the balancing act of self-esteem. Sometimes we feel worthless. Even at the times when we feel on top of the world—we eventually fail. When we try to draw confidence from ourselves, eventually the well runs dry... more self-esteem is not the answer to our confidence problems. Only in Christ can we find real confidence—the kind that can conquer even death. *“The Lord will be your confidence...”* (Proverbs 3.26.)

### I. The Gospel of Self

- A. The self esteem dilemma. We are designed with an inner “quest for confidence.”
  - 1. “I’m not that important.” ...you are, according to God. *“Look at the birds of the air...are you not of more \_\_\_\_\_ than they?”* Matthew 6.26
  - 2. “I’m the best.” Well, the world doesn’t revolve around you. *“If anyone thinks they are something they are not, they \_\_\_\_\_ themselves.”* Galatians 6.3
- B. This desire can become twisted when we try to find confidence within ourselves
  - 1. 2 Timothy 4.3 *“...having \_\_\_\_\_ they will accumulate for themselves teachers...”* Still the religion of self is preached.
  - 2. There is a religion today...called secular humanism.
  - 3. We are the only “gods,” and we can rebuild Eden if we try hard enough.
- C. Humanism has its own gospel...and it’s broken.
  - 1. “Mankind is supreme...” History has proven this to be false.
  - 2. ...we will fail, and ultimately we will reach an end. What then?

### II. The God of No Limits

- A. Psalm 90.2...”\_\_\_\_\_ to everlasting,” but sometimes we try to put God in a box...
  - 1. We sometimes see God in one lens...judge, engineer, servant, buddy...
  - 2. Exodus 3.14, “\_\_\_\_\_” He is the eternal being—being itself. He was there before space, matter or time.
- B. Unlimited Power
  - 1. Romans 1.20 This infinite power seen in all creation, and ultimately in us.
  - 2. 1 Peter 1.3. *“He has caused us to be born again to a living \_\_\_\_\_.”*
- C. Unlimited Love
  - 1. Mark 12.31 says to *“Love your neighbor as \_\_\_\_\_...”*
  - 2. Pop Psychology says that no one is truly altruistic...they’re probably right... but God is. What purpose would God have to create us, other than love?

### III. Live Like You’re God’s

- A. Don’t Be Preoccupied or Distracted (Confidence equates to knowing where you’re going.)
  - 1. Do not become displaced. Matthew 6.33 *“Seek \_\_\_\_\_ the kingdom.”*
- B. Love and Move Like Jesus
  - 1. Matthew 28.19-20. Sacrifice, risk and invest. *“\_\_\_\_\_.”*
- C. Put Your Full Confidence in God
  - 1. Our well will run dry...God will not. He is greater. What can he do?
  - 2. Ephesians 3.20 *“to him who is \_\_\_\_\_ to do far more.”*

The world says “build yourself up.” The world says humans are the the greatest good. The scriptures give us a superior alternative. There is a love beyond the love that the world can offer—the redeeming love of Christ. Do you know that love? Are you living with the confidence that comes from knowing Jesus?

## Speaker

Cain Atkinson

## Scripture Reading

Proverbs 3:26

## Thinking Through Today's Lesson

1. What happens when we look to ourselves for the answers to life?
2. Who is the God of Heaven and why should we put our confidence in Him?
3. What does God see when He sees His children?
4. How should we live if we have been redeemed?
5. Where can we get the confidence to bring our faith into every corner of our lives?

## Notes

## Answers

Itching Ears	Value
I Am That I Am	Hope
Everlasting	Go
Yourself	First
Deceives	Able