IN TIMES LIKE THESE
(Matthew 6:25-34)

I. We cannot place trust in the flesh.
   A. Philippians 3:3-4.
   B. What does this mean?
      1. It means men will fail us from time to time.
      2. We see this in the news constantly.
      3. How many people trusted Bernie Madoff?
   C. When we place our complete confidence in men, we are going to be let down.
   D. This, of course, does not mean we have zero confidence in people.
      1. Trust is a foundation for marriage.
      2. We have to place trust in people at times.
   E. What this means is that it cannot be a blind trust, believing that we will never be let down by people.

II. We can trust in the Bible.
   A. Psalm 119:42.
   B. The Bible can be trusted because it is inspired by God (2 Timothy 3:16-17).
      1. The accuracy of the Bible historically proves this.
         a. The walls of Jericho falling outward (Joshua 6:20).
         b. Tyre is a place for the spreading of nets (Ezekiel 26:4-5).
      2. The scientific accuracy of the Bible proves this.
         a. Life is in the blood (Leviticus 17:11).
         b. The earth is round (Isaiah 40:22).
      3. The longevity of the Bible proves it.
   C. So many things prove that the Bible can be trusted.
   D. The things we read in it can be believed and taken to the bank because they have been shown to be true repeatedly.

III. We can trust in God.
   A. We can trust in God because the Bible, which has been proven to be trustworthy, says we can.
   B. David knew long ago it was better to trust in God than man (Psalm 118:8).
   C. Many people want to put their trust in the government and David knew this was faulty as well (Psalm 118:9).
   D. There are numerous reasons to trust in God.
      1. It is God who has everlasting strength (Isaiah 26:4).
      2. He saves those who trust in Him (Psalm 37:40).
      3. He won’t forsake those that trust in Him (Psalm 9:10).
      5. God offers shelter and knows those who do trust in Him (Nahum 1:7).
   E. Long ago, Abraham said, “Shall not the judge of all the earth do right?” (Genesis 18:25).
      1. He was not questioning the justness or integrity of God.
2. He was stating the fact that he knew God was always going to do what is right.

F. For this reason we can trust God: He is always going to do what is right.

G. God has always taken care of His people.
   1. When the Israelites needed water He provided it.
   2. When they needed food He provided it.
   3. When they needed a land in which to live He provided it.
   4. When they needed deliverance from an enemy He provided it.
   5. When they need correction He provided it.

H. On and on we could go showing that God is trustworthy.

I. The fact is, David was right when he said it is better to trust in God than men (Psalm 118:8-9).

J. God is going to take care of His people, even in times like these.
   2. We are more precious to Him than the sparrows (Matthew 10:29-31).
   3. We can spend so much time fearing about the economy and our finances that we fail to obey God.
   4. Jesus made it plainly clear that God will provide (Matthew 6:25-34).

K. We can have confidence in our prayers being heard (1 John 5:14).

L. He calls for us to cast our cares on Him, which one can only do if they trust Him (1 Peter 5:7).

M. We would do well to heed the words of Solomon (Proverbs 3:5).

IV. **We can trust in the plan of salvation.**

A. God has been shown to be trustworthy, and His word has been shown to be trustworthy, therefore His plan for mankind can be trusted as well.

B. The gospel is God’s only means of man’s salvation (Romans 1:16).
   1. It is by the gospel that man learns about the need for the blood of Christ (Revelation 1:5).
   2. Without the gospel telling us about God’s plan of redemption for mankind we could have no hope.

C. The Hebrews writer described our belief in and obedience to the gospel as confidence (Hebrews 3:6).
   1. When one becomes a Christian, he/she is confirming his/her confidence in the gospel message.
   2. As the Hebrews writer also tells us, that confidence brings great reward (Hebrews 10:35).

D. We are told that obedience to God brings salvation (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9; Ephesians 2:8; 1 Timothy 4:16).

E. When one obeys the gospel through belief in Jesus as God’s son (John 8:24), repentance of sins (Acts 2:38), confession of the name of Jesus as Lord (Romans 10:9-10) and immersion in water for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38), that person can have complete trust that he will be saved.

F. The reason for this confidence is the trustworthiness of God.