

# Hold to God's Unchanging Hand

## I. Introduction

A. The hymn *Hold to God's Unchanging Hand* contrasts the fleeting and uncertain nature of temporal things with the constancy and dependability of God. Consider seven biblically-based lessons that are connected to the theme of this hymn. *Hymns for Worship, Song 463*

## II. God's Unchanging Word

A. The hymn begins with the words, "Time is filled with swift transition." Among other things, these words might apply to the ever-evolving moral standards of society. Instead of being constantly tossed to and fro by such, the faithful Christian holds steadfastly to God's unchanging Word. **1 Peter 1:24-25**

## III. Life's Uncertainty & Brevity

A. The words "Time is filled with swift transition" might also bring to mind the brevity and uncertainty of our time on earth. **James 4:13-15**

## IV. The Object of Biblical Hope

A. Not only do we not know how much longer each of us has on earth, but none of us even know how much longer the earth and temporal things in it are going to exist. **2 Peter 3:10**

B. This shows the foolishness of building our hope on temporal things, and the *wisdom* of building our hope on *eternal* things. **Matthew 6:19-20**

## V. The One to Trust

A. The second verse of the hymn says, "Trust in Him who will not leave you, whatsoever years may bring..." Though our future temporal circumstances are unsure, God's children can know with certainty that *He* will never leave us nor forsake us. **Hebrews 13:5**

B. Whatever we face in life, we should remember that God *knows* and that He *cares*. **Revelation 2:9; 1 Peter 5:7**

C. God can be depended on to ensure we always have what is needed to serve Him faithfully, regardless of what circumstances come our way. **1 Corinthians 10:13**

## VI. Our Refuge in Trials

A. The second verse of the hymn continues by saying "If by earthly friends forsaken, Still more closely to Him cling." God's faithfulness is especially precious to consider when we are forsaken by others. While behavior of others can be unpredictable, God is steady. **2 Timothy 4:16-17**

## VII. The Vanity of Covetousness

A. The third verse of the song (omitted in *Hymns for Worship*) says, "Covet not this world's vain riches, That so rapidly decay, Seek to gain the heav'nly treasures, They will never pass away!" This compares the value of fleeting earthly riches with lasting spiritual riches. **Luke 12:13-21**

## VIII. God's Sure Promises

A. *If* we are true to God, we will have a "fair and bright" "home in glory," as the song says. This home in heaven is what our hope should be built on. **2 Peter 3:11-13**

B. The constancy and dependability of God provides a sure foundation on which to base this hope. **Titus 1:2**

## IX. Conclusion

A. While life on earth has much uncertainty, God is ever-dependable. May we hold steadfastly to *Him*.