



Trust in the Lord

"I love you, Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies" (Psalm 18:1-3).

The tragic attacks of September 11th and the events that have followed have certainly shaken our nation and left us with a powerful feeling of uneasiness. This uncertainty is understandable since the terrorist attacks came in such an unexpected way with such terrible results. This has caused us to question the security that we once took for granted, and placed doubt in our minds about what the future will hold.

While it is natural for us as human beings to experience feelings of doubt and fear, we must realize that true reassurance and comfort are close at hand. As Orthodox Christians we know that God cares for us very much and is always present in our lives.

When we are faced with great doubt, God reminds us that He is active in our world today. There were many examples of this, such as the outpouring of help and love that was shown following the attacks. So many men and women stepped forward, at times risking their lives, trying to save people that they did not know. As well, throughout the country great numbers of people donated money and blood through selfless acts of kindness. In many ways we saw God's love through the actions of others.

Our fears are quieted when we remember that Jesus Christ died for us so that we may live eternally in Heaven. This reminds us that our ultimate goal and our final reward is not in this life, but in the life that is to come in God's Kingdom. As well, we are strengthened by Holy Scripture when we read, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Our lives have been changed by evil acts. We cannot allow these acts, however, to take control of our lives. We must continue to focus on our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We must continue on our Christian journey and we must continue to place our trust in Him.