

## UNSHAKEABLE!

Scripture used: [Psalms 62:1-2 \(NLT\)](#)

### OVERVIEW

Pastor Hurmon kicked off a new sermon series called “Unshakeable!” Many of us are struggling with some form of this question: *Is the world coming to an end?* The world around us feels like it’s crumbling, and we are tempted to despair. But this is the same broken world in which Jesus lived. He knew we would be unsettled by events, and only those with a firm spiritual foundation would be unshaken. He wanted us to have a deep faith, so that we no longer feel the need to control the outside world. Instead we always feel free to turn to God for wisdom, for comfort, for grace, and for love. In “Unshakeable!” we will learn how to build this kind of faith for ourselves.

### KEY POINTS

- 1) **Jesus knew we would feel like the world was ending.** In [Luke 21:8-11 \(NLT\)](#), Jesus specifically told His disciples not to be deceived by people claiming “the time has come!” Many things happen in the external world that make us question everything. Pastor Hurmon mentioned several families in Boston who lost sons and daughters to gun violence. These mothers and fathers were heartbroken, and they suffered from these irreplaceable losses. But they did not give up on God. They still follow Jesus because they had a firm spiritual foundation that allowed their faith to withstand a terrible tragedy.
- 2) **“Palm tree” faith is able to bend so it doesn’t break.** Hurricanes destroy almost every kind of tree. The only ones left are palm trees. They are capable of enduring a hurricane because they bend with the wind. Because they bend over, they do not break. In fact, the roots of palm trees actually become stronger as they recover! This is what it means to be unshakeable: to completely bend over but never break, and to stand back up stronger after the storm has passed. Being unshakeable starts with three simple truths. We can hold onto them no matter what we’re experiencing: God is good; God is able; and God is for me. This is the “everlasting love” described in [Jeremiah 31:3 \(NLT\)](#). This same understanding strengthened Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and they stepped confidently into the blazing furnace in [Daniel Chapter 3 \(NLT\)](#) because they refused to bow in worship in front of King Nebuchadnezzar.
- 3) **We must work to build “palm tree” faith.** No one accidentally builds an unshakeable foundation. Pastor Hurmon described four different overlapping habits that we should adopt to become unshakeable.
  - a. **Worship weekly.** Getting together every week as a church is so important. Get up and worship out loud. Let the message speak to your heart.
  - b. **Practice what we learn.** Pick something that stands out and find a way to act on it in your life. We become what we commit to.
  - c. **Immerse yourself in the stories of Scripture.** We are in the middle of a storm, and the Bible is full of stories about times when God led the Israelites and early Christians through storms. Get to know them and learn more about God’s character.
  - d. **Learn to pray without words.** We never know what we’ll confront each day. We may need to listen for God’s guidance but can’t get away from other people. We may have emotions so strong and deep that we can’t even put our prayers into words. But even when we can’t get the words out, we can still pray and still hear from God.

### DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** - No one can say for sure, but the world is probably not coming to an end. We will all continue to struggle through the challenges of COVID-19, the economy, the election, systemic racism, and more. Focus on building your faith, not expecting the end. What feels most overwhelming to you right now?
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - An unshakeable faith remains despite the brokenness of the external world. This kind of faith knows that we will all suffer, and it still turns gratefully to God. Be honest with yourself: is your faith unshakeable? Why or why not? What are the regular practices you commit to that build the foundation of your faith? Are there practices that you once had, or that Pastor Hurmon mentioned this morning, that you would like to start?
- 3) **DO** - Pastor Hurmon told us to affirm this week’s sermon by saying “I will practice quietness before God!” This will help us create the space we need to build an unshakeable faith. Here is a question to help us get started: What is one step you will take to cultivate a “palm tree” faith?