In the October 2011 general conference, President Boyd K. Packer reminded us that we need not fear, because we have much to look forward to. His counsel provides hope for a bright future.
When I was 17, about ready to graduate from high school as a very average student with some handicaps, as I thought, everything around us came apart one Sunday morning. The next day we were called to the high school auditorium. On the stage was a chair with a small radio. The principal switched on the radio. We then heard the voice of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt as he announced that Pearl Harbor had been bombed. The United States was at war with Japan.

“Later that scene was repeated. Again the voice of President Roosevelt, this time announcing that our country was at war with Germany. World War II had exploded across the world.

“All at once our future was uncertain. We did not know what was ahead. Would we live to get married and have a family?

“Today there are ‘wars and rumors of wars, and the whole earth [is] in commotion’ (Alma 42:8). You, our youth, may feel uncertainty and insecurity in your lives. . . .

“You . . . need not fly aimlessly to and fro, unsure of the path ahead. There are those who know the way. ‘Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets’ (Amos 3:7). . . .

“You must learn to ‘trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding’ (Proverbs 3:5). You must be trustworthy and surround yourself with friends who desire to be likewise.

“Sometimes you might be tempted to think as I did from time to time in my youth: ‘The way things are going, the world’s going to be over with. The end of the world is going to come before I get to where I should be.’ Not so! You can look forward to doing it right—getting married, having a family, seeing your children and grandchildren, maybe even great-grandchildren.

“If you will follow these principles, you will be watched over and protected and you yourself will know by the promptings of the Holy Ghost which way to go, for ‘by the power of the Holy Ghost ye may know the truth of all things’ (Moroni 10:5). I promise you that it will be so.”

President Boyd K. Packer, President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, “Counsel to Youth,” Ensign, Nov. 2011, 16, 18–19.