

## Who Can You Trust?

We believe the Bible is the Word of God. When it addresses certain topics, it is the authority on them. As we read and understand what it says, we need to change accordingly. We accept the Bible as being true. We read what is written, try to understand it, and then accept it as it is written. We do not want to read anything into the Scriptures. God's Word means what it says and says what it means. We know that if there is an apparent contradiction in God's Word it can't be God, but rather either we are not understanding what is written properly or there is an error in translation.

One example is salvation. The Bible teaches in the book of Romans how to receive salvation.

Romans 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

This pertains to future events also. We are convinced that they will happen just as God outlines them in His Word.

I Thessalonians 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent [precede] them which are asleep.

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

After having read these verses, and carefully considering what is written along with other scriptures pertaining to this subject, we accept that Jesus Christ is coming back and will gather the dead in Christ to him.

II Thessalonians 2:1 Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him.

This we accept as the last act of the administration in which we live. Once we are convinced by scripture of something, we have God's answer on that subject. We are convinced that God is able to back up His Word. It will happen exactly as He says. These verses that we have just read reveal two great truths. One concerning salvation, the other about the future. When you understand God's Word you have God's answers on these important matters. We accept them as true and enjoy the benefit that having this knowledge brings.

Philippians 4:6 Be careful [anxious] for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

It is interesting to note that while we easily accept God's Word as truth on many subjects, when it comes to trusting him in our daily lives, we sometimes have a hard time accepting how we are to go about it. How many times throughout a day are we anxious? Philippians 4 tells us to not be anxious at all, but rather give our prayers and specific needs to God, who will not only hear them but will answer them as well.

I Peter 5:6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

To humble ourselves is a great key to walking with God. We recognize that by ourselves we are nothing. We need God's help daily. When we understand this, then we will want to cast all our cares God's way because he can and will help us because He cares for us. After all, God made it available so we could have fellowship with Him.

II Peter 1:2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

We get the grace of God and the peace of God multiplied to us through the knowledge of God and Jesus Christ. We get the knowledge of God and His son from God's Word. We need the grace of God and the peace of God in our lives if we are not going to be anxious.

The Greek word for knowledge is *epignosis*, meaning a clear and exact knowledge. It includes a more thorough participation on the part of the knower with the object of knowledge. It is a knowledge that will have a powerful influence on the knower. The more you learn about God and his wonderful son, the more grace and peace will be manifested in your life.

3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

4a Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises...

We can live a life that is godly as we understand the knowledge of Him. We will have a better understanding of what God desires when we have this kind of relationship with Him.

II Corinthians 1:9 But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead:

10 Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us.

There is much deliverance spoken of in this verse. God has given us deliverance from our past, which includes being born into this world with a death sentence hanging over us because of the sin of Adam.

When we trust in Him, we can manifest a deliverance that is available to us now. We do not need to live in fear, but rather we trust Him with our lives daily, and walk as it pleases Him not ourselves.

Finally there is a future deliverance that we look forward to. This knowledge helps us with our daily walk because we know that we already have been rescued from the pains of eternal death.

Since we know that we have already received deliverance, past, present and future, it allows us to benefit mentally by casting all our cares His way, and thus not being anxious in any situation we find ourselves confronted with.

Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

8 It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.

9 Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:

10 So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

We need to learn to trust God in all areas of our lives including finances. He promises to take care of us in every aspect of our life if we allow Him to direct our paths.

Psalms 34:4 I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

I sought. I put out the effort to fellowship with God. I was the one who cast my cares His way, and He took care of them. He delivers me from all my fears, from all the unknown.

Psalm 4:5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put your trust in the LORD.

Do what God wants you to do and allow Him to work on your behalf. He will meet your need if you are doing His will. In the Old Testament the males were to travel to Jerusalem three times a year for the holy feasts. They were to bring an offering with them. God is telling Israel to follow the Law, do what He requests. By doing this, God will make sure that it is beneficial to their lives.

6 *There be* many that say, Who will shew us *any* good? LORD, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us.

7 Thou hast put gladness in my heart, more than in the time *that* their corn and their wine increased.

8 I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety.

What is wealth with fear? The one who does God's Word will have God's protection. What is that worth?

Psalm 9:10 And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.

Learn about God; learn His ways so you can trust in Him.

Psalm 28:7 The LORD *is* my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.

8 The LORD *is* their strength, and he *is* the saving strength of his anointed.

My heart, the inner most part of me, trusts Him, and I am helped. I am free in my heart to rejoice and praise Him for taking care of me and my family.

Psalm 37:1 Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.

2 For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb.

3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

4 Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

5 Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

6 And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.

7 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

9 For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.

There are many attributes that trusting in God brings that are listed here. We do not need to fret over the gain that unbelievers manifest. After all, they only have this life to live. We, as those who wait upon the Lord, will inherit the earth. We have been given eternal life by God through the finished work of Jesus Christ.

I John 5:11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

12 He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

When we know that we have the son, we can benefit greatly. We have been given eternal life. Since we are God's children, we know that He not only hears our petitions, but He will answer them.

II Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith [the right way of believing]; prove [*dokimazo*] your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates [*adokimos*] not approved, failures, rejected from the competition?

6 But I trust that ye shall know that we are not reprobates [*adokimos*].

We as God's people should examine ourselves to see if we are doing God's will so we are not wasting our time on earth with second rate causes. We do not want to be found failures, but rather we want to have the knowledge from God that we are doing our best, trusting Him, so we can gain the most benefits here and in the future.