## "TRUSTING IN GOD"

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There have been many 'How to books' written, but the most popular and best seller of all is the popular Book on How to Trust God, the Bible, the best-selling Book ever, and it is the best information we could ever receive. We were all created to live by divine power and to learn from the One who created us. We were to enjoy good health, strength, and fitness by God's power—every faculty, sense, and muscle was to function and be kept in perfect working order by divine power.

When we understand the change that came about when it all began, then we will understand the cause of the terrible conditions that exist in the lives of many people today. When Adam and Eve were tempted, they disobeyed God's plan and followed Satan's plan. Accepting the devil's lie took them away from God's control and placed them under Satan's control.

The first human beings were then separated from God and under the control of Satan. They started to obtain all that they needed and wanted in this life, by their own plans and power. They were—as millions in the world are today—totally focused on finding happiness and making a Garden of Eden all their own, by their own efforts.

When man began trusting in himself, instead of trusting in God, it was the beginning of, and the reason for, Satan taking control. This control of the devil is the root cause of every sin committed; of every evil thing done; and of all the terrible things happening, that we hear about in the world today. It is, absolutely, the cause of everything Satan has ever done from the day Adam believed his lie—and it will continue until the end of the world.

All of the lies, the cheating, stealing, adultery, crimes against humanity, and every other sin ever committed are only the by-products of this one huge sin, and that of shutting God out of their lives and ignoring His power concerning every aspect of life.

The basic cause of it all—is trusting on ways of self and depending on human power to get what we want in life.

It makes no difference if it is a good human effort, or if it is a bad human effort, it is just as wicked, sinful, and rebellious in the sight of God, when He is shut out. NKJV Jeremiah 17:5-6 "Thus says the LORD: 'Cursed is the man who trusts in man And makes flesh his strength [arm AV], Whose heart departs from the LORD. For he shall be like a shrub in the desert, And shall not see when good comes, But shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, In a salt land which is not inhabited."

To trust in and depend on the divine power of God and following His plans for this life, gives the opposite results. NKJV Jeremiah 17:7-8 "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, And whose hope is the LORD. For he shall be like [as AV] a tree planted by the waters, Which spreads out its roots by the river, And will not fear when heat comes; But its leaf will be green, And will not be anxious in the year of drought, Nor will cease from yielding fruit."

The horrible curse and dreadful calamities that come on those who trust in human plans and power, instead of putting their trust in God's plans and power, is because it opens the door for Satan to enter; to attack, to torment, oppress, and to eventually destroy them—ending their life on earth and taking them to the flames forever.

The apostle refers to this total trust on God's divine power through the shed Blood of Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 2:1-2 "And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. 2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified."

The entire focus of the apostle's preaching was that everyone would learn how to trust God for everything in this life. He continued 1 Corinthians 2:4-5 "My speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."

The entire teaching of the Bible is to bring us to the place of trusting on God and depending on Him for everything—from the most minor thing that touches us, to the most major issue that concerns this life and the next. Every child of God throughout the Bible came to that place under His teaching—to where they trusted totally on Him alone for everything in this life.

The majority of those who claim to trust God and who believe that the Blood of Christ saves—through many centuries and church denominations—have accepted the delusion of Satan that we do not have to trust God for things in this life. The devil has them convinced that it is right and proper to obtain these things by our own plans or by depending on our own strength and wisdom.

This terrible delusion began in the third century, when the Christian church fell to the level of the world—spiritually. It was when the Roman Empire made a profession of Christianity but had no real faith in God. It was "a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof." As 2 Timothy 3:5 tells us. Answers to prayer, divine healing, daily provisions, deliverance from trouble, and victory over Satan's power ceased to be seen in their lives.

The devil always presents an excuse for this condition—as he does for any other delusion that the world accepts. The devil's big lie is, 'that God has changed'. This lie has been passed on from generation to generation and is still believed on by the majority churches today. To say that God will not manifest His amazing love, mercy, and power to deliver us and to give us victory over oppressions today, is the worst lie that Satan has ever told.

It is like telling a small child that their loving parents will not do anything for them anymore. Anyone who believes and teaches that God does not hear and answer prayers today as He did in Bible times, will have to answer for that sin themselves, and will have to answer for the spiritual harm it will do to those who accept that lie—presently and eternally.

Luke 4:18 Jesus said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the

brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised."

The prophecies concerning the Atonement of Christ relate exclusively to all those things we need and desire in this life YLT Isaiah 53:4 "Surely our sicknesses [griefs AV] he hath borne, And our pains—he hath carried them, And we—we have esteemed him plagued [stricken], Smitten of God, and afflicted. AV 5 "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."

The Bible teaches that Jesus came to give us eternal life and it is all through faith in His Atonement for sin. Jesus knew that if we believed in His resurrection power in this life, it would lead to a preparation for eternal life.

Anything we need in this life is to be placed before God in prayer and in faith to receive it. Philippians 4:6 "In every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." And Mark 11:24 tells us, "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."

These prophecies and promises tell us that Jesus Christ came to deliver us from all sin, sorrow, sickness, financial lack, and any other evil thing the devil would like to put upon us in this present life. There is nothing too difficult that God would not be willing to give us—in answer to a prayer offered in humble believing faith. Matthew 19:26 tells us, "With God all things are possible."

The average church today either omits, rejects, or bitterly opposes this teaching. The devil has them thinking that anyone who takes the Bible seriously and is learning to trust God instead of man, is being foolish and fanatical. Nevertheless, God has promised to teach us how to trust Him for everything, when we are willing to listen up.

It is the message that Jesus gave in Matthew 18 when He "called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." Our attitude to God, is to be the same as a child to a parent—going to them, loving them, trusting them, and asking them for anything they desire.

There are conditions to meet for God to work effectively in our life—which, of course, includes following the teaching of His Word. To follow God's Word, means to obey the Scriptures—Scriptures that teach from Genesis to Revelation that we are to learn how to trust God alone for anything needed in this life on earth.

The easiest thing in the world is to have someone else do our work—and we even agree to pay them for doing it. In this matter, we have the awesome power of God ready to teach us anything we need to know, in order to make us everything He wants us to be—and it's all for free.

Every trial or temptation in this present life is used by God to teach us a spiritual lesson of trust. If our commitment is sincere to do as the Word says—which means to always trust God and to never look back—He will bring us to where we would rather give up our life, than to trust in anything or anyone but Him.

If we have not learned to trust God alone for our spiritual life; for physical healing; for our home and family; and for our financial support, we would not be ready to stand before Jesus and would not enter Heaven.

Those places where we have battles, and are tempted or tested, is where we have not learned to be scriptural, or we are not trusting God completely. When we have learned to be scriptural and are totally trusting God on some issue, the devil cannot disturb us or attack us concerning those things.

When any such problem arises, we are to make an uncompromising decision, that under no circumstance, will we do anything or trust anyone, but God alone to provide, heal, or deliver us. The moment our decision is final in taking this attitude, there will be a manifestation of God's divine power—not only in giving the victory, but also giving us the wisdom and ability to receive it.

. If, for instance, we are offended by someone, Satan wants us to resent it, to be upset, worry over it, and plan to do something about it. But if we truly forgive from the heart, and we place the matter in the hands of the living God, those types of problems will end, and we will be treated as kind and loving as we would like to be treated.

The spiritual blessing of meeting wrongs in a right and scriptural way is the death of self in our heart—that is more valuable than any kind treatment we could ever receive. Meeting such things in a scriptural way, results in spiritual growth to the image of Christ.

Jesus gave a profound statement that encompasses the destiny and welfare of all of us. He said John 6:63 "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing"—meaning anything we did according to human plans or power would yield no profit whatever, but would result in much harm since self and Satan would have control of our life

The apostle was so seriously attacked physically, that he even despaired of life. This happened, he said in 2 Corinthians 1:9-10 "that we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead, who delivered us." All such tests prepare us for eternal life, because any such trial or temptation we face is just part of learning How to Trust in God.

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