

HAVE CONFIDENCE IN GOD

Proverbs 3:1-15

Introduction: Growing up we had our parents or an older brother or sister to tell us what to do and to learn from. In school we had teachers and coaches to guide us and correct us and encourage us. When we got out on our own, we had to depend upon what we had learned growing up, but where, who do we turn to when we reach adulthood? Everyone needs advice, encouragement, guidance from others as none of us are perfect and all of us have weaknesses in some areas of our lives. So, who do we turn to? Who do we ask advice of? Where do we seek help? Who can we trust to give us the advice and help we need? Our text is an exhortation to place our confidence in God. Who can better help us than God? Who is always around when we need help or advice? Whose guidance is always the right kind? God!

I. TO HAVE CONFIDENCE IN GOD, THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT ARE NECESSARY

1. There must be a knowledge of God in the first place.
 - Who wants to place one's trust in any person whom they don't know?
 - Who would ask advice of a total stranger about something very serious?
 - Trust must be based on knowledge.
 - *"They that know thy name will put their trust in thee..." (Psalm 10:10)*
2. There must be a love of God to have confidence in Him.
 - If there is to be a lasting, trusting confidence in a person, that person must be known and then respected and loved.
 - Who will trust a person whom they do not or cannot love?
 - One's trust of another is in proportion to his/her love and respect of that person.
 - Therefore the more intimate the knowledge of that person, the deeper will be the love and the deeper the love, the more trust.
 - Jesus knew His heavenly Father as no other being could and His love and trust was based upon knowing the heavenly Father as well as He did.
 - Jesus' trust was entire and His obedience perfect, even in the darkest hour as He hung on the cross.

II. HAVING CONFIDENCE IN GOD PRODUCES RESULTS

1. There will be a recognition of God's presence.
 - There are times when we are in the presence of someone very special and without any public acknowledgement of his/her presence, we show respect to that person.
 - We can acknowledge God's presence in all our ways by having a reverent attitude of our soul and heart toward Him.
2. There will be a belief that God cares for each person.
 - God makes Himself know to people as if each person is the only person on earth.
 - The care for the individual is God's way.
 - *Genesis 28:13-15*
 - God spoke directly to Abraham as if Abraham was the only man on earth.

3. There will be a committing of one's total life to God's guidance and submission to His will.
 - As a person grows to know the Lord God, commitment and submission grows in proportion to how much one know God.
 - How much one knows about God determines how much confidence one has in God.

III. PLACING CONFIDENCE IN GOD GUARANTEES GOD'S INTERVENTION

1. Everyone has many needs in life and therefore needs much help.
 - Physical needs such as food, clothing, housing.
 - Social needs such as friends, companions, personal relationships.
 - Spiritual needs, such as direction and enlightenment.
 - Placing confidence in God is needed to meet all the needs one has in life.
2. There will always be right guidance from God.
 - Someone who has already "been there and done that" certainly knows what to anticipate, to expect, how to handle this or that and that is God.
 - God's foreknowledge of all things answers all a person's questions and needs.
 - God sees the end to which He is bringing each individual as He brings each of us along the path of our lives.
 - God's power enables Him to accomplish what He has planned for each individual.

CONCLUSION:

1. Every parent has given advice to his/her children from his/her own experience in growing up.
2. Every adult has asked advice from another whom he/she respected and thought could be of help.
3. Not all help/advice from each other is helpful and some is harmful.
4. The one source to have confidence in that will never betray, never be wrong, that has unlimited knowledge of all things and that knows every single human being inside and out is God.
 - Who is there better than God to place one's confidence in?
5. To place one's confidence in God, that person has to know God, love God and then go to God with his/her situation, fully trusting God to do what is best.
6. How much do YOU trust God? With your soul? What about your daily life?