

FINDING GOD'S WAY

Numbers 9:15-23 Job 28:7-28 Luke 11:34-36

Introduction: Every Christian should want to walk the path which God would have us to. There are countless thousands who, if they were to tell the truth about how they really feel, they would have to admit that they are a bit unsettled inside. They don't know what to do, where to go or what to believe. Would God leave His children, would Christ leave His followers in darkness and confusion? Doesn't a child know what his/her parents expect? Doesn't a person know what his/her employer expect? Then if earthly relationships are understood, can't we count on God more?

When Israel stood at the edge of the great wilderness after crossing the Red Sea, what next? Where were they to go now? There were no roads, paths, tracks in the sand to guide them. There were no signs of any kind. God provided guidance. Remember the cloud by day and cloud of fire by night?

I. GOD OFFERED GUIDANCE

1. Instead of God just releasing His people from slavery and freeing them, He became their "travel guide" and provider.
2. God not only saves us from eternal death and releases us from Satan's hold, He is our daily guide and provider through life.
3. If God was gracious and mighty enough to rescue them from slavery, surely He was mighty enough to guide them across the great and terrible wilderness.
4. However, in order to be guided, there had to be complete surrender and abandonment of self and of confidence in themselves. All confidence had to be put in God.

II. HOW CAN ONE FIND GOD'S WAY?

1. Keen vision cannot see it.
2. Man cannot find the price to pay for it.
3. It cannot be bought with gold or precious stones.
4. It is not found in the depth of the seas.
5. The wealth of the universe cannot equal it.
6. The combined wisdom of man cannot discover it.
7. Where can it be found? God cannot lie and yet He says He has a way for us. (*Job 28:20-22*)

III. THE SECRET IN FINDING GOD'S WAY IS TO FEAR THE LORD (*Job 28:23-28*)

1. Fearing God places man in the presence of God and it is Satan's objective to keep man out of the presence of God.
2. Satan causes people to be under the power and authority of others.
3. Satan causes people to be under the law of certain commandments and laws made by others.
4. Satan will bring anything he can between man and God.
 - It may be an opinion of someone.
 - It may be a false teaching.
 - It may be an idea of a friend.
 - It may be anything at all.
5. God's pure and simple Word is the answer. It and only it alone must rule man.
 - Nothing but God's Word can guide man the right and straight way.

- The Christian is not to be governed by the opinions of people.
- The Christian is not to be ruled by any doctrine formed by others.
- Truth comes from God and God alone.

IV. ONCE GOD'S WAY IS FOUND, HOW IS IT UNDERSTOOD? (Luke 11:34-36)

1. It is difficult today for there are so many different religions, so which one is right?
 - There are so many conflicting voices.
 - There are so many opposing views.
 - There are so many preachers who differ in their judgments.
 - There are so many shades of opinions that are so greatly magnified that it seems impossible to reach the right conclusion.
2. We go to someone with a problem and hear this or that, then we go to another person with the same problem and hear something entirely different. Both persons are knowledgeable. What is a person to do?
3. The Israelites didn't run from one to another asking the way. Everyone had the same divine guide, the pillar of cloud by day and of fire by night.
4. They were not left to the guidance of the most intelligent, the most shrewd, the most experienced people among them. Neither did they go off on their own way. Everyone followed the Lord.
5. To all who looked, they saw and were guided. That is the secret of being guided today. Look and Listen with singleness of eye and ear to God.
6. There must be obedience. The Israelites had to be obedient in order to be guided, or else...

CONCLUSION:

1. If we fix our eyes on several things around us, we will miss the light of God. One cannot have his/her eyes on God and the mind on something else.
2. Even if anyone is anxious to be led by God and is sincere but does not keep his/her eyes on God he/she will not be able to find God's will. There has to be a singleness of the eye.
3. When God shows us the light that we ask for, we must be ready to walk in it. If we don't we become a stumbling block before others.
4. The key is to not hesitate to act on the light. Don't think about consequences. Think of only obeying God.
5. Look for only one step at a time.
6. Don't ask what's next until you have completed the first step.
7. Don't think about what anyone might say about you.
8. Remember, God doesn't give light for more than one step at a time. Only one at a time.

"The fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding."