

What does it mean to trust God when we face situations in life that bring challenges and trials? Paul said this in Philip. 4:6-7, “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

In essence, trusting God boils down to unloading our concerns unto the Lord in prayer, and realizing that God not only knows where we’re at and that He loves us, but very importantly that He is allowing us to grow to His glory. Then, He gives us His peace that makes no sense to the world, but is the strength and energy that allows us to live through all circumstances of life.

Paul also added one more element in Rom 15:13; “Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Notice that the peace we receive not only abounds, but as well has for source the Holy Spirit.

Finally, Joshua 1:9 ought to wake us up; “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God *is* with you wherever you go.”

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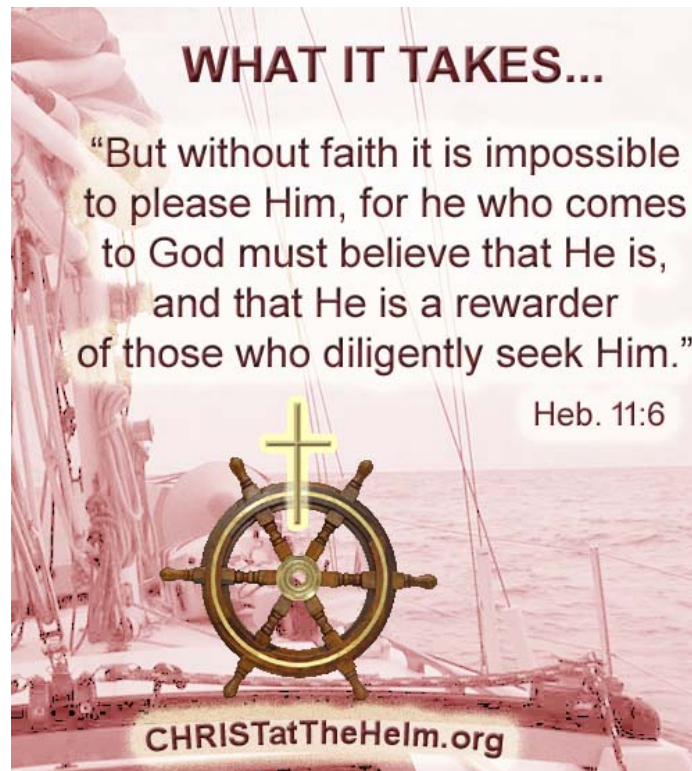
I recently watched a movie where a person was asked, "Who do you love the most in your life"? Not surprisingly, he answered, "Myself"! In this world, we find the "Myself" cult is not only prevalent, but as well the very source of all hatred and despicable behavior. It has reached the point that we are now enjoined to distrust authority, and more specifically God.

So, what drives a true Christian believer to trust God? First, Psalm 9:10 states, "And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; for You, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You." God has never abandoned anyone who ever trusted Him, be it Moses, Abraham, Noah, David and many others, who chose to trust God in almost impossible situations, and God never failed them.

Jeremiah 17:7-8 adds, "Blessed *is* the man who trusts in the LORD, and whose hope is the LORD. For he shall be like 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." Isaiah 40:31 crowns trusting God this way, "But those who wait on the Lord shall renew *their* strength."

Where's our spiritual strength right now?

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What is the most important element in trusting God? In fact, trusting God is associated with our belief in Christ as Savior and Lord... FAITH! None of us has ever met Christ in person, yet we believe the truth of the bible,. Why? It sure isn't because on a human basis we agree with the writings, but rather the element of faith is given by the Holy Spirit to those who choose to surrender their lives to God and Christ.

That's why Paul in Romans 8:28 said, "And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose." In other words, God is the one who pours faith into our hearts and souls when we live to honor and serve Him. The apostle John in 1John 4:16 added, "And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him."

Doubt is the deception that the enemy uses to cause people to fear and as a result it becomes a distrust of God. James 1:6 illustrates it this way: "Ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind."

In essence, doubt dangerously takes us in many different directions other than having our focus on God and Christ.

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Can we put our full trust in mankind for our life? Can we blindly trust human beings for this life and eternity? Aren't we rather all driven to say "Help me God" when facing serious trials, or do we rely on mere mortals to lead and protect us?

Prov. 29:25 says, "The fear of man brings a snare, but one who trusts in the Lord will be protected." Jesus also said, "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?" (Mat. 6:25) In other words, if we confess Christ as Savior and Lord, shouldn't our belief entail that we trust Him for everything, even our own life?

Then in the next two verses Jesus added, "Look at the birds of the sky, that they do not sow, nor reap, nor gather *crops* into barns, and *yet* your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more important than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single day to his life's span? (Mat. 6:26-27) Didn't Jesus warn us, "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy." (John 10:10)

Whom will we trust: Christ, our Redeemer, our Savior, our Lord, or mere mortal idols? What's your choice?

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