

TRUST IN GOD (Proverbs 3:5)

I. We can trust in the presence of God.

- A. Long ago, the Psalmist wrote, “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (46:1).
 - 1. His point was that God is near us.
 - 2. Psalm 139 talks about not being able to flee from the presence of God.
- B. We need to trust in the fact that God is present and real.
- C. There are several arguments that are made to prove the existence of God.
- D. At least two are subjective reasons:
 - 1. I want to believe in God.
 - a. This belief gives us hope.
 - b. It allows us to live better lives.
 - 2. Ones I love and trust taught me to believe in God.
 - a. This is the beginning stage of faith.
 - b. It was taught us in the early stages of life.
 - 3. I know these are not infallible arguments but they are there none the less and make a foundation for our belief.
- E. There are also very scientific arguments for the existence of God.
 - 1. The cosmological argument says that because the universe exists there must be a Creator.
 - a. Nothing causes nothing so there had to be something to cause the universe.
 - b. This argument is closely tied to the Law of Cause and Effect - every effect must have an adequate cause.
 - (1) If a wall falls down when a fly lands on it, we know that the fly is not adequate cause for the falling of the wall.
 - (2) The structural integrity of the wall must have been compromised causing the fall.
 - (3) The universe exists so there must have been something to cause its existence that is adequate enough to do so.
 - 2. The teleological argument is the argument from design.
 - a. The universe and everything in it has design so there must be a Great Designer.
 - b. The argument in logical form is:
 - (1) If the universe shows purposeful design, there must be a designer.
 - (2) The universe does show purposeful design.
 - (3) Therefore, the universe must have a Designer.
 - c. This is a biblical argument (Hebrews 3:4).
 - 3. The moral argument.
 - a. All men have a sense of ought - there are things we ought to

- do and things we ought not to do.
- b. We are born with this sense, so it must come from someone or something.
- c. There is morality and ethics in life and the origin is from God.
- F. Psalm 53:1.
- G. God is real and we need to trust that He is real.
 1. Sadly, there are many in the world that do not.
 2. Even worse, there are those who are Christians who have or will lose their trust in His existence despite all the proof for it.

II. We can trust the promises of God.

- A. God has always been a God who made promises.
 1. He made promises to Adam, Eve and Satan.
 2. He made promises to Noah, Abraham, Moses and the Israelites.
 3. As Joshua said, "Not one thing hath failed thereof" (23:14).
- B. God made a promise to Abraham that through him, all the nations of the earth would be blessed (Genesis 12:1-3).
 1. We know this to be the promise of the Christ.
 2. God promised Abraham that Jesus would come through him and this promise was fulfilled (Matthew 1:2).
- C. Through Jesus, God has promised us salvation (John 3:16).
- D. Those who are saved in Christ are promised the presence of God (Hebrews 13:5).
- E. We are promised spiritual blessing in Christ (Ephesians 1:3).
- F. We are promised heaven (John 14:1-3).
- G. We know that we can trust that these promises will be fulfilled because history has shown us that God keeps His word.
- H. The promises of God effect every aspect of the time of our lives.
 1. It effects the future in that we are promised heaven (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).
 2. It effects the present (Psalm 23:4; 1 John 1:7).
 3. It effects the past (Psalm 103:12; Revelation 1:5).
- I. We must trust the promises of God.

III. We can trust the plan of God.

- A. God has always had a plan for man's redemption that involved His Son (Genesis 3:15; 1 Peter 1:20).
 1. The Old Testament reveals His plan for bringing Jesus into the world through the Abraham and then the Jews.
 2. The Gospels reveal how Christ came and what He did while on earth.
 3. Acts reveals how the church Jesus built was established and the epistles reveal how one gets into that church and how each Christian is to live.
 4. Revelation reveals to us that we win in Christ.
- B. God's plan is for man to be obedient to Him in order to get to the prepared place of heaven (Matthew 7:21; 1 John 2:17).
 1. This plan starts with belief in Jesus based on hearing and studying

- God's word (John 8:24).
- 2. This belief is to be followed by repentance (Acts 17:30).
- 3. Repentance is to be followed by confession (Romans 10:9-10).
- 4. Confession is to be followed by baptism (Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:26-27).
- 5. Baptism is to be followed by living the way God commands (Matthew 7:21; Revelation 2:10).
- C. This is the only plan that will save us and we must trust in it.
- D. God's plan for the spread of the gospel is for Christians to take this message out to the world (Matthew 28:19-20).
 - 1. When we do this He promises to be with us.
 - 2. We must do the taking of the gospel.
 - 3. When we spread God's seed, the word, it will not come back void (Isaiah 55:11).

IV. We can trust in the providence of God.

- A. Acts 20:32.
 - 1. There are two things mentioned by Paul that result in strengthening us and giving us a home in heaven:
 - 2. God and His word.
 - 3. There is no doubt how the word aids us in strength and receiving our heavenly reward.
 - 4. How does God do it apart from the word?
- B. We know it is not miraculously because God does not save and strengthen through miracles and never did while miracles were being performed.
- C. The way it must be is through His providential care.
 - 1. Jesus promised that if God could take care of birds and flowers He can take care of us (Matthew 6:30).
 - 2. We see throughout the Old Testament God at work in the affairs of men through providence.
 - 3. The same must hold true today (Romans 8:28).
- D. Since God takes care of flowers and birds, we can trust that God will take care of us as well (Psalm 37:25).