

Wednesday, July 17, 2019

Proverbs 3:5-12

Proverbs 3:5-6. In a service where folks are invited to give their favorite verses, these verses are often quoted. I sometimes wonder if those who say them realize what a rich vein of truth they come out of. These verses are directed to the man who diligently studies the Word of God, to the young man who listens to God's law. It is as Paul wrote to Timothy in II Timothy 2:15. Knowing something about the loving-kindness, the grace and truth of God – holding on to these things – “trust in Jehovah with all thine heart; and lean not on thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths.”

This is a very solemn admonition, yet it offers such wonderful assurance to be guided in a way of peace. What a contrast this is to Proverbs 28:26: “He that trusts in his own heart is a fool.”

Someone once tried witnessing to a young man – he told him “God loves you, young man.” The fellow answered, “I don't need God to love me. I love myself. I don't need to trust in God – I trust in myself.

It is a wonderful thing to trust in God with all your heart – to be totally committed to Him – total commitment to Him is sorely needed in our day.

We often find ourselves in situations where we must trust in the Lord with all our heart. Sometimes these situations are major life events – like serious illnesses. Then we learn that every time we come to a new day – we can go and look up at the sky and say, “Lord, thank you for bringing me to a new day.” It may be a gloomy day or a bright day. Whatever the day, we must thank Him – “In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths.” Sometimes it takes us a long time to learn what that really means in life.

Jesus, in the Sermon on the Mount said, “If therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light” – Matthew 6:22. If you have committed yourself to God and you are going down a certain path, doing a certain thing, it is amazing how everything else drops into place. Then your whole body is full of light.

Proverbs 3:7-8 – “It shall be healing to your sinew and moistening to your bones” – it will actually improve your health to trust in the Lord – it is wonderful to rest in Him rather than in yourself.

“Fear the Lord, and depart from evil” – Paul advised Timothy – “Let everyone that names the name of Christ depart from iniquity”

II Timothy 2:19. It will get you away from sin – away from those things which corrode not only your spiritual life but your physical life as well.

Proverbs 3:9-10 – this represents total commitment – when God told Israel about the land, He was giving them, He said, “The land is Mine; I am giving it to you.” Israel was to bring a tithe to the Lord – at the very beginning of the harvest they brought the first fruits – to acknowledge that God was the owner of it all – evidence of total commitment.

Don't say that you're totally committed to the Lord until your pocketbook is committed to – the Lord gave you everything you have. God promises His blessings to those who honor Him with their substance.

Proverbs 3:11-12 – God is going to chasten you as you go along through life if you are truly His child – remember that God does not chasten the devil's children but He certainly has to us sometimes – which is good evidence that you belong to Him. Job 5:17-18 says “Happy is the man whom God corrects” Our children are to be chastened – corrected and disciplined – criminals are to be punished.