

IN GOD WE TRUST

TRUST IN THE LORD! Psalm 31:19; 32:10; 34:22; 37:3,5; 115:11; 125:1; Proverbs 3:5; 29:25; Isaiah 26:3,4; 50:10; Jeremiah 17:7; I Timothy 4:10; II Timothy 1:12

TRUST NOT IN:

1. Trust **not** in ourselves-- Proverbs 28:26; Hosea 10:13; Obadiah 3; Matthew 26:33; I Corinthians 10:12; Mark 14:30,31; Luke 22:33,34.
2. Trust **not** in uncertain riches-- I Timothy 6:17-19; Mark 10:23-25; Luke 12:19,20; Job 31:24,25,28; Psalm 52:7; Proverbs 11:28; 18:11; Jeremiah 48:7,8.
3. Trust **not** in man-- (or government, or army, or numbers, etc.) Psalm 118:8,9; 146:3; Isaiah 2:22; 30:2; 31:1,3; 36:6; Jeremiah 17:5; Hosea 5:13; Zeph.

2:15.

4. Trust **not** in weapons-- I Samuel 17:45; Psalm 44:6; Hosea 1:7; Hag. 2:22.

When we look at the life of **Jesus**, we see the perfect example of trusting in God. All His life, He was trusting the Father to take care of Him. He never had a home, never had riches, and yet he never worried about tomorrow. (Please study Matthew 6:24-34 to see that Jesus taught us plainly not to worry about tomorrow!)

There were times when the nation of Israel trusted in God! Under the leadership of Joshua, as they were entering the land of Canaan, they were trusting in God to give them victory. But earlier, under the leadership of Moses, they did not trust in God, were afraid to obey God, and they perished in the wilderness!

There was a time when **America** trusted in God, feared God, and obeyed God. But we have rebelled against God. Our founding fathers established this nation with principles founded on God's word. Our laws were based on the word of God. Our pledge of allegiance includes the phrase, '**ONE NATION UNDER GOD**'. Our national motto is "**IN GOD WE TRUST**". The only way we can return to being a nation that trusts in God, is if we individually, and our families, and churches, and communities will repent, return to God and obey God. God has given us a wonderful promise in II Chronicles 7:14! Do you believe it? Will you personally do what that Scripture says to do? **WILL YOU TRUST IN GOD IN EVERY WAY?**

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Lessons from Nature

by Bro. Brian Jackson
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Recently, I was blessed to study "Lessons from Nature" that are found in God's word. Lessons from nature are found everywhere in the Bible! God has placed in his creation many things that teach a spiritual lesson, or remind us of an attribute of God, or stir our mind to call into remembrance a certain Bible verse. I have been trying to make a concerted effort to see things in nature that God has placed there to remind me of Him.

Psalms 19:1-3 says: "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard."

Every day and every night speak to us about God. Every day and every night show us knowledge about God!

I was blessed a few weeks ago to be able to go on a short vacation to the mountains. As we were riding around one afternoon, we saw a herd of cattle in a pasture on a hill. It reminded me of the verse in the Bible that says that God owns cattle on a thousand hills (Psalm 50:10). God owns everything: all the money, all the animals, all the

gold, all the silver! We serve the God whose resources are unlimited! There is not a need that He cannot meet for us. James 1:17 says that "Every good and perfect gift is from above..."

About thirty minutes later, we passed a group of about 7 deer feeding. We stopped the car, put it in reverse, and backed up to get a better look at the deer that were only about 50 yards away. It reminded me of the verse in the Bible that says, "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God" (Psalm 42:1). A "hart" is a deer. Just as a deer thirsts after water, our soul should thirst after God!

The next day we bought some inner tubes and floated down a mountain river that was nearby. As we were floating down the river, we noticed the huge trees that lined the river bank. The trunks and branches seemed to go on forever. It reminded me of the verse in the Bible that says, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall

be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper" (Psalm 1:1-3). A tree that grows beside the river typically grows very tall and is healthy because it is close to a water source. The Bible says that a man that delights in the law of the LORD shall be like a tree planted by the river. He brings forth fruit! His leaf does not wither! He prospers! We should be meditating on God's word frequently. We need to be close to the water source!

Of course, during the trip we were constantly surrounded by mountains. The Bible speaks many times of mountains: Mt. Sinai (where the 10 commandments were given), Mt. Moriah (where Solomon built the temple and Abraham went to sacrifice Isaac), Calvary (it is said that Jesus was crucified on a hill outside Jerusalem), Mt. Zion (one of the names that the Bible ascribes to God's people).

It has been a wonderful blessing to see how God's creation speaks of His glory and His handywork. I pray that God will continue to reveal Himself through creation to me and to you!

"I'd Rather See A Sermon"

by Edgar Guest

I'd rather see a sermon
Than hear one any day;
I'd rather one should walk with me
Than merely tell the way.

The eye's a better pupil
And more willing than the ear,
Fine counsel is confusing,
But example's always clear;

And the best of all the preachers
Are the men who live their creeds,
For to see good put in action
Is what everybody needs.

I soon can learn to do it
If you'll let me see it done;
I can watch your hands in action,
But your tongue too fast may run.

And the lectures you deliver
May be very wise and true,
But I'd rather get my lessons
By observing what you do;

For I might misunderstand you
and the high advice you give,
But there's no misunderstanding
How you act and how you live.

And all travelers can witness
That the best of guides today
Is not the one who tells them,
But the one who shows the way.

Though an able speaker charms me
with his eloquence, I say,
I'd rather see a sermon
Than to hear one, any day.