

## **Trusting the Lord**

**By Pastor Kevin Lea – Feb 8, 2008**

*Proverbs 3:5-8 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and depart from evil. It will be health to your flesh, and strength to your bones. (NKJ)*

Many mature Christians have put the above verses to memory, for good reason. The Lord inspired Solomon to write these words of wisdom so they could be a lighthouse to wayward souls, bringing *health to our flesh, strength to our bones*.

In Jeremiah 17:9 God declares that, *"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?"* The fallen heart of man is deceitful because it wants to trust in man rather than God. This fallen condition was a consequence from the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve took of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. One of the things that appealed to Eve was that she saw the fruit was, *"desirable to make one wise, and she took of its fruit and ate"* - (Gen 3:6).

From that time on, unsaved man has been thinking they are wise in their own understanding and don't need/want God or His laws to guide their lives. Paul rebukes this dilution in Romans 1:22 when he said, *"Professing to be wise, they became fools."*

However, God made a way for man to repent of their foolishness and come to Him in humility seeking to be saved from this lie of self sufficiency. The Christian is promised to be given a new heart (Hebrews 8:10), thus allowing us to *trust in the LORD with all our hearts, and stop leaning on our own understanding*. A repentant sinner comes to God realizing his/her past practice of *being wise in their own eyes* only resulted in sin and death, and they open their heart to God so He can perform surgery and repair the damage we inherited from the fall of Adam and Eve.

This process of getting a repair job on our wicked hearts takes the rest of our life (2 Corinthians 4:16). We often fall back into trusting in our own judgment when decisions are made about how we conduct ourselves in singlehood, the way we treat our spouses in marriage, how we raise our children, work ethic on the job site, etc. When we do lean on our own understanding, the consequences are the same as before - instead of the life and joy we experience by trusting in Jesus with all of our hearts, we are instead reminded of the foolishness of our own ways.

As we go through our topical series on the family, I pray the Lord Jesus will help us to trust Him more and more each day. The alternative:

Jeremiah 17:5 and 7 - *Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart departs from the LORD. --- Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, and whose hope is the LORD.*