

# In God We Trust

**Introduction.** Trust is an important part of most any relationship we sustain: marital, professional, or personal. For instance, consider the importance of trust in marriage. You can learn to love someone you trust, but loving someone you don't or can't trust is disastrous. Trust and being trustworthy is that important.

Trust is also an enormous part of our relationship with God, or at least it should be (Proverbs 3:5-6). God is eminently trustworthy (Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:18). He is eminently true and faithful (Romans 2:4; 2 Timothy 2:13). Furthermore, every good and perfect gift comes from Him (James 1:17). He wants and provides abundant life through His Son, Jesus Christ (John 10:10). He has fulfilled every promise He ever made, and will continue to do so (Joshua 23:14).

You would think that people would confidently turn to God and live in a way that reflects this belief. But this is not the case. In fact, there are several options people practice when it comes to trust. Let's look at these and then present several reasons why it proper and right to trust in God.

## ***I. What We Can Trust Over God***

### **A. Trust "science" over God?**

1. The same science that put a man on the moon in the 1960s was affirming that smoking cigarettes was good and healthy even for expecting mothers.
2. "But science has progressed so much since then!" That's true, but science is still only the wisdom of the world which has always been and will always be flawed and incomplete when compared to the infinite omniscience of God (1 Corinthians 1:20-21).

### **B. Trust "technology" over God?**

1. Humanity is assembling machines that can learn, think, and act for themselves. Some believe this presents a dangerous precipice that we would do well to avoid.
2. Technology enables us to accomplish wondrous feats. But remember that having the ability to do something doesn't mean that you should do so (cp. Genesis 9:7; 11:4-9).

### **C. Trust "government" over God?**

1. Government that functions as "a minister of God" to promote good and punish evil is "from God" and "established by God," and we should therefore "be in subjection" to and support it (Romans 13:1-7).
2. However, have we forgotten that government — any government — which ceases to function in these ways, for these purposes, and according to God's supreme authority, must be rejected in favor of obedience to God (Acts 5:26-32)? Did not the Jewish and Roman government conspire to torture and kill the guiltless Son of God sent to save them?

### **D. Trust "national or political affiliations, military might, and treaties" over God?**

1. Throughout its history, the nation of Israel was repeatedly warned against trusting their own military or political might and/or foreign treaties and alliances to protect them.

2. This began at the edge of the Red Sea with the exodus of the nation from Egypt, and continued until its annihilation at the hands of the Romans in 70 A.D. (cp. Isaiah 31:1-9). America is not ancient Israel, but we as well as all nations need to heed the lessons of history (Proverbs 14:34).
- E. Trust “wealth, health, and medicine” over God?
1. Death is the great human equalizer. It doesn’t matter how much wealth you collect, how healthy you are or for how long, or how much medicine/medical science and technology to which you have access, death still comes to everyone (cp. Hebrews 9:27).
  2. All the anxiety, medicine, and money we expend won’t change this fact. Are you obsessing over your health and/or life? Why? There is something better to work for (1 Timothy 4:6-8).

## **II. Reasons To Trust God**

- A. He knows you by name (Isaiah 43:1).
1. This close acquaintance that the Old Testament people shared with God is still alive and well with His people.
  2. Loving, faithful people are known by their God (1 Corinthians 8:3; Galatians 4:9; 2 Timothy 2:19).
- B. He will fight for you (Exodus 14:14).
1. It’s a great assurance to know that God will always be in our corner.
  2. After Hezekiah did everything to prepare himself and his people, he put his trust in God (2 Chronicles 32:1-8).
- C. He thinks about you (Psalm 139:17).
1. God intricately designed the human body. He also planned and determined our days (vv. 14-16).
  2. Life is not a prison, it is an exciting pilgrimage. God wants life to be enjoyable for His children (Ecclesiastes 5:18-20).
- D. He has plans for you (Jeremiah 29:11).
1. The plans God had in Jeremiah 29 included their return to God’s favor and their return to their homeland.
  2. But God has plans for His creation under the New Covenant. This plan is your redemption in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:7-12; 2:10).
- E. He is your refuge (Psalm 62:6-8).
1. The greater the realization that God was David’s fortress, the greater the calmness in his heart.
  2. David exhorted the people to see God as their refuge, to trust Him, and to pour out their hearts in prayer. Faith will always be the antidote to despair.
- F. He is always with you (Matthew 28:20).
1. It is truly heartwarming that these were some of the last words Christ spoke before He sat down at God’s right hand.
  2. It is a sweet foreshadowing of what every faithful Christian can expect in heaven (Revelation 21:3).

**Conclusion.** Dale Bruner wrote, “When our cat, Clement, goes outside, he looks around as though it’s a jungle, and he is terrified. But when he comes in the house, he

lies on the floor between the kitchen and the dining room — where we walk most frequently — and falls asleep in total trust. My wife, Kathy, or I could squash Clement's head, but he trusts us. Our cat lives in complete, total confidence in his human companions. Every time I see Clement just lying there, I say to myself, 'That's what Jesus wants me to do — to trust Him.' The kind of trust the cat shows in us is the kind of trust the Lord Jesus Christ invites from us."

It's understandable for those who don't know and believe God to have such misplaced trusts and "trust issues." But what doesn't make any sense is for people who claim to know and believe God to fail to trust Him — about anything.

I am deeply indebted to Philip Strong for the use of his material.