

Fear Vs. Trust

-Ryan Parsons-

As we continue our conversation about fear, it is important to look at the other side of the equation. The Bible repeatedly tells its readers, “Do not fear.” What on earth should you do instead?

The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is safe.
Many seek the face of a ruler, but it is from the Lord that a man gets justice.

Proverbs 29:25-26

TRUST in the English is defined as: firm belief in the reliability, truth, ability, or strength of someone or something. (Oxford Dictionary). The Hebrew root implies one is bold, sure, or confident as they put confidence and hope in something.

So, evaluating what Proverbs tells us, in what should we or shouldn't we put our trust in?

Proverbs 3:5

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

Proverbs 25:19

Trusting in a treacherous man in time of trouble is like a bad tooth or a foot that slips.

Proverbs 21:22

A wise man scales the city of the mighty and brings down the stronghold in which they trust.

Proverbs 11:28

Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.

Apparently, trust in rulers (29:25-26), man's own understanding (3:5), treacherous men (25:19), strongholds (21:22) and money (11:28) are “trap door trust.” They are only good until the bottom falls out. And rest assured, the bottom WILL fall out. On the other hand, it is plainly asserted that those who find their confidence and hope in the Lord are secure. In Him, the bottom doesn't fall out. It is completely reliable, true, able, and strong.

2 Kings 18

5 He trusted in the Lord, the God of Israel, so that there was none like him among all the kings of Judah after him, nor among those who were before him.

King Hezekiah's legacy is one we should strive for. We are told that his greatest credential was not his position as king, but his trust in the Lord, the God of Israel. May the same be said of us as we reject fear and aim our trust at the Lord!