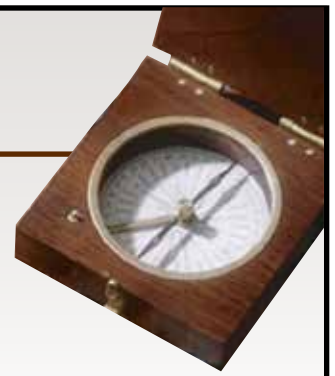


The Management Principle of Trust in God



*“Trust in your money and down you go!
Trust in God and flourish as a tree.” Proverbs 11:28*

Underline the key concepts found in this principle.

The American dollar reads, “In God We Trust.” Do we? Our ancestors did. They understood that it was not just important to grow but to trust in God. Evidence of this is our use of the Bible in court and the principles our nation has been built on. The Bible was the foundation and cornerstone from which they structured the Constitution and built our prosperous society. They were aware that money could become our god, so they printed those words as a reminder. Our lives and country will continue to flourish if we keep ourselves committed to God and His principles. Has America flourished? Yes indeed. Are we still flourishing? Yes, but we are on shaky ground when we trust in money rather than in God.

Why will trusting in money make us fall? First of all, a person who doesn't acknowledge the majesty, power and guidance of God will become self-willed, trusting only in himself and his money. He will create his own moral code that will justify his actions. Without the fear of God, societies become self-righteous. They will compare themselves among themselves, and think better of themselves than they should. Money, rather than God, then becomes the standard by which we value ourselves, and it will take us down. The Soviet Union tried it and failed miserably, and so will any society that rejects God's law as their standard. If we want to flourish we must believe and trust in God, seeing money only as a byproduct of certain values; a medium of exchange.

Second, without trusting God and establishing right morals and values, our money will go through our pockets as if they had holes.

Without God's laws for governing we become unbalanced, we become wasteful and lose our sense of productivity. Then we want to raise taxes rather than plug the holes in our pockets. When we give more value to money than what it should have, we expect things from it. Men expect their wives to love them more, parents expect their kids to be good students, and we expect to solve problems by throwing money at it. This is why people get into debt and live beyond their means. All money can really do is provide a roof over our head, put food on the table, and clothing on our backs. Without the knowledge and application of principles that protect liberty, peace, community, prosperity and happiness our money will disappear.

BENEFITS

1. If we trust in God we will not fear circumstances.
2. We will be optimistic about the future.
3. We know that money is temporal and perishes.
4. We will live according to the rules that produce prosperity.
5. We will be balanced in our lives.

Action Plan for Trust in God



STEPS TO FOLLOW

1. Get to know God more and learn about His principles and laws.
2. Commit to live by principles and values that build trust.
3. When facing problems, don't lose hope and believe that you will solve them by doing the right things.

There are three ways we can measure our trust in God:

1. When things go wrong, what source do you turn to?
2. How much effort do you put into living by God's principles?
3. How much would it take to make you lie or steal for personal gain?
4. How do you invest the money you make?

Trusting God does not mean that we stop planning or working to obtain our dreams; it should not make us passive and lazy. Trusting God means we rely on and believe in God and pattern our lives and businesses around His values. Trust means to count on or have confidence in. Trust comes from experiencing and knowing someone. We can't buy or demand it; it is earned. When we experience God and get to know Him, we will find that He is trustworthy, faithful and just. We put our confidence in Him and pattern our lives after His principles and values, which will give us a good life.

When we trust in money, it is temporal and

perishable. God's laws are fixed and can be trusted. They are everlasting; heaven and earth will pass away before His law does. Trust in God causes us to live by the rules that bring prosperity, but trust in money will cause us to become greedy and out of balance, which destroys our character.

Remember... thoughts produce actions, actions become habits, habits form our character, and character determines our destiny!

REFLECT AND RESPOND

1. What does trusting in God mean to you personally?
2. Is there anything that keeps you from trusting in God's ways? If so, what?
3. What decisions have you made lately that show you are trusting in God and not money?

Evaluate yourself from 1 to 10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
What specific action can you put into practice to test the benefits of this principle?										
Check list for the daily reading of this principle	M	T	W	T	F	S	S			

Completed

Not completed