

The Good News

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Trusting in Jehovah

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Imagine for a moment what a person might be like who does not fully trust in Jehovah. They may easily forget that He has power over all things, such as the kingdoms of men or the weather. They may not pray as much, forgetting that He hears and answers our prayers. They may forget that He always knows what is best in the big picture and thus He might answer some of our requests with a "no".

Trusting in Jehovah means trusting that He has power over all things – This includes the kingdoms of men. Daniel reminded Belshazzar in Dan. 5:21 that Nebuchadnezzar had learned this lesson the hard way. God makes sure that His will is done, no matter who is President, senator, or governor. Remembering this will remind us that, no matter how bleak political and national outlooks may get, God is still in charge; nothing happens without Him allowing it.

Trusting in Jehovah means trusting that He hears and answers all our prayers – We find in John 9:30-33 that God does not answer the prayers of sinners, but He answers those who fear and obey Him. We also know from Mt. 6:5-8 that God knows what we need before we ever pray to Him about our needs. We can read in James 5:17 that the effective fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much, realizing that God wants us to cast our cares upon Him (I Pet. 5:7). But none of this truly means anything if we don't trust that He is there and listening. We have the assurance of His word in knowing that He <u>is</u> there, and He <u>is</u> listening, waiting for us to talk to Him.

Trusting in Jehovah means trusting that He knows best – We find in II Cor. 12:7-9 that Paul asked God three times to remove his thorn in the flesh and on the third time God essentially said "no". We must remind ourselves that "all things work together for good to them that love the Lord" (Rom. 8:28). This means that while we can only see our little puzzle piece of life, God sees the big picture and will make sure that all things come about in such a way that is best for everyone involved. This may mean that God answers "no" to a request. When this happens, we must trust that He knows best.

Trusting in Jehovah means being content and thankful – In Phil. 4:11-12 Paul says that He had learned how to be hungry and suffer need. It is apparent that, despite Paul's service to God, God did not simply hand over physical blessings. Paul had to endure hardship and go hungry at times. This didn't mean that God was not taking care of him. On the contrary, it taught Paul how to be content regardless of the state he was in. But no matter what the situation was, he was thankful. He reminded the brethren that when they offer their requests to God, they must do so with thanksgiving in Phil. 4:6.

Let's make sure we remind ourselves that Jehovah is always in control and that He is worthy of our trust, always thanking Him for all that He has done, and continues to do, for us.