

HANDOUT “EN [TRUST] ED” PART 2: “Stewardship Is a Proper Perspective of God’s Word”

Prov 3:1-10 2/4/24

POINT: FAITHFUL STEWARDS UNDERSTAND “ITS ALL HIS” AND THAT HE HAS “ENTRUSTED” US TO BUILD HIS KINGDOM FOR AN ETERNAL REWARD! **READ PROVERBS 3:1-10**

- When we understand that Christian Stewardship Flows from a Christ and Gospel-Centered Understanding of God’s Word, our abilities, time, and possessions are in the proper Perspective.
- **Point: A Believers Life is Transformed as They Incorporate God’s Word! PROV. 3:1-4**

Let Your Heart Keep My Commands: Deciding to Not Forget God’s Word is More than a Mental Exercise of Memory...It is also Connected to a Life of Obedience, in which One Does Keep the Commands of God.

- This Obedience is one of the Heart...Obedience is Not Merely Acknowledging God’s Will...But a Heart that Loves and Obeys Him.

POINT: INCORPORATING GOD’S WORD IS HEARING GOD’S WORD The Word Forget in Proverbs 3:1 Means to Ignore or Wither! When We Think Of Hearing God’s Teaching, We Need to Think in Terms of NOT Neglecting Gods Commands...But with Gratitude to Keep Them In Our Hearts!

NOTE: Not Hearing is Not Only Limited to the Absence of Something...But Also the “Neglecting OR Refusing” to Deal With What We Hear! It’s Effect, We Allow What We Have Heard to Wither Or Die.

- We End Up Thinking Like the World...Acting Like the World and Even Living Like the World...Looking Like the Ungodly...When In Reality We’re Not.
- *Thinking they can Take License because of Grace...Romans 6:15 “What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means!*

The Question We Need to Ask...Is That Really The Kind of Believer I Want to Be?

- In Rom 12:2 *“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will”.* **Successful Christian Stewardship Requires We INCORPORATE Gods Word 100%!**

POINT: TO INCORPORATE GOD’S WORD WE MUST ACCEPT GOD’S WORD! *We are to Bind Gods Words Around Our Neck...for the Teaching of God is An Expression of His Love and Faithfulness to Us!*

- NOTE: The Things We Bind Around Our Neck are Those Things that are Most Precious and Most Important to Us.

KEY: To Incorporate God’s Word is to Engrave God’s Word on Our Heart! When We Do His Word Will Change Us From the Inside—Out! *It Will Be a Total Transformation to Become More Like Christ!*

PROV. 3:5-7 says we are to TRUST GOD WITH ALL OUR HEART Soloman Speaks to Walking Rightly with God by Truly Trusting Him.

- **“The Word Translated ‘TRUST’ in Proverbs 3:5 means ‘to Lie Helpless, Facedown.’**
- *Wiersbe suggest, It pictures a servant waiting for the master’s command in readiness to obey, or a defeated soldier yielding himself to the conquering general.”*

With All Your Heart: *If Trust in God is to Be True, There is NO Room for Compromise!*

- To put half our trust in God and half our trust in self or something else is really failure to trust the LORD at all. We should endeavor to give God all our conscious trust.

TRAPP writes, *He that stands with one foot on a rock, and another foot upon a quicksand, will sink and perish as certainly as he that stands with both feet on a quicksand.”*

- Ps139:23-24 Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

NOTE: Prov 3:5-6 Does Not Describe an Objectively Perfect Trust in God, but a Heart and Life that does Not Consciously Reject or Defy God with Unbelief. This is Why We are In Gods Word Asking Him to Search Our Hearts to Show Us Where We are Not Following or Trusting Him.

- To Lean On Our Own Understanding is like Propping Ourselves Up With Ourselves! It is Being Wise in Our Own Eyes...PRIDE

A Person that leans On their Own Understanding Ignoring God's Word is UNSTABLE:

- James 1:8 says he is a Double-Minded Man, Unstable in All he Does.
- Therefore, A Double Minded Man Who Does Not Obey or Neglects Gods Commands is Unable to Be a Good and Faithful Steward.

Disobedience to Gods Word is SIN...But Even More...If We Don't Follow God's Command's We End Up Not Trusting HIM...And instead We Lean on Ourself.

- At this Point, We are Left to Face Every Seemingly Impossible Circumstance of Life On Our Own...*Only To End Up Discouraged, Filled with Fear, Worry and Defeat!*

Vs 6 Gives Us a Promise...*In All Your Ways We Will Acknowledge Him, He Will Make Your Paths Straight.*

- KEY: Making Our Paths Straight is Accomplished When we Acknowledge God in Every Part of our Life! As We do...God Removes Seemingly Impossible Obstacles or Challenges.

KEY: As We Lean on Jesus...Obeying His Commands...Trusting His Plan Instead of Our Own He Guides Us through Every Circumstance of Life With Victory!

PROV. 3:8 Gives Us The Believer's Benefit For Not Forgetting His Word: "This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.

- As We Trust In God...Accepting His Word and Let Him Engrave His Truth, Teachings and Promises On Our Hearts, He Will Nourish Every Part of Our Lives...Both Emotionally and Spiritually!

Vs 9-10 Provides Us A Wonderful Promise from God: *Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops; 10 then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine"*

KEY: A Godly Steward Acknowledges that God Owns Everything and Joyfully Honors God by Giving Him Back a Portion of Everything that God has ENTRUSTED To Him.

Like King David's Example in 2 Samuel 24, we Need to Make Sure that Our Gratitude to God CONSIST of Something. The Apostle Paul who Proclaimed in 2 Timothy that he had Run the Race and Completed the Course...Which had Cost Him Everything in This Life!

Question Before Us, "Does My Gratitude for What God Has Entrusted to Me Cost Me Anything"? Are You Willing to Invest Your Time to Build God's Kingdom?

- Do You Agree That God Has Given You Talents and Abilities So That You Can Be a Blessing to others as You Use Them to Glorify HIM?
- Do You Believe that STEWARDSHIP is An Expression of Your Gratitude to God for His Faithfulness...NOT AN OBLIGATION...BUT AN ACT OF LOVE?

If So...Are You Willing to Give of Your Time...Your Abilities, Talents...And Your Resources as a Faithful Manager to Build His Kingdom?

Remember: "ONLY ONE LIFE WILL SOON BE PAST...ONLY WHATS DONE FOR CHRIST WILL LAST!"

"LIFE" POINT: OBEDIENT STEWARDSHIP IS A VISIBLE EXPRESSION OF MY GRATITUDE TOWARDS GOD.