

WORDS OF WISDOM

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and shall direct your paths. Honour the Lord with the first fruits of all your increase.” - Proverbs 3:5-10.

Wise king Solomon has left us three excellent and timely messages:

1. TRUST in the Lord with ALL your Heart.

This has to do with our AFFECTIONS.

In Proverbs 4:23 we are told to *“keep your heart with all diligence for out of it are the issues of life”*. We are listening here to something that touches the fundamentals of our very existence. It is about how we are and what we are inwardly. In this the day that God has exhibited to us His love and grace, our life for Him must show, with gratitude, that same affection and implicit trust. This is the starting place on a road that leads to a fulfilled life.

Do not trust to luck or chance.

Do not live on a wing and a prayer.

Do not look to the stars.

Do not even trust your wits.

2. ACKNOWLEDGE the Lord in ALL your WAYS

This has to do with our ACTIVITIES.

In the hustle and bustle of everyday life, is there time for consulting the Lord? It never occurs to the man in the street to consult Him. But if we profess to have put our faith in Him for personal forgiveness and salvation, He wants us to confide in Him. It may not minimise or prevent the problems of life, but we will have the contentment of knowing that in the eyes and heart of an all knowing God, He is working out His purposes for our good.

3. HONOUR the Lord with All your SUBSTANCE.

This has to do with your ASSETS.

In all the things that God has given, and will yet give to us, we must honour

(be accountable for) Him. We must ensure that we recognise that the source of all that we are and have comes from God Himself. Be it little or much. This will lead us to have a BIG heart for others in need, both in the world and in the "household of faith". The Apostle Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 9:7 that "*God loves a cheerful giver*". He says we must not give "grudgingly or of necessity". He also reminds us in 1 Corinthians 16:1 to "*lay by us...as God has prospered us*".

The royal rule is He gets FIRST not LAST!

DREW CRAIG