



Before the THRONE

The Devotional

Volume 2

Books of Poetry

Psalm 118:8 – 9

“It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in men. It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes.” Psalm 118:8 – 9

Shall we begin by asking the Lord to forgive us for confiding in men rather trusting in Him?

“Lord, have mercy...”

Misplaced trust will always bear disappointment. In who have we placed our confidence? Men – even of great character and godly intentions – may fail us. “And when Ish-bosheth, Saul’s son, heard that Abner was dead in Hebron, his hands were feeble, and all the Israelites were troubled.” (2 Samuel 4:1). In their failing us, we may sometimes honestly wonder if the Lord has somehow allowed their failing that we may turn to Him wholly. (While it is not in the Lord’s character to cause others to fail because of our attitudes, it may be that from our selfish and warped perspective the Lord allows their “failing” to touch our misplaced expectations?)

Jesus never placed His confidence in men but always looked to His Father. “But Jesus did not commit Himself to *those who believed in Him* because He knew all men, and *didn’t* need that any should testify of *Him*; for He knew what was in man.” (John 2:24-5).

What better example to follow than Jesus?! “Trust in the LORD with all your heart.” (Proverbs 3:5a). When we trust the Lord with all of our heart there is no room left over to rely upon or look to others. We then are free to trust God through His varied vessels of men or not. We may see His work through men or not. We are free and maybe even as importantly, we allow others to be free from our expectations! What wonderful freedom for all!

Take a moment and examine your heart’s motives and trust levels – are the expectations you are placing on others unrealistic? Would your trust be better placed by looking to Jesus and not to men?

“LORD, I want to whole-heartedly trust You. Help me to wean myself from the temptation to expect men or institutions to deliver me. Instead, help me to look steadfastly to You for my help, my sustenance, my hope! In Jesus’ name!”

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