



CAN WE TRUST THE BIBLE?

UNDERLYING QUESTIONS ...

CAN WE TRUST THE AUTHOR (GOD)?

AND HOW DO WE TRUST HIM?

We must trust in the Lord with all our heart.

- (Proverbs 3:5–8 ESV) **Trust in the LORD with all your heart**, and do not lean on your own understanding. 6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. 7 Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil. 8 It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.

If we trust in the Lord with anything less than “all our heart”, then we will trust in the lie.

1. Trusting in the lie, we will trust in human strength and worldly solutions.

- (Isaiah 30:15–16 ESV) For thus said the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, **“In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.”** But you were **unwilling**, 16 and you said, “No! We will flee upon horses”; therefore you shall flee away; and, “We will ride upon swift steeds”; therefore your pursuers shall be swift.
- (Isaiah 31:1–3 ESV) **Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help and rely on horses, who trust in chariots because they are many and in horsemen because they are very strong, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel or consult the LORD!** 2 And yet he is wise and brings disaster; he does not call back his words, but will arise against the house of the evildoers and against the helpers of those who work iniquity. 3 The Egyptians are man, and not God, and their horses are flesh, and not spirit. When the LORD stretches out his hand, the helper will stumble, and he who is helped will fall, and they will all perish together.

2. Trusting in the lie, we will trust in ourselves.

- We will kindle our own fire and walk by our own light.**
 - (Isaiah 50:10–11 ESV) Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God. 11 **Behold, all you who kindle a fire, who equip yourselves with burning torches! Walk by the light of your fire, and by the torches that you have kindled! This you have from my hand: you shall lie down in torment.**

b. We will forget God.

- (Jeremiah 13:25 ESV) **This is your lot**, the portion I have measured out to you, declares the LORD, **because you have forgotten me and trusted in lies.**

c. We will succumb to our deceitful hearts.

- (Jeremiah 17:5–10 ESV) Thus says the LORD: **“Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength**, whose heart turns away from the LORD. 6 He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. 7 “Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. 8 He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.” 9 **The heart is deceitful above all things**, and desperately sick; who can understand it? 10 “I the LORD search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.”

d. We will be more susceptible to the lies of others.

- (Jeremiah 28:15–17 ESV) And Jeremiah the prophet said to the prophet Hananiah, “Listen, Hananiah, **the LORD has not sent you, and you have made this people trust in a lie.** 16 Therefore thus says the LORD: ‘Behold, I will remove you from the face of the earth. This year you shall die, because you have uttered rebellion against the LORD.’” 17 In that same year, in the seventh month, the prophet Hananiah died.
- (Jeremiah 29:30–32 ESV) Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: 31 “Send to all the exiles, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD concerning Shemaiah of Nehelam: Because Shemaiah had **prophesied to you when I did not send him, and has made you trust in a lie,** 32 therefore thus says the LORD: Behold, I will punish Shemaiah of Nehelam and his descendants. He shall not have anyone living among this people, and he shall not see the good that I will do to my people, declares the LORD, for he has spoken rebellion against the LORD.’”

We trust in the Lord by trusting in the Lord.

1. Those who know the name of the LORD put their trust in the LORD.

- (Psalm 9:9–10 ESV) The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. 10 **And those who know your name put their trust in you,** for you, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you.

2. Those who trust in the name of the LORD our God rise and stand upright.

- (Psalm 20:6–8 ESV) Now I know that the LORD saves his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven with the saving might of his right hand. 7 Some trust in chariots and some in horses, **but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.** 8 They collapse and fall, but we rise and stand upright.

3. Those who trust in the LORD trust in the LORD without wavering.

- (Psalm 26:1–5 ESV) Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, and **I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.** 2 Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and my mind. 3 For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in your faithfulness. 4 I do not sit with men of falsehood, nor do I consort with hypocrites. 5 I hate the assembly of evildoers, and I will not sit with the wicked.

4. Those who trust in the LORD trust in the LORD with an exultant heart.

- (Psalm 28:7 ESV) The LORD is my strength and my shield; **in him my heart trusts, and I am helped;** my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

5. Those who trust in the LORD trust the LORD to

rescue them from the terror and schemes of their enemies.

- (Psalm 31:13–15 ESV) For I hear the whispering of many— terror on every side!— as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life. 14 **But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, “You are my God.”** 15 My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!

6. Those who trust in the LORD dwell in the shelter of the Most High.

- (Psalm 91:1–2 ESV) He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. 2 **I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”**

7. Those who trust in the LORD are not afraid of bad news.

- (Psalm 112:6–7 ESV) For the righteous will never be moved; he will be remembered forever. 7 **He is not afraid of bad news; his heart is firm, trusting in the LORD.**

8. Those who trust in the LORD are not afraid as God is their strength and song.

- (Isaiah 12:2 ESV) **Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid;** for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.

9. Those who trust in the LORD fix their mind on the LORD as an everlasting rock.

- (Isaiah 26:3–4 ESV) You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. 4 Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD GOD is an everlasting rock.



The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

(Matthew 6:22–23 ESV)

But watch out, you who live in your own light and warm yourselves by your own fires. This is the reward you will receive from me: You will soon fall down in great torment.

(Isaiah 50:11 NLT)