

Prayer Places Our Trust in God

April 12, 2018

Prayer is the exercise and discipline of placing your trust in God alone, removing your trust from all else.

God scrutinizes our trust and takes it personally!

Isaiah 30:1-7 ESV

1 "Ah, stubborn children," declares the LORD, "who carry out a plan, but not mine, and who make an alliance (*maccekah - the melting, casting and fusion of metals, to make a league, molten idols*), but not of my Spirit, that they may add sin to sin;

2 Corinthians 6:14-17 ESV

14 Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?

15 What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever?

16 What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

17 Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you,

We are just as defiled by worldly trust as we are by worldly pleasure.

Isaiah 30:1-7 ESV

2 who set out to go down to Egypt, without asking for my direction, to take refuge in the protection of Pharaoh and to seek shelter in the shadow of Egypt!

Proverbs 3:5-7 ESV

5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

*6 In all your ways acknowledge (*yada` - to know, to learn to know, find out and discern, to know intimately*) him, and he will make straight your paths.*

7 Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.

Isaiah 30:1-7 ESV

3 Therefore shall the protection of Pharaoh turn to your shame, and the shelter in the shadow of Egypt to your humiliation.

4 For though his officials are at Zoan and his envoys reach Hanes,

5 everyone comes to shame through a people that cannot profit them, that brings neither help nor profit, but shame and disgrace."

Isaiah 19:11 ESV

11 The princes of Zoan are utterly foolish; the wisest counselors of Pharaoh give stupid counsel.

Isaiah 42:5-8 ESV

5 Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it:

6 "I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations,

7 to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

8 I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.

Isaiah 30:1-7 ESV

6 An oracle on the beasts of the Negeb. Through a land of trouble and anguish, from where come the lioness and the lion, the adder and the flying fiery serpent, they carry their riches on the backs of donkeys, and their treasures on the humps of camels, to a people that cannot profit them.

With great effort, expense and taking extreme risks, men will seek alliances and security in the world.

What if we pursued God with the same fervency and heart?

Isaiah 30:1-7 ESV

7 Egypt's help is worthless and empty; therefore I have called her "Rahab (Rahab - storm, arrogance, fierceness, insolence, pride, a name of Egypt) who sits still."

1 Kings 18:26-29 ESV

26 And they [450 prophets of Baal] took the bull that was given them, and they prepared it and called upon the name of Baal from morning until noon, saying, "O Baal, answer us!" But there was no voice, and no one answered. And they limped around the altar that they had made.

27 And at noon Elijah mocked them, saying, "Cry aloud, for he is a god. Either he is musing, or he is relieving himself, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and must be awakened."

28 And they cried aloud and cut themselves after their custom with swords and lances, until the blood gushed out upon them.

29 And as midday passed, they raved on until the time of the offering of the oblation, but there was no voice. No one answered; no one paid attention.

2 Chronicles 16:7-9 NASB

7 At that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah and said to him, "Because you have relied on the king of Aram and have not relied on the LORD your God, therefore the army of the king of Aram has escaped out of your hand."

8 "Were not the Ethiopians and the Lubim an immense army with very many chariots and horsemen? Yet because you relied on the LORD, He delivered them into your hand."

9 "For the eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His. You have acted foolishly in this. Indeed, from now on you will surely have wars."