

Can You Trust God?

Your God Knows All About You

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If you want to trust God, it's not enough to know facts about Him. You have to know Him personally and intimately.

“What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us...the most portentous fact about any man is not what he at a given time may say or do, but what he in his deep heart conceives God to be like...The man who comes to the right belief about God is relieved of ten thousand temporal problems...”

~ A.W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*

The more accurately we know Him, the more effectively we can respond to all that's going on in our world right now.

Daniel 11:32 “...but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.”

I. He Knows How Fearful We Are – So He Loves Us with a Perfect Love

God's Word tells us that perfect love casts out fear. As God's love for you saturates your heart, fear gets pushed out because fear and love are incompatible.

1 John 4:16-19 “So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷ By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as He is so also are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹ We love because He first loved us.”

How to move from knowing about God's love to believing that God really loves you:

A. Saturate Your Mind with the Truth about God's Love for You

Romans 8:34-39 “Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written: ‘*For Your sake we are killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.*’ ³⁷ Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

B. Pray for Yourself Like the Apostle Paul Prayed for Believers

Ephesians 3:14-19 “For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, ¹⁶that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, ¹⁷that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—¹⁹to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.”

You can turn passages like this one into a personal prayer by using pronouns as you pray the Scripture.

II. He Knows How Helpless We Are – So He Gave Us His Son to Save Us and to Sustain Us

A. Look at the Saving Grace that Can Only Be Found in What Jesus Did for You

[See Heb. 1:1-3; 7:22-27]

Jesus took on flesh and came into this world to solve your biggest problem – the sin problem that separates you from a holy God!

After His death and resurrection, He ascended to heaven to be our Great High Priest who prays for us and gives us unlimited access to God’s throne of grace and mercy.

B. Look at the Sustaining Grace that is Yours Because of Who Jesus Is and What He’s Doing for You Right Now

Hebrews 4:14-16 “Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

The last phrase of verse 16 in Greek reads “grace for a well-timed help.”

The Greek word for “help” in this verse is translated as “ropes” or “cables” in the verse below:

Acts 27:17 "...they used cables to under-gird the ship..."

In this passage of Acts, Paul was traveling on a ship that got caught in a terrible storm and the sailors were afraid it would split apart. They passed ropes or cables (“helps”) under the creaking ship to hold it together like a net.

Most often, the well-timed help that God provides doesn't calm the storm, stop the waves, or eliminate the pressure...but He wraps His cords of sovereign grace, love, and power around us and He holds us together until the storm passes. Our God is a well-timed help!

"I am deeply convinced that we need to be preaching the theology of uncomfortable grace to one another. Peter says that the trials that grieve us are the trials of grace. God is patiently and perseveringly doing exactly what He promised. He is delivering us from sin and forming us into the image of His Son. I am persuaded that many times, as we are wondering where God's grace is and crying out for it, we are actually getting it. The problem is that we are seeking the grace of release, when God knows that we need the grace of refinement. During this 'now' period of preparation, God's grace will come to us again and again in uncomfortable forms."

~ Paul David Tripp, *Lost in the Middle*

Psalm 66:10-12 "For You, O God, have tested us; You have refined us as silver is refined.

¹¹ You brought us into the net; You laid affliction on our backs. ¹² You have caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; but You brought us out to rich fulfillment."

Psalm 119:67-68 "Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep Your word. ⁶⁸ You are good, and do good..."

Psalm 119:71 "It is good for me that I have been afflicted, that I may learn Your statutes."

Psalm 119:75 "I know, O Lord, that Your judgments are right, and that in faithfulness You have afflicted me."