

Confidence on God

Confidence is a priestly virtue directed toward God. It is the invisible strength behind the believer's visible courage toward other people or unfavorable and critical circumstances. Courage toward men and circumstances and confidence toward God cannot be reversed without destroying the spiritual virtues. Courage toward God is blasphemous, while confidence toward men is idolatry (Jeremiah 17:5).

It is justified to place total confidence in God because He is infinite, absolute, eternal and perfect. He never has and never can fail anyone who trusts in Him. God is totally worthy of our complete trust. Confidence is a function of the royal priesthood and is related to learning Bible doctrine. The more Bible doctrine we know, the greater is our confidence in God.

Where do you place your hope? The biblical word for "hope" means absolute confidence in a perfect and fantastic plan with eternal repercussions. Therefore, it is not justified to put your confidence in man because of three things:

- Men are imperfect
- They are temporal
- They have no eternal values

Human beings are continually seeking someone whom they can trust. We seek confidence in people in authority, in a new president, in new government, in changes created by people. Political changes means another batch or group of imperfect people with the same old incompetence, the same old power lust, and the same old greed and jealousy. Therefore, the next government is always worst than the previous one. This is the cycle of human history. Men are not getting better.

Confidence in men is like trusting a thief to guard your valuables. Men are always changing, sometimes for the better but most often for the worst. Unrealistic expectation in unreliable human beings leads to disappointment. It is bad to demand unrealistic expectation from men that can produce nothing but awful disappointment.

The disappointed and fearful people will dwell in disillusion and will give false reaction. If you put your confidence in men, you are sure to be disappointed. When your confidence is in God, you will never be disappointed or depressed. Some Christians are drifters; they have been seeking hope in different places but not in the Word of God. They are restless wanderers in the devil's world enjoying its leisure and pleasures.

They put their trust in men and things created by men. Eternal security creates confidence in God (Romans 8:38-39). Eternal security depends on the veracity of God's Word and the perfect character of God, not on the believer's ability to endure believing on God. Christians are accepted on the basis of God's grace not on the basis of our good work (Ephesians 2:8-9).

All believers are saved and secured in the Lord forever. Nothing can change what God has declared justified, forgiven, righteous and accepted (Romans 8:33-39). Even though Christian may become faithless and renounced their faith, God will not change His verdict (2 Timothy 2:11-13) they are still saved.

Prayer is an expression of confidence in God (1 John 3:21-23). Confidence on God depends in our knowledge of who and what He is (that is, His divine essence). Confidence is dependent on the perfection of the one you trust.

Basic reasons why the Scripture forbids believers to put their trust in man:

- All men are constant failures (1 John 1:8, 10)
- All men possesses old sinful nature (the distorter of life (Romans 6:6, 7:5)
- Men cannot resist satanic influence by human power (John 17:8-23)
- Men are constantly changing

There is a limited level of trust legitimate between human beings but can extend only so far before it becomes guilty of incompetence:

- Trust between friends
- Trust between team members
- Trust between husband and wife
- Trust between boss and workers

Total confidence in man is pure stupidity since it is not a spiritual virtue but a virtue-dependent thing. Only total confidence toward God can give a sense of proper proportion toward men. Courage toward men and circumstances is motivated by confidence in God. The Lord Jesus Christ did not consider confidence in mankind (John 2:23-25).

Confidence toward God is a process, developed by gradual, progressive, and systematic intake of Bible doctrine. Like all other virtues, confidence in God cannot develop overnight but by slow and painful process of spiritual growth. Confidence in man can sprout rapidly and die swiftly. This happens when you put someone in a pedestal of perfection and discover that he fails your unrealistic expectations. Whenever you place your confidence in men, you put yourself under the control of Satan's deception (Jeremiah 17:5).

Confidence without clear understanding of whom you trust is not confidence and is ultimately dangerous. This is the problem when you believe and trust in a new political candidate believing that he can bring about changes. This is false hope in the alleged goodness and nobility of mankind. Such new politician will always have die-hard supporters who will become his greatest critics when their unrealistic expectations collapse.

Can mankind be just before God? Can a man be pure before his Maker? He puts no trust even in His servants; And against His angels He charges error. How much more those who dwell in houses of clay, whose foundation is in the dust, who are crushed before the moth! Between morning and evening they are broken in pieces; unobserved, they perish forever. Is not their tent-cord plucked up within them, they die, yet without wisdom. (Job 4:17-21).

God cannot in any way depend or trust in mankind because of total depravity which true to every human being born into this planet with the exception of the perfect humanity of Jesus Christ. God can deal only with man through His justice expressed in the perfect Plan of Grace. Nobody is qualified and approved before God except for Christ.

Our total confidence toward God is based on the fact that He resolved the problem of sin and condemnation even before we know it. God took the initiative and He provided our salvation even before we know it (Rom. 5:8). God accomplished the most difficult thing on behalf of the human race; He accomplished salvation without the assistance and contribution of men. His perfect plan cannot accept any contribution from imperfect man.

God did not even trust His angels (Job 15:15): "Behold, He puts no trust in His holy ones, and the heavens are not pure in His sight. The greatest thing that man can do for God is regarded as filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6). Therefore, any act of courage before God is not only blasphemous but also arrogance in its highest order. Total confidence in self is spiritual idolatry.

"He will not become rich, nor will his wealth endure; and his grain will not bend down to the ground.*He will not escape from darkness; the flame will wither his shoots, and by the breath of His mouth he will go away."Let him not trust in emptiness, deceiving himself; for emptiness will be his reward (Job 15:29-31).

Confidence in man will develop to confidence in material things. Arrogance is venomous to the soul making it sick and calloused, unable to discern the good from the bad. Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind, and cursed is the man who trusts in things (Jer. 2:37, 5:17). Cursed is the man who trusts in the deceptive words of false teachers and false prophets (Jer. 7:4).

Partial or total confidence in man results to self-destruction and self-made miseries. Confidence in men is unrealistic expectations leading to mental disillusionment and spiritual corruption. God designed the Christian life with all the blessings and resources of heaven made available inside His perfect system called the divine sphere.

The perfect humanity of Jesus Christ stayed every single minute of His sojourn on earth inside that spiritual realm. The basic reason why many Christians cannot rely on God is because they are outside the divine power system. These carnal believers, though not of the world are behaving like citizens of the cosmos diabolicus. They left their first love. Christ has provided their access back through rebound.

True confidence in God lies in the object of our faith which is Lord Jesus Christ based on God's immanence, essence and transcendence. True confidence in God always:

- Provide tremendous spiritual energy
- Produces power to overcome the odds
- Penetrates the deep thought of unbelief
- Presents sacrifices with solid determination
- Performs self-discipline with dedication
- Purifies and removes the fear of failure or defeat
- Produces the belief in doing the unbelievable
- Points the faithless hearts to go back to God
- Produces right motivation to do the right things
- point the unbelievers toward God
- Penalizes the faithless and unbelieving

Four basic types of confidence in the world:

- Godly confidence – true faith in the true God
- Religious confidence – pseudo faith in false god
- Self confidence – trust in personal abilities
- Unrealistic confidence – trust in things

Reasons for undeveloped confidence of Christians:

- The pastors are not teaching Bible doctrine.
- Christians have negative volition toward God and His Bible doctrine.
- Most Christians are merely spectators rather than participators in executing the will of God.
- Churches emphasize activities rather than Bible doctrine.
- Most Christian talk about faith without the reality of applying the Word of God in life experience.

The only way you can build a life of faith and confidence is through the Word of God and your greatest contribution to Satan's kingdom is to stay away from Bible doctrine class and spend the rest of your life under fear and worry.



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