

“Trust the Signs”

A Lord’s Flock General Assembly Topic
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When we are faced with choices in our life, many of us will look for signs to guide us in making decisions. Do we listen to myths (e.g. a black cat, a scent that a departed loved one is around; a certain flower will determine our partner for life)? Alternatively, do we turn and ask the Lord for signs?

In Exodus 13:17-18, the obvious and shortest route to the promised land was the military road, along the Mediterranean Sea. However, the Lord led the Israelites through a longer route through the desert to avoid fighting with the Philistines. On our end, God may not always work in the way that we think is best for us. However, when He changes our plans or redirects us, let us follow Him willingly and trust that He will lead us safely in our journey.

1. Spiritual Signs from the Bible:

- 1.1. “What is the sign that I shall go up to house of the Lord?” (Isaiah 38:22).
- 1.2. “Give me a sign of your favor: make my enemies see, to their confusion, that you, Lord, help and comfort me (Psalm 86:17).”
- 1.3. “If I find favor in your sight, give me a sign that you are speaking with me (Judges 6:17).
- 1.4. Jesus Christ appeared to Tomas because he did not believe in His resurrection.
- 1.5. The Pharisees asked the Lord for signs. But, He said, “a wicked generation seeks a sign, but none will be given except the sign of Jonah, the prophet” (Matthew 12).
- 1.6. The Word of God is the lamp for our feet and the light for our path (Psalms 119:105). We need to teach God’s Word to our children & write them on our door posts (Deut. 11:19-20).
- 1.7. God gave the Hebrews a Pillar of Light so they would know God was with them (Isaiah30:21). We might not see God’s presence, but He is watching over us.

2. What has God given us that assures He is guiding us?

- 2.1. He has given us the Holy Spirit; our Advocate is always with us (John 14:15-16).
- 2.2 We can look to God’s Word night and day, helping us in our life’s journey. He is still the same God today as He was then (Heb. 4:12). Keep this Book on your lips, meditate on it day and night, so that you will be prosperous and successful. The Lord said, “Be firm, steadfast, careful to follow the Laws; do not turn to the right of left” (Joshua1:8).
- 2.3 We are children of God, thus, co-heirs in the suffering and in the blessings. “Just as I was with Joseph, I am with you.” Whenever we are discouraged, let us refer to the Word of God which never changes. We should always be thorough in our service to Him.

3. What to do when we do not know what to do? We should

- 3.1. **follow God (even if the way is long and hard).** It is better to have our plans be guided by God. Unless the Holy Spirit tells us to move to the next step, we should stop.
- 3.2. **Believe in God (not ourselves).** We can learn to trust Him. God always has a purpose for everything. As Moses said: “Stand firm and you will see the deliverance of the Lord.”
- 3.3. **walk with God in the direction He tells us to do.** Curb some time to pray, to read His Word. Be still in His presence; only then will we see amazing things. Let us not be like the Israelites when we are tempted to turn back to our old life.

Conclusion: Let us walk with faith in the path that the Lord tells us to go. He works in ways we cannot see, but He will make a way for us. Moreover, there is always a place for action (after we pray), and it means to move/ act now.

REFLECTION:

1. What signs do you look for and follow in your everyday life?
2. How will you turn away from past habits and turn to God for guidance?

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