

Trusting God for His Wisdom

Jerry Bridges

I. Introduction.

A. There are three foundation stones on which our trust of God must rest: the sovereignty of God, the love of God and the wisdom of God.

B. Text: Job 37:14, 38:1ff.

C. God uses the wonders of nature to invoke His wisdom over ours.

D. We cannot fathom the wisdom of God in how He runs the universe and our individual lives. (Isaiah 40:13ff)

1. We often try to counsel God in His decisions about our lives or the world.
2. God does not need to consult anyone about what is best for you or the world.

II. God is working out all things according to the purpose of His will. (Ephesians 1:11)

A. God is weaving all of history and our lives into a beautiful pattern, but we only see the underside, which is chaotic and appears random to us. We must trust His wisdom to make a beautiful pattern. (Romans 11:33-34)

1. God's resources are fathomless.
2. God's wisdom and knowledge are fathomless
3. God's methods and decisions are not understandable to us.

B. God asks us to trust Him without understanding what He's doing. God never explained to Job what was going on behind the scenes of his life.

1. God doesn't explain His decisions to us, perhaps in part because we would not understand if He did.
 - a) His mind works at vastly different level than ours, as does His insight and understanding.

2. God is working toward His ultimate objective for each of us and for the world.

III. Wisdom has been defined as the selection of the best objective and the adaptation of the best means of reaching that objective.

A. We agonize over our decisions because no solution is perfect.

B. God is not in that position. He never has to agonize over what solution to pick. He knows. (Isaiah 55:8-9)

C. His love is also immeasurable and His heart is for our good as He makes His decisions. (Psalm 103:11)

D. When we consider wisdom, we are often trying to respond to a given situation. Even our long range preventative planning involves attempting to predict the future.

1. God never has to guess. He is in control and He has all knowledge, so He never has to deliberate about a situation.

C. God's ultimate objective for our lives is that we be conformed to Christ's likeness. (Romans 8:29)

1. The primary instruments that God uses to accomplish this goal are the scriptures and adversity.

2. We can learn so much from studying the scriptures. We must actually apply them during the adversity in our lives in order to grow.

3. God never wastes pain. All of the pain and adversity that He allows or brings into our lives has the purpose of conforming us to Jesus' likeness. (Romans 8:28-29)

Application questions:

1. How does our own human character impact how we look at God's wisdom? Is part of the reason that we have difficulty trusting God's wisdom is that we import the selfishness or ignorance that come from being human into His decision making process?

2. How can we overcome our need to know why in order to trust God?

3. Why is believing that God is perfectly wise an important element in trusting Him?
