

Title: Biblical Trust

Intro: - illustration that inspired the message

I wanted to start off this message with the illustration that got me thinking about this topic of trust, the discussion wasn't biblical or theological, but rather humorous and thought provoking. It started at a family gathering and the conversation was centered around the disgruntled and angry passages boarding today's air lines, mainly the outrage of the new body x-ray machine in many major air ports.

The media has been filled with people who are upset over this machine and the amount of dignity and privacy that they believe is removed from the use of this security measure. People were complaining about having no privacy in regards to their own body.

Also the topic of a mother who was outraged when the security officials scanned her 8 year old daughter with a metal detector and alleged that this traumatized the little girl about any safety in air travel. now granted it would probably not be the 8 year old that would blow up a plane, but, that is not there way of thinking it is just their job.

Lastly one told of a women who gave her carry on bag to the security official at the inspection point, as she handed it over to the officer she gave the smart remark "don't mess anything up in there, it took me and hour to pack that thing" the response to that comment--- her entire bag was emptied of all its contents and every container scrutinized, every pocked check and when everything was ok it was merely slid across the table to her with a smile and a cheerful "have a nice flight".

We all know terrorism is a evil thing and nobody is taking any chances with anybody. And so went the discussion about airport security until I mentioned I had the perfectly solution to this problem, the airlines should have two divisions to their fleet of aircraft, one would continue exactly the same as it has up till now, with x-rays, random checks, rubber glove pat downs and the other have nothing, only a direct line to the aircraft, they won't check anyone or any baggage or anything suspicious, just walk right on to the plane with all your dignity intact and a smile, no shame or embarrassing x-rays or metal detectors or any pat downs.

The answer to that idea came back very quickly, as most of my family has been in more airports than me, the response was "are you kidding that line to that plane would be completely empty" I asked why? knowing very well what the answer would be, but the response was, "because nobody would **trust** it". and those five words got me thinking.

I        What is trust

So what is trust, it would be the same plane, same pilots, same passengers, only the removal of the most annoying thing about air travel, security. Is it only when the person in front of you gets x-rayed, rubber glove pat downs and luggage completely rummaged through that you can trust them or does it make them a trustworthy person. Or when they do it to you, is it only then that the other passengers can trust you, well in today's air line

business it has somewhat come to that point. Merely stating to the security official I am a good person or stating that I'm a Christian and you don't need to check me will probably get you more attention and rubber glove treatment that you had anticipated.

So what defines trust or what constitutes trust in other people or other things or God. It was at this point that I realized that this topic was a lot larger than I expected when I first started jotting down notes and thought. So in choosing the title Biblical Trust, I narrowed down the outline and started with the definition of trust, the use of trust in song, the problems that man has trusted in the old and new testaments, and focused on the one thing we should trust as stated in the bible. In the compiling of the message I realized that this topic could span many more pages than what I have to present to you today.

#### - definition of the word trust

In the word study alone I found that there are 13 different words in the old and new testament that are translated into the word trust, they are used over 125 time depending on the King James or New King James version. Also many of the other words from these same original words are translated to words like shelter, refuge, believe, confidence, secure, relied, and hope, This made it somewhat difficult to do a word study on the single word trust, because in the Greek and Hebrew there is no one single word representing trust only many words with slightly different meanings. so in light of that I focused on the two most common ones used in the old testament for the definitions and illustrations.

The first is the word 982 in the strong's concordance and it is BAW-TA the English spelling it is B-A-T-A-C-H, it means to go for refuge, to be confident or sure: , (to) hope, (to) trust.

The second most common one is the word 2620 and pronounced HAW-SAW the spelling is C-H-A-C-A-H, it means to flee for protection, to confide in: to have hope, make refuge.

The basic difference in these two definitions is that the first word 982 BAW-TA does not express the quickness or urgency that is expressed in 2620 HAW-SAW hence the definition "to flee for protection" not only "to go for refuge".

The Encarta ® World English Dictionary defines our English word trust like this: To have confidence in and reliance on good qualities, especially fairness, truth, honor, or ability.

#### - uses of the word trust in scripture

An example of these two Hebrew words are found in the following passages. The first is Proverbs 3:5, a very familiar passage.

Pr 3:5 Trust <982> in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;

In this verse the word used for trust is 982 it almost commands us to go for refuge in the LORD and not to rely on our own wisdom or knowledge. There is no rush in the words of the speaker only a basic command.

The second verse is:

Ps 57:1 this is of David when he fled from Saul into the cave. “Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me! For my soul trusts <2620> in You; And in the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge <2620>, Until these calamities have passed by“.

The first time it is used in this verse it is also translated trust the second it is the word refuge, both words are 2620 HAW-SAW in the original text and even looking at the context of this passage it shows more evidence in the urgency 'to flee quickly'

Now while keeping these two words in mind and the slight differences in there meaning. I want to draw our attention to the use of the word trust in song. Not only because we love to sing them with passion, but also how very diverse this word trust is when used in our own language.

The reason I choose the following two songs initially is because they directly use the word trust and the fact that they fit so well with definitions of the word trust I thought that it was good. Once I had studied the history of them I felt that the Holy Spirit spoke to my own heart about the lack of trust I sometimes have in God. It is often the history of a song that can completely change what the words mean to you and how it can affect you.

- uses of the word trust in song

The first is written by song writer John H Sammis it is song number 349 in our hymnal Trust and Obey, the chorus is as follows: Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

The story of this hymn is like this.

John H. Sammis lived from (1846-1919), he gave up his life as a businessman and part-time YMCA worker to study for the ministry. He was ordained a Presbyterian minister in 1880 and then served at several pastorates. In his later years, he taught at the Bible Institute of Los Angeles.

Daniel B. Towner the song writer for the hymn lived from (1850-1919) and was music director for several well-known churches and schools, including the Moody Bible Institute. He published several music books and wrote the music for many well-loved hymns, including At Calvary and Only A Sinner Saved By Grace.

In 1887, just following an evangelistic meeting held by D. L. Moody, a young man stood to share his story in an after-service testimony meeting. As he was speaking, it became clear to many that he knew little about the Bible or acceptable Christian doctrine. His closing lines, however, spoke volumes to seasoned and new believers alike: His comment was “I'm not quite sure. But I'm going to trust, and I'm going to obey.”

Daniel Towner the music writer was so struck by the power of those simple words that he quickly jotted them down, then delivered them to John Sammis, who developed the lyrics to Trust and Obey. Towner composed the music and the song quickly became a favorite. As it remains popular with hymn singers today.

I think that this man's comment at that meeting as well as the hymn that was created from it is a good example of the word *batach*, the young man's comment is in a sense Pr 3:5 in a different order. He says he is "not quite sure" showing that there is still a struggle in his heart about what the world says and what the bible teaches, but buy not leaning on his own understanding he is going to trust and obey which is what the verse tells us to do.

The second song has a far more heart touching history. It is written by Louisa M. R. Stead and is song 350 in our song book it's called 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus', the chorus goes: Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er! Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust Him more!

Now before I read the history of this song I want us to look at something interesting in the chorus, I noticed it when I was typing it out for the message. I know that pastors don't usually have the congregation turn to parts of the song book but we all have a song book and

I would like for us to quickly turn to song 350 just so you can see what it was. In the chorus note the amount of exclamation marks used in those few lines, there are four of them, and from how we usually sing the song it don't think the words are expressed like the writer was thinking when she wrote them. I want you to keep this chorus with its exclamation points in mind as I read the history to this hymn.

"Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus" was written in 1882 by Louisa M.R. Stead. As the story goes, Louisa had always felt a calling to be a missionary and go to China. But due to fragile health she was kept home in the United States. She married Mr. Stead and had a daughter named Lily. When Lily was 4 yrs old the family went on vacation to a nearby beach. While there, relaxing and enjoying their vacation, they saw a young boy drowning in the ocean. Mr. Stead swam out and tried to rescue him, only as often the case he was pulled under by the boy and both Mr. Stead and the boy drowned as Louisa and 4 year old Lily watched in horror from shore.

Louisa was left without any means of support except for God's care. She and her daughter were in dire poverty - one day when there was no food in the house and no money to purchase any, Louisa opened the front door only to find that someone had left groceries and money sitting there for her.

That same day she sat down and wrote "Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus...".

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er! Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust Him more!

She later became a missionary to Africa, remarried and once again was forced to stay in the US due to her health. But once recovered she went back into the missionary field in Rhodesia and later died in Zimbabwe. Her daughter Lily married and became a missionary as well.

Now I ask what is trust, to go for refuge, to flee for protection, to confide in, to have

hope, how would you describe the trust this woman had in God.

I think we would need 13 different words to explain it. To have wanted to be a missionary and get the word out to the lost only to be hampered through sickness, death, and sickness again and to trust in Jesus through all of it. I know one thing, I will never sing this song the same way again.

## II What man has trusted in (and failed)

- illustrations from the Old Testament

We will be first looking at the Jews in the Old Testament and then to Jesus words in the new.

The first occurrence of the word trust in the NKJ version is found in Deuteronomy 28:52 one of the darker chapters in Deuteronomy.

So let's turn to the passage:

Det 28:52 "They shall besiege you at all your gates until your high and fortified walls, in which you trust, come down throughout all your land; and they shall besiege you at all your gates throughout all your land which the LORD your God has given you.

The headings in my bible begins this chapter with 'the blessings for obedience' and Moses describes the many things that the LORD would do for the people of Israel if they follow God, Pastor Boehlig read for us verses 1-8 to give us a quick insight to the blessing which continue on until the end of verse 14 and when you read it, it truly does sounds like a land flowing with milk and honey.

However

The rest of the chapter is titled 'curses for disobedience' where Moses describes the curses and punishments that would come upon them for not following God commandments, in the middle of the chapter the curses turn prophetic and by the time you come to verse 52 the remainder of the chapter dissolves into a gruesome picture for Israel and the prophesied future for not trusting and obeying God. The warning for them starts in verse 15 "But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you". Where was there trust at this time. Verse 52 states "in high and fortified walls, in which you trust". It was no longer in God or his commandments but in things of this world, their high walls and their military might. In reading the remainder of the chapter it makes you wonder why they would have ever left the safety of the LORD. Even Jeremiah prophesied this demise gave a greater illustration on what happened to Israel's trust.

Jer 5:17-23

17 And they shall eat up your harvest and your bread, Which your sons and daughters should eat. They shall eat up your flocks and your herds; They shall eat up your vines and your fig trees; They shall destroy your fortified cities, In which you trust, with the sword.  
18 "Nevertheless in those days," says the LORD, "I will not make a complete end of you.

19 "And it will be when you say, 'Why does the LORD our God do all these things to us?' then you shall answer them, 'Just as you have forsaken Me and served foreign gods in your land, so you shall serve aliens in a land that is not yours.'

20 ¶ "Declare this in the house of Jacob And proclaim it in Judah, saying,

21 'Hear this now, O foolish people, Without understanding, Who have eyes and see not, And who have ears and hear not:

22 Do you not fear Me?' says the LORD. 'Will you not tremble at My presence, Who have placed the sand as the bound of the sea, By a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass beyond it? And though its waves toss to and fro, Yet they cannot prevail; Though they roar, yet they cannot pass over it.

23 But this people has a defiant and rebellious heart; They have revolted and departed.

Yes they trusted in their fortified cities just like Moses said they would, but look at verse 19 "And it will be when you say, 'Why does the LORD our God do all these things to us?' then you shall answer them, 'Just as you have forsaken Me and **served foreign gods in your land**, so you shall serve aliens in a land that is not yours.'

How about we jump to Psalms 115:4-8 right about here

Because usually the serving of other gods in the old testament brought about the other added feature of them and that is their idols.

Ps 115:4-8

4 Their idols are silver and gold, The work of men's hands.

5 They have mouths, but they do not speak; Eyes they have, but they do not see;

6 They have ears, but they do not hear; Noses they have, but they do not smell;

7 They have hands, but they do not handle; Feet they have, but they do not walk; Nor do they mutter through their throat.

8 Those who make them are like them; So is everyone who trusts in them.

Dead! and powerless!

Pastor Boehlig did an excellent series last year on the ten commandments and we don't need to review them at this point but in my opinion I think that the first and second were not kept by Israel according to these verses. In serving other gods Israel became like their idols, dead and powerless, forgetting God, no, not forgetting, rather choosing to disobey as verse 23 states" But this people has a defiant and rebellious heart; They have revolted and departed".

And thus ending up trusting in something that **could do nothing** for them.

- illustration from the New Testament

If we jump forward a few thousand years to the time of Christ we still find corrections from trusting the wrong things, for security in this life and the life here after. Turn with me to Mark 10:23-25

This is Jesus speaking to the disciples .

Mark 10:23-25

23 Then Jesus looked around and said to His disciples, "How hard **IT IS** for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!"

let's stop at that verse for just a second, I think we often forget that our minds always want to look at this verse as a question, but it not. It's not a question with an answer, it's a statement with an illustration. I'll start again.

23 Then Jesus looked around and said to His disciples, "How hard **IT IS** for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!"

24 And the disciples were astonished at His words. But Jesus answered again and said to them, "Children, how hard **it is** for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom of God!

25 "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

What was the reaction of the disciples to Jesus illustration did they go 'O yah we know that place, you know you half to tie the halter of the camel to his front hooves and his tail to his back ankles, get a really small guy to yank on the hump kind of sideways and then he fits thought the needle you know that small hole in the wall and you can just pass the camel through, yea that's hard but you can do it.

**No, verse 26 continues**

26 And they were greatly astonished, saying among themselves, "Who then can be saved?"

Here we find the question.

The disciples were '**greatly astonished**' they knew what Jesus was talking about. **Literal camel, literal needle and literally placing more confidence, more hope, more reliance, more truth, honor, or ability in the riches, or the things of this world over God.** Is it any wonder that they asked "who then can be saved" or the deeper question I think

**'what must man trust in to be saved'**

That brings us to point Number 3

III What man should trust in

- illustrations from the Old Testament

Well let's zip back to the Old Testament and look at what Israel should have trusted in. Let's go back to Deuteronomy 28 and read verses 58 and 59 where Moses gives the warning to Israel on what they should have done.

Det 28: 58,59

58 "If you do not carefully observe all the words of this law that are written in this book, that you may fear this glorious and awesome name,

THE LORD YOUR GOD,

59 "then the LORD will bring upon you and your descendants extraordinary plagues—great and prolonged plagues—and serious and prolonged sicknesses.

Pastor Phil recently had the message on versions and stressed to us **that the importance** of biblical translation was not in thought for thought or dynamic interpretations but careful interpretation of the words. **Just as Moses wrote** ‘carefully observe all the **words** of this law that are written in this book’. he did not say observe the all thought of the law in this book, he didn’t say observe the dynamic interpretation of the law. No it was **all the words**. Now this book would take us a great amount of time to go through and look at what Israel was to follow and also take me off track from my out line instead lets look at the concluding verses of Psalms 115 which very plainly directs Israel to what they should do.

Ps 115: 9-10

9 O Israel, trust in the LORD; He is their help and their shield.

10 O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD; He is their help and their shield.

11 You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD; He is their help and their shield.

O what simple words they are, but had fallen on deaf ears and blind eyes.

Trust in the LORD, Trust in the LORD, You who fear the LORD, Trust in the LORD

In three verses it becomes very clear to what Israel should have trusted in.

While in the prison Jeremiah provides the promise of that trust and is found in chap 39 verses 17-18

Jer 39:17-18“”speaking of the captured Israel “”

17 "But I will deliver you in that day," says the LORD, "and you shall not be given into the hand of the men of whom you are afraid.

18 "For I will surely deliver you, and you shall not fall by the sword; but your life shall be as a prize to you, because you have put your trust in Me," says the LORD.’”

Talk about learning the hard way. This is what it was all about, trust in the LORD, trust in THE LORD YOUR GOD, all capital letters as in Deuteronomy 28. This is all what Israel had to do, this is what Israel should have done and should have been doing. Trust in the LORD

- illustrations from the New Testament

The last text that I want to use in point III is from the New Testament. It is from 1 Timothy 6: 17-19. These three verses explain it so well in what we are to trust in and not only that but how we are to live and act towards others and ends with the reason why. These verses could very well be expanded into many messages by themselves.

1 Tim 6:17-19

17 Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.

18 Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share,

19 storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay

hold on eternal life.

It is basically my whole message capsulated into three verses, the warnings of what not to trust in, and the true trust we should follow. Jesus Christ, the giver of all good things for us to enjoy, for us to give, for us to share and why? to lay a good foundation and that we may lay hold of eternal life that is in Christ Jesus.

Conclusion:

In conclusion we have looked at the failures of what man has trusted in the Old Testament, and the warning from the new testament on riches. We can conclude that it is the one true Living God in whom we should put our trust in for eternal life.

The poem by Homer Alvin Rodeheaver has a very unsettling reality to those who resist this trust in Jesus. It reads

I dreamed that the great judgment morning  
Had dawned, and the trumpet had blown;  
I dreamed that the nations had gathered to Judgment  
before the white throne;

From the throne came a bright, shining angel  
And stood by the land and the sea,  
And swore with his hand raised to heaven,  
That time was no longer to be.

The rich man was there but his money  
Had melted and vanished away;  
A pauper he stood in the judgment,  
His debts were too heavy to pay;

The great man was there, but his greatness  
When death came, was left far behind!  
The angel that opened the records,  
Not a trace of his greatness could find.

The gambler was there and the drunkard,  
And the man that had sold them the drink,  
With the people who sold them the license  
Together in hell did they sink.

The moral man came to the judgment,  
But his self-righteous rags would not do;  
The men who had crucified Jesus  
Had passed off as moral men, too.

The soul that had put off salvation—  
“Not tonight; I’ll get saved by and by;

No time now to think of religion!”  
At last, he had found time to die.

And oh, what a weeping and wailing,  
As the lost were told of their fate;  
They cried for the rocks and the mountains,  
They prayed, but their prayer was too late.

- what our ultimate trust should be (Jesus)

**Is it not the living God Jesus Christ** that we must trust for everything.

Everything on this earth or in our lives can be taken away, destroyed, perverted or lost, .  
Nothing is safe not our money, not our homes, not our possessions, not our families, or  
our husbands, or our wives and not even our own life. I know that this may sound like a  
morbid way to end the message but standing before God in judgment glory there will not  
be much of anything around me that I had trusted in except me alone.  
So what will you trust.

Are you today like that the man who inspired the song “trust and obey” young or just  
starting out in the faith and have realized that the one true way to eternal life is to trust  
Jesus. Though unsure about the struggles in your own sole or the pressures of others  
around you. You will trust and obey. Or are you like Louisa Stead, someone who has  
gone through a horrendous tragedy or some life struggle and are left standing at a point in  
life that seems all is lost, and no perceivable outcome looks possible but you still know  
what is true and you are still trusting Him, that He will carry you through. Like Louisa  
wrote: “Tis so sweet to Trust in Jesus, Just to take Him at his word““

His word, this bible, this tells us what we are to trust  
It is Jesus.

But my friends if you are here today and have not trusted Jesus with your life you are in  
danger of that terrible mistake of eternal separation from God, like the poem read of the  
man that had put off salvation

“Not tonight; I’ll get saved by and by;  
No time now to think of religion!”  
At last, he had found time to die.

My friends there may be no tomorrow  
But in says 1 Jo 1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship  
with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

If you feel that I am pressuring you today, I am,  
1 Tim 4:9-11 tells me to do so

9 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance.

10 For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God,  
**who is the Savior of all men**, especially of those who believe.

11 These things **command and teach**.

He **can** save you, **if** you Trust Him

walk in the light, read his word, live his word, share his word,  
**this is trust.**