In God We Trust

Prov 3:5-6

Reverend Bryan Hudson

Straight Street Missionary Baptist Church, Sterling Heights, MI September 2016

"In God we trust" was adopted as the official motto of the United States in 1956 as an alternative or replacement to the unofficial motto of <u>E pluribus Unum</u> (Out of many, one). So even though our country for all of its greatness has placed on every one of its bills and coins "In God We Trust", its actions speak otherwise. I am forced to wonder:

- In what god do we trust, when on the whole we still glorify overgrown boys who are given laud and honor for carrying a ball along a field but then slapping and dragging their wives?
- In What god do we trust, when per capita more jails than schools are being constructed?
- In what god do we trust, when so called religious men began to preach heresies instead of preaching the gospel? I remember growing up as a child that I had to learn the difference between the children in the neighborhood who genuinely wanted to be my friend versus the ones who only wanted to pretend to be my friend so that they'd get to play with my toys. Some of our modern day Christians need to heed that lesson before they take up the banners of false doctrines being waved and taught across the airwaves as if it is the next revelation from God.
- In what god do we trust, when electing that it is ok to take prayer out of schools, and that its ok for men to marry men, and women to marry women?
- What god is this, that approves of men's sins, that says ok to sordid, sadist, sleazy, dirty, seedy, seamy, unsavory, tawdry, cheap, debased, degenerate, dishonorable, disreputable, discreditable, contemptible, ignominious, shameful, and abhorrent behavior?
- Perhaps it is some new idol god, perhaps it is mammon--the Aramaic god of wealth. Perhaps it is a god of the country's own design the trinity of wealth, beauty and vitality.
- I don't know ...

I don't know what God it is, but I can tell you that it is not the great God of heaven. It is not the God of Abraham, of Isaac and of Jacob. It is not the God of the Bible--Jesus.

This naturally leads us to the question: **How do we know we are trusting in the Lord?** Solomon wrote that we must:

I. Learn to Trust Him

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart

- a. Prov 4:23 says Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.
- b. As those issues arise, trust the Lord
- c. Oh I've heard people say I'm trusting my heart.
- d. But Jer 17:9 says The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?
- e. When trials come, and they will, when tribulation hits and it will, trust the Lord.
- II. We must not lean on our own understanding.

Most of us have a desperate desire to understand, but in so many areas we must acknowledge that we cannot understand. We must approve of God's ways, even when we can't comprehend them. <u>Isaiah</u> <u>55:8-9</u> tells us why we often don't understand what God is doing:

- a. ⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.
 - b. God sees the whole picture, while we only see a tiny corner of it.
 - c. Prov 16: 25 says There **is a way** that seemeth right unto **a** man, but the end **there**of **a**re the **way**s of death.
- III. If we want to live, I don't mean just living in the context of this earthly existence but I mean if we want to live forever, we must acknowledge the ways of God
 - a. Jesus said in John 14: I am the way the truth and the life and no man cometh to the father but by me
 - b. A lot things will sound right in the world
 - i. Karma
 - ii. Works
 - iii. Prosperity movements
 - 1. Word of faith
 - 2. Seed of faith
 - iv. But Jesus did not say I am a way, he didn't suggest that there are others he said I am the way, The Truth and the Life and no man cometh to the father but by me.

About Reverend Bryan Hudson

Straight Street Missionary Baptist Church, Sterling Heights, MI bhudson518@att.net

(586) 7185183