Who Or What Do We Trust

Intro: Trust means “firm conviction in another’s reliability, integrity, honor; implicit confidence, faith, reliance in; to rely upon.” In whom or in what do you trust, rely upon.

I. Some Things In Which We Trust.

   A. Man

      1. This would include others and ourselves.

      2. The Humanist Manifest 2 says, “While there is much that we do not know, humans are responsible for what we are or will become. No deity will save us; we must save ourselves.”

         a. There we have it: trust in ourselves and man.

         b. Rom. 1:25 “Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.”

      3. Jer. 17:5 “Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD.”

      4. But, man cannot do as the Humanist say.

         a. Pro. 14:12 “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”

         b. Jer. 10:23 “O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.”

         c. 1 Cor. 1:19-20 “For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?”

   B. Things

      1. This would include possessions and money.

      2. An example of this:

         a. The rich young ruler; Mat. 19:16-22 “And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet? Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me. But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.”

         b. Parable of the rich man; Luke 12:16-21 “And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”

      3. Mat. 6:19-20 “Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal.”
C. **Strength**

1. Many times in the Old Testament Israel put their trust in military might (their own and others) thinking that would save them. Many times called upon Assyria, Egypt, or Babylon.
   a. Isa. 31:1 “Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many; and in horsemen, because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the LORD!”
   b. Hos. 13:10 “I will be thy king: where is any other that may save thee in all thy cities? and thy judges of whom thou saidst, Give me a king and princes?”

2. Do we not do the same today?
   a. Trust in our military might.
   b. “No one will attack us, we are too strong.”

3. God told them that military might would not save them; the only thing that could save them would be Him.
   a. Isa. 31:3 “Now the Egyptians are men, and not God; and their horses flesh, and not spirit. When the LORD shall stretch out his hand, both he that helpeth shall fall, and he that is holpen shall fall down, and they all shall fail together.”
   b. David and Goliath; 1 Sam. 17:45-47 “Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. 46This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcases of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. 47And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD’S, and he will give you into our hands.”

II. **Some Whom We Should Be Able To Trust.**

A. **Preachers, Elders, Other Christians.**

1. 1 Cor. 11:1 “Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.”

2. These should be living the way God would have us live; and we should be able to pattern our lives after them.

B. **But, often man fails Christ and us.**

1. Peter denied Christ; Mat. 26:69-75 “Now Peter sat without in the palace: and a damsel came unto him, saying, Thou also wast with Jesus of Galilee. 70But he denied before them all, saying, I know not what thou sayest. 71And when he was gone out into the porch, another maid saw him, and said unto them that were there, This fellow was also with Jesus of Nazareth. 72And again he denied with an oath, I do not know the man. 73And after a while came unto him they that stood by, and said to Peter, Surely thou also art one of them; for thy speech bewrayeth thee. 74Then began he to curse and to swear, saying, I know not the man. And immediately the cock crew. 75And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and wept bitterly.”

2. All men sin.
   a. Gal. 3:22 “But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.”
   b. Therefore, if we trust just in these men, we will soon be disappointed.
III. WHO WE CAN TRUST.

A. God

1. The Father
   a. Notice some admonitions:
      (1) Psa. 37:3, 5 “Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed... 5Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.”
      (2) Pro. 3:5 “Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.”
   b. He is faithful.
      (1) Deu. 7:9 “Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;”
      (2) 2 Cor. 1:9 “But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead:”
   c. He is our rock, fortress, refuge, etc.
      (1) 2 Sam. 22:2-3 “And he said, The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; 2The God of my rock; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence.”
      (2) Psa. 18:1-3 “I will love thee, O LORD, my strength. 2The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower. 3I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies.”
      (3) Psa. 91:2 “I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.”

2. Christ
   a. Christ is faithful also.
      (1) 2 The. 3:3 “But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.”
      (2) 2 Tim. 2:13 “If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.”
   b. He is that good foundation.
      (1) 1 Cor. 3:11 “For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”
      (2) 1 Pet. 2:6-7 “Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. 7Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner.”

B. God’s Word.

1. That word will last forever.
   a. Mat. 24:35 “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”
   b. 1 Pet. 1:25 “But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.”

2. We will face that word in judgment.
   a. John 12:48-50 “He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. 49For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. 50And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.”
   b. Rom. 2:16 “In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.”
c. Rev. 20:12 “And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.”

d. If we live faithful to that word we will be saved, if contrary to that word we will be lost.

3. Psa. 111:7 “The works of his hands are verity and judgment; all his commandments are sure.”

Conclusion: Who (What) do you place your trust in, rely upon? If your trust is in anything other than God and His word then you will be sinking in the mire of untrustworthy things. Place your faith in Him.