

# HE SHALL DIRECT THY PATHS

## PROVERBS 3:5-6

Text: Proverbs 3:5-6

### **Proverbs 3:5-6**

<sup>5</sup>Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. <sup>6</sup>In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Introduction:

A poll of 5,000 people was conducted on the question, "What topic would you like to hear your Pastor preach?" The number one answer was Bible Prophecy, and the number two answer was how to find God's Will for my life.

There are many examples of God's guidance to his people in the Bible. There is the example of how God guided his people in the wilderness by the cloud by day, and by the pillar of fire by night.

God still guides his people today by his Word.

Woodrow Wilson once said, "There are a good many problems before the American people today, and before me as President, but I expect to find the solution of those problems just in the proportion that I am faithful in the study of the Word of God."

“I ask every man and woman... that from this day on they will realize that part of the destiny of America lies in their daily perusal of this great book.”

One of the greatest promises on God’s guidance for his people is found in Proverbs 3:5-6.

## **1. THE PROMISE OF DIVINE GUIDANCE**

### A. Source of this guidance (vs. 5)

#### **Proverbs 3:5**

<sup>5</sup>Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

1. God is the source of this guidance, not man.

Note:

We are not to lean unto our own understanding.

A few years ago a magazine asked the question, “In whom do you trust?”

Responses were,

Walter Cronkite received 40% of the vote

Pope John Paul 26%

Billy Graham 6%

God 3%

## B. Seeker of this guidance. (vs, 1)

### **Proverbs 3:1**

<sup>1</sup>My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:

1. Who is the writer talking about, when he says trust in the Lord? He is talking about God's people.

The songwriter wrote:

“Many things about tomorrow, I don't seem to understand, but I know who holds tomorrow, and I know who holds my hand.”

## **2. THE PRICE OF DIVINE GUIDANCE**

### A. Faith is involved in His Guidance (vs. 5)

### **Proverbs 3:5**

<sup>5</sup>Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

It's interesting what the middle verse of the Bible is. It's found in Psalms 118:9.

### **Psalms 118:9**

<sup>9</sup>*It is* better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes.

Illustration:

A young man who was learning to fly was told by his instructor, you must trust your instruments. Your instincts will fool you. 'You must learn that even though you may feel you are flying south, if your compass says you are flying east, you'd better believe it.

Often when a plane is surrounded by swirling mist and being buffeted by strong winds, you may feel you are in a dive and be tempted to pull back on the controls. But if your instruments say you are flying level - or even climbing - you'd better believe them. To pull back on the controls might put you into a steep climb, which would cause the plane to stall, drop off in a spin, and leave you out of control.

Just as a pilot must learn to trust his instruments, we must learn to trust God.

## B. Fear is involved in His Guidance (vs. 7)

### **Proverbs 3:7**

<sup>7</sup> Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

1. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

**Proverbs 1:7**

<sup>7</sup>The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge: *but* fools despise wisdom and instruction.

**Proverbs 9:10**

<sup>10</sup>The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy *is* understanding.

2. The fear of the Lord is to hate the things that God hates and love the things that God loves.

**Proverbs 8:13**

<sup>13</sup>The fear of the LORD *is* to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

3. The fear of the Lord brings confidence and a place of refuge.

**Proverbs 14:26-27**

<sup>26</sup>In the fear of the LORD *is* strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge. <sup>27</sup>The fear of the LORD *is* a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.

C. Fleeing is involved in the Guidance of God  
(vs. 7)

**Proverbs 3:7**

<sup>7</sup>Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

If a person doesn't forsake their sin, it will drive a wedge between them and God.

It breaks one's fellowship with God and causes Him to have a deaf ear to his prayers.

**Psalms 66:19**

<sup>19</sup> *But* verily God hath heard *me*; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer.

**Isaiah 1:15**

<sup>15</sup> And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood.

**Isaiah 59:2**

<sup>2</sup> But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid *his* face from you, that he will not hear.

**Micah 3:4**

<sup>4</sup> Then shall they cry unto the LORD, but he will not hear them: he will even hide his face from them at that time, as they have behaved themselves ill in their doings.

**Hosea 5:6**

<sup>6</sup> They shall go with their flocks and with their herds to seek the LORD; but they shall not find *him*; he hath withdrawn himself from them.

### **3. THE PROCEDURE OF DIVINE GUIDANCE**

**Proverbs 3:6**

<sup>6</sup> In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

How does God give us this divine guidance?

A. God guides us through the scriptures

**Psalms 119:105**

<sup>105</sup> Thy word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

B. God guides us through the Spirit.

**Acts 8:28-29**

<sup>28</sup> Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet. <sup>29</sup> Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.

C. God guides us through His saints.

**Acts 9:17**

<sup>17</sup> And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, *even* Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

Close:

He does not lead me year by year,  
Nor even day by day;  
But step by step my path unfolds,  
My Lord directs my way.

Tomorrow's plans I do not know;  
I only know this minute.  
But he will say, "This is the way,  
By faith now walk ye in it."

And I am glad that it is so,  
Today's enough to bear;  
And when tomorrow comes, his grace  
Shall far exceed its care.

What need to worry then, or fret?  
The God who gave his Son  
Holds all my moments in his hand  
And gives them one by one.