



Blessed
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trusts
in the
Lord

JEREMIAH 17:7

From Pastor's Desk...

To Trust in the Lord Brings Blessing

We live in a season of anxiety and uncertainty. Trust is a very significant word used in human life. When trust is broken, deterioration occurs in family, church and community. It results in failure to get along with others. This is true in vertical level too. Jeremiah, the prophet realized the need to develop a child-like trust in God though he was reluctant to obey His call and struggled with his complaint on many occasions (20:7). We are greatly encouraged and refreshed of the scriptural truth, "blessed is the man who trust in the Lord, whose confidence is in Him" (17:7).

The contrast is also found, cursed is the one who trusts in man, who depend on flesh for his strength and whose heart turns away from the Lord (17:5). Jeremiah pictured a

weak, dry shrub in the desert about to dry from a draught. Scholars say, it could be a dwarf juniper stunted and barely alive in an area of low rainfall and poor soil.

- To trust in God means to place our confidence in God (Prov. 3:5). It is more than believing in who He is and what He says. It is having the assurance that God will make our path straight because God is sovereign. Heroes of faith in the Bible and throughout Centuries witness the truth for everyone to trust in God for everything.

- Trust in God brings consistency of character. Those who trust in the Lord are like Mt. Zion which cannot be moved but abides forever (Ps.125:1). Perfect peace in heart with the steadfast mind is the blessing in trusting God. He is not carried away by the circumstances, focused on God who gives power to endure the challenges.

- Trust in God brings the way out of our problems. Daniel was trustworthy even in Babylonian exile. He was neither corrupt nor negligent, but he was thrown into the lions' den because of his sincere allegiance to God whom he prayed and worshipped. Daniel's bold declaration of deliverance before the King is the result of his trust in God (Dan.6:23).

- Trust in God brings God's best for us. People of Israel hardened their hearts by sin's deceitfulness. God was angry with the generation who rebelled against Him. The promise of entering the rest was the best by God. God had set a certain day to enter the rest for the people who believe in the gospel of Jesus Christ (Heb. 4:7-11).

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In the book of Jeremiah, chapter 17, the Prophet was very much concerned and worried about the plight of Israel as they were morally disintegrating and being destroyed militarily by its enemies. Israel the chosen people of God who experienced the wonderful deeds and protection, is now being warned about approaching judgment because of the people's constant, willful disobedience.

The world we live today was going in a cruise mode where it was coming to a point of thought that there is nothing unachievable by human might. According to human eyes, money power, political power, military power, scientific advancements were at its best and felt that they can control everything. Then came the unexpected, unavoidable pandemic from a creature that can't even be seen by

naked eyes. This reminds of RMS Titanic, the ship which started its voyage on April 10, 1912 with a reputation of unsinkable, sank after 5 days into its journey. Today, the whole world is wondering and perplexed, after all these achievements by human race, whom can they really trust to have a peaceful life on the planet earth.

This promise in Jeremiah 17:7 was not only relevant during the time of prophet, it is one still being fulfilled for all who are willing to surrender and put their trust in Him today. The creator of the mankind is eager to see His children trusting Him not only for their spiritual needs, but also for the day today physical needs as well. We can trust the Holy Spirit for the guidance we need in our life, to lead a holy life and to prepare ourselves for eternity.

Trusting in God is accompanied by His blessings as well. Blessed means to be happy,

contented, and at peace with oneself. That is God's will for our lives. We are "like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes; But her leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from bearing fruit."

Some people really believe that it is possible to put their trust in both God and man. Such a double minded person receives nothing from the Lord. We need to trust the Lord like a little child trusts its parents. During trying times, remembering God's faithfulness will strengthen, encourage, and remind us that He has not abandoned us. In the Bible, we can see a list of examples like Abraham, Moses, Joseph, Daniel, David and a lot other saints who placed their trust in the living God, seeing or unseeingly, which turned out to be a blessing in their life.

Our God has done so much for us that we have no excuse not to believe and trust Him especially in this time of testing. And, the question echoes back to our hearts, “How can we not trust the One who gave His only Son to die a cruel death so that we might be saved?”

Trust - To Be Blest
Sis Anjana Cherian

“Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, and whose hope is in the Lord” (Jeremiah 17:7). The prophet Jeremiah provides contrasting outcomes of people who demonstrate trust in the Lord vs. trust in man. Trusting in the Lord is an unsophisticated, yet most defied decree in the entire mankind. Displacement of trust from the creator to creation is evident from the first family till present generation.

Why should we trust in the Lord?

Jeremiah compares the blessings of the Lord received by those who put their trust in Him to a tree. To remain healthy and produce fruits, a tree needs to be planted by the water and obtain its nourishment consistently.

1. Tree planted by the water (vs 7:8a)- Trees do not plant themselves, neither can those who trust in men or themselves be placed in God's kingdom. Salvation is through the marvelous work of grace by Christ Jesus. The action required to receive this blessing of deep-seated joy and contentment is to TRUST in the LORD.

2. Tree not impacted by seasonal changes (vs 7:8b)- Those who put their trust in the Lord are not anxious by drought or heat, instead they continue to stay green and yield fruit. A tree can achieve this stable state of

steadiness only by spreading its roots by the river and being nourished. To be unaffected by the blows of life, we need to be rooted in the WORD of GOD.

How should we trust in the Lord?

Trust is an action verb that necessitates us to give the complete control of our self to God and remain in that position without any rationale. As believers, we are verbalizing our trust in the Lord, but our hearts tend to derail with circumstances around us. This has been a challenge since Biblical times and it often affects the mind. The Lord understands our limitations and prophesied through Jeremiah that a tree that spread out its roots by the river is not anxious and maintain the emotional sanity during the times of drought. Hence, our blessing of emotional stability during stressful environment comes by trusting the WORD of GOD.

During these unprecedented times, our tendency is to rely on the resources around us and find intellectual solution. It is challenging to stay calm when there is an overwhelming sense of being drowned due to diverse storms. The word of God reminds us that despite the mightiness of these challenges, the simple ask to TRUST in the LORD yields promising and powerful fruit.
