

God Is Trustworthy

Text : **Matthew 6: 19-35**

INTRODUCTION :

A. I'm ever fascinated by the story of Job.

1. He must have been more frightened than we can even imagine.
2. His entire worldview was suddenly turned upside down. (*Theory of Retribution*)
 - a. He knew that he had done nothing to deserve the evil which had befallen him.
 - b. Yet, he believed such evil only came as judgment upon the wicked.
3. Life as he knew it had ended.
 - a. There were no more earthly comforts.
 - b. His position no longer demanded respect.
4. Amazingly, Job did not react in fear or resentment.
 - a. He reacted by worshipping God.
 - b. **Job 1: 20- Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head, and he fell to the ground and worshiped.**

B. We live in uncertain times.

1. Our political system is chaos and confusion.
2. Much of the chaos is due to the rapid degrading of our value system.
 - a. We have become a “things” oriented society.
 - b. Families have broken down in pursuit of things. (*Life revolves around acquiring.*)
 - c. We're now in the third generation of those who were not taught values.
* *Thus, our traditional values are largely forgotten.*
3. We've become a society focused on consumption.
 - a. People measure their lives and others by what they possess. (Cf- **Luke 12: 15**)
 - b. Even those who do not produce expect to consume.
 - c. Consequently, ever increasing numbers of people receive from the government.
4. **Therefore,** .. our system has become more than we have the ability to sustain.
 - a. Public debt threatens to bring our country down, but we keep borrowing.
 - b. Many cry for spending cuts, **but** no one is willing to give up anything.
 - c. Politicians know they need to do differently, **but** fear losing power if they do.

- C. Those who have placed their trust in “the system” are increasingly apprehensive.**
1. Essential cuts have fostered riots abroad, and if cuts are made, they are feared here.
 2. Multitudes don't know how to function without the government subsidies.
 - *3. That in which they have placed their trust is faltering and they are near panic.**

**In response to this current state of affairs, the thesis of this lesson is :
Trust in God and God alone, for He alone is trustworthy.**

I. Ultimately, one cannot trust in anything on this earth for complete security.

A. People cannot give one security.

1. People change as their circumstances change.
 - a. As one ages his values change so he responds to others differently.
 - b. When one feels personally threatened, he thinks less of others.
2. Even one's mate cannot give him security.
 - a. In this era of selfishness, one's mate may go after another at any time.
 - b. The provider can become a dependent in the blink of an eye. (*accident, health, etc*)
3. Parents are the only one who will love a person unconditionally. (*It's instinctive.*)
 - a. Parent's abilities change.
 - b. Parents die.

B. Employers cannot give security.

1. Employers have no security so they cannot give it to others.
2. Work with a man who came from a large company that went under after 100 years.
 - a. He had no warning, not even a suspicion.
 - b. At 50 years of age, he lost his pension, health insurance, etc.
3. After 25 years of service my sister's employer was bought out and let her go.

C. Governments cannot give security. (*Political winds shift.*)

1. Governments must take before they can give and their source is undependable.
2. Every government on the planet has fallen and been replaced.

D. Security cannot come from this earth because this earth is not secure.

II Pet. 3: 10- But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up.

II. God can be trusted because He alone has the power to do anything He desires.

A. Very often we have the desire to help another, but don't have the ability.

1. Sometimes we try to help and it turns out wrong.
 - * *Gave a job to addict. The addict bought drugs with his salary and died.*
2. I wept with a man whose brother was losing his house and he could not help him.
3. When my son was dying I would have given my own life to have saved his.

B. God has the power to give exactly the help that is needed.

1. **Gen. 1** ... God spoke the world into existence. (cf- **Rev. 4: 11**)
2. **Col. 1: 16-17** ... God (the Son) not only created the world, He sustains it.
 - a. **"¹⁶ or by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together."**
 - b. Cf - **Heb. 1: 3**- **"... upholds all things by the word of His power."**

C. God has the resources to fulfill any need.

1. **Psa. 50: 12** ... Everything on earth belongs to God.
2. **Psa. 24: 1** ... Everyone on earth belongs to God. (Can assign someone ...)

D. Being the source of all power, God can use governments to provide.

1. **Dan. 2: 21 ; 4: 17, 25 ; 5: 21**
2. Cf - **Rev. 1: 5 , Acts 17: 26**

III. God cannot lie and He promised to take care of those who are His.

A. It is impossible for God to lie.

1. **Titus 1: 2**- **in the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago,**
2. The fact that God says it makes it true. (*Reality conforms to God's word.*)

B. God promised to provide the needs of those who serve Him.

1. **Matt. 6** ... *Jesus asks us to trust him to take care of us.*
 - a. You have to make a choice ... Me or the world ... not both.
 - b. If you choose Me, I'll give you what you need.

2. He did not promise all we want. Needs and wants are often very different.
 - a. Man tends to think in terms of earthly comfort and relationships.
 - b. God says :
 - I Tim. 6: 8- If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.**
3. Few chose to seek God above all else.
 - a. Most want more earthly blessings. (*They cannot see past the physical to the spiritual.*)
 - b. They do not have the ability to trust God to take care of them ... **FAITH**

IV. God keeps ALL of His promises.

A. There are many promises in the bible.

1. Scholars differ on the exact number, but all compute thousands.
2. One noted scholar (*Storms*) affirms 7,847 made by God to man.
3. God always fulfills His promises.

B. Knowing the history of God's dealing with man give us reason to trust Him.

1. When God promised a deliverer it took thousands of years, but He sent Jesus.
2. When God asked someone to trust Him, He never let them down.

C. The stories of the patriarchs teach us about the reliability of God.

1. God called Noah to build an ark.
 - a. He was asked to commit 100 years of his life to hard labor.
 - b. He was required to endure ridicule from his neighbors, friends and relatives.
 - c. God did everything He said He would do.
2. God called Abram to go out from the security of his family to a promised land.
 - a. He was not told where he would end up, but was promised a good land.
 - b. His descendants were given the Promised Land and more.
3. Abraham was promised that his descendants would be as the stars of the sky.
 - a. He had a barren wife.
 - b. After many years he tried to help God by producing a son by a servant.
 - c. Decades later, in his old age, the promised child was born.
 - d. In his advanced years he produced six sons by his second wife, Keturah.

* **Several nations were created by the sons of Abraham.** (*Innumerable*)

4. Abraham was promised that in His seed all nations of the earth would be blessed.
 - a. The mother of Jesus was a descendant of Abraham.
 - b. Jesus is the greatest blessing the world has or will ever know.
 - c. The gospel is continually being carried around the world.

D. God made and fulfilled many promises concerning Israel.

1. It was promised they would go into Egypt few and come out a mighty nation.
2. They were promised a land flowing with milk and honey.
3. They were promised that the mighty nations would be destroyed before them.

E. These stories are not in the bible to entertain us.

1. **Rom. 15:4** - For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.
2. All of God dealings with man teach us that we can trust God to do what He says.
3. **Therefore, it would be illogical for us not to trust God now.**

V. God has proven His willingness to bless us more than we deserve.

A. Jesus (the Prince of Heaven) came to earth to save us.

1. Jesus died to save us while we were in rebellion against God. ... **Rom. 5: 6-10**
2. He sacrificed Himself because of love for us. ... **John 3: 16**
3. His sacrifice fulfilled God's promise to Eve, to Abraham, and to David.

B. When Jesus says that He will take care of you if you will trust Him, He will.

Matt. 6: 33- But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. (*Food and covering*)

C. When He tells us not to worrying about the future, we can trust Him to provide.

Matt. 6: 34- So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. (*"daily bread", not 401 k*)

D. When Jesus says that He will take care of you if you will trust Him, He will.

Matt. 10: 32-34 Therefore everyone who confesses Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. ³³ But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny him before My Father who is in heaven. (*Mutual advocacy*) ³⁴ Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.

- a. Jesus understands that confessing Him will cause problems in your life.
- b. He promised a reward for faithfulness in telling others about Him, **but warns ...**

E. When Jesus urges you to entrust Him with your problems, He will do it.

1. **I Pet. 5: 6-8** Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, ⁷ casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you. ⁸ Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.
2. Jesus wants to help you carry your burdens because He knows being His advocate on the earth will cause Satan to oppose us.
3. We can trust His promise; if we humble now, He will help and He will reward.

F. When Jesus promises us that He will reward our faithfulness, we can trust His faithfulness.

1. **Rev. 2: 10** - Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, so that you will be tested, and you will have tribulation for ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.
2. Jesus knows that being His advocate on the earth will cause us pain and even death.
3. The Christian is a temporary resident on the earth, **but his reward is eternal.**

CONCLUSION :**A. God has proven Himself to be completely trustworthy.**

1. He's the only one who will never let us down.
2. He alone has the power and resources to keep every promise He has ever made.
3. God alone will never deceive us or change His promises to us.
4. Throughout history God has always kept every promise He has ever made.
5. God alone can be trusted to always seek our good.

B. Have you placed all of your trust in God and in His Son, Jesus.

1. There is salvation in no other.
2. There is no risk in trusting Him.

INVITATION :

The reward for your trust will be eternal.

Lesson Text :

Matthew 6: 19-34

19 Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.

20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; **21** for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

22 The eye is the lamp of the body; so then if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light. **23** But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

24 No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

25 For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? **26** Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?

27 And who of you by being worried can add a *single* hour to his life? **28** And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin, **29** yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. **30** But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is *alive* today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, *will He* not much more *clothe* you? You of little faith! **31** Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?' **32** For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. **33** But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

34 So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.