

WRONG INFORMATION

by
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Several months ago I was on my way to a distant city to attend a Revival Meeting. Having traveled this road many times, I knew the interstate that I should take in order to reach the city. However, in being over-confident in thinking I knew the way, I took the wrong interstate. Anyone who travels the super-highways will agree that if you take the wrong interstate you are in trouble.

After having driven several miles and not seeing any familiar landmarks, I realized my mistake. I stopped at the next gas station asking information. I then proceeded on the way but soon realized that the man at the station had given me the wrong information.

Again I stopped and inquired at another station. I had by this time driven miles out of the way because of the wrong information the man at the first station had given me. As a result of having been given wrong information, I was late arriving at the meeting and friends were concerned for my safety. They had been praying for me and were thankful when I arrived.

Friends, by this experience of taking the wrong road, my Heavenly Father reminded me that we need to be very careful on the road of life. We can become over-confident, just as I did in believing the information the man at the first gas station had given me. If we put our trust in men instead of God, we end up on the wrong road. Many times folks get bogged down with men's ideas then get in a deep rut. Believe me, numerous are the potholes on this road of life, and our Heavenly Father is the only one who can help us out.

A verse of scripture found in Joshua 9:14 says, "Then the men of Israel took some of their provisions; but *they did not ask counsel of the Lord.*" We get into all kinds of trouble when we fail to go to God and ask his counsel concerning the problems of life. The writer of this tract in times past has had many sad experiences because of asking counsel of someone other than her Heavenly Father.

In the day in which we are living, all kinds of wrong information may be obtained, which are men's thoughts and ideas. Oh, do go to God's word for your information. Ask his counsel in prayer. He will always give you the right answer. In Proverbs 14:12 it says, "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death."

We are all acquainted with dear friends we have had fellowship with in the past who are now following men's teachings. Unless they see the error in following man instead of God, they will lose their souls. Oh, let us keep our eyes on the Lord. If Peter had kept his eyes on Jesus, he could have walked on the water. This account of Peter attempting to walk on the water is found in Matthew 14:29-31: "So He said 'Come,' And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, 'Lord, save me!' And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him 'O you of little faith, why did you doubt?'"

Many times this happens to us when we fail to keep our eyes on Jesus. We are given wrong information and listen to man instead of God. If we see the error in what we believe and cry out to God, just as Peter did when he began to sink, God will come to our rescue. Let us not be of little faith but keep looking to Jesus, who will never leave us or forsake us if we keep our hand in his. It gives us such a feeling of confidence and security to feel the strong and loving hand of Jesus.

We need to be alert and watchful at all times. In Isaiah 26:3 we read, "Thou will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee, because he trusts in thee."

A friend of mine was coming to visit me. She said she was driving along listening to the car radio, not paying attention to the road she was on, then suddenly realized she had taken the wrong road and had driven a great distance in the wrong direction. Oh, we do need to be so careful on this road of life and keep our minds stayed on the Lord, lest we get on the wrong road spiritually and fall into one of the devil's traps. Believe me friends, we all know he is always trying his best to get one of God's children to listen to him. Go to our Heavenly Father for help, for we have his promise that he will never leave us or forsake us.

I'm asking God daily to let me see Jesus only, not looking to man for information or counsel, but going to God's word. Also, I want to keep before my eyes this verse of scripture in 1 Corinthians 10:12: "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall."

Let us not be over-confident as I was when I began the journey to the city where the Revival meeting was being held. Spiritually speaking, we must be prayed up, read up, tuned into the correct wave length so that we may be in touch with our Heavenly Father at all times. A scripture comes to my mind just now, found in Proverbs 3:5,6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths."

When we trust in God with all our hearts, and he directs our paths, we can't help but stay on the right road in this life; and that road is the Highway of Holiness. If we get our counsel at the mouth of the Lord, if we do not follow man, we will make our final exit into the Celestial City to live eternally with God. I'm looking forward to making that final exit.

However, if we refuse to walk in paths of righteousness and listen to error instead of truth, accept man's ideas instead of God's, we find what God says will happen: "The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness" (2 Thess. 2:9-12).

God's word is sure. A verse of scripture that has been much help to me is Numbers 23:19: "God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?" God's children should all know that he means what he says. In Jeremiah 17:5 we read, "Thus says the Lord: Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart departs from the Lord." We see in these verses of Scripture what happens when folk will not go God's way.

Those of you who have never given your heart to God, won't you come to him now? It is truly wonderful to serve a God who will never fail you. It is truly wonderful just to place your hand in that nail-scarred hand and walk this road of life with him. Then when life on earth is finished, we will go to spend eternity with him. Listen to his voice today. Do not continue in your sins. Do not continue as the people did during Jeremiah's time: "But they did not obey nor incline their ear, but made their neck stiff, that they might not hear nor receive instruction" (Jer. 17:23).

I can't but ask this question as I close this tract: Where will you spend eternity?