

## DO WE NEED GOD ?

### Int.

1. Aim: To show that all men need God
2. Yes, we do! The Bible declares such to be the case.
  - a. Psa. 62:8 NKJV "Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah."
    - i. V. 1 - God has the right to conduct my life
    - ii. V. 2 - God is my Salvation and I will not be cast down
    - iii. V. 3 & 4 - when man rebels he will destroy himself
    - iv. V. 5 - wait for God - you can trust Him
    - v. V. 6-7 - Salvation is from God
    - vi. V. 8 - We can always trust God - He is our Refuge - place of safety or shelter
  - b. Other verses in Psalms
    - i. Psa. 7:1 "O LORD my God, in thee do I put my trust: save me from all them that persecute me, and deliver me:"
    - ii. Psa. 16:1 "O God: for in thee do I put my trust."
    - iii. Psa. 20:7 "Some [trust] in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God."
    - iv. Psa. 56:11 "In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me."
    - v. Psa. 91:2 "I will say of the LORD, [He is] my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust."
  - c. Prov. 30:5 "Every word of God [is] pure: he [is] a shield unto them that put their trust in him."

3. There are some people that consider it to be utter foolishness to believe in a Being Whom we have never seen.
4. Others consider dependence on God to be a "crutch" for the weak, and they are convinced that they do not need such a "crutch."
5. We will discuss some who do not trust in God then show why we all need God !

## DISCUSSION

### I. WHY IS IT THAT SO MANY FOLKS DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THEY NEED GOD?

- A. There are those who are convinced that possessing money and material blessings is all they could ever need or want.
  1. Because they have plenty of this world's goods, they think they do not need God. They have a nice house, good car, savings account, retirement plan and they are set for life.
  2. How hard it is for those that trust in riches to enter the kingdom!
  3. Mark 10:23,24 ESV "And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" 24 And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God!!"
    - a. Difficult - Hardly - hard
    - b. Wealth - material goods
    - c. Then in v. 25 he says "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God."
  4. People who trust in riches do not think that they need God. They can handle it all by themselves.
  5. Luke 12:15

- B. A second group of people seem to put their trust in their secular education or worldly wisdom.
1. With such a high level of education, they think it below their dignity to believe in an unseen God.
  2. Such high-minded people need to take heed: "For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, "He catches the wise in their own craftiness";" 1 Corinthians 3:19 NKJV
    - a. The speculations and theories of philosophers is foolishness with God
    - b. Can a person be saved from their sins by philosophy and learning ?
    - c. Often those who have high degrees of learning are filled with pride and self conceit and forget that they need God.
    - d. "He catches the wise in their own craftiness"
      - (1) This is a quote from Job 5:13
      - (2) God will overthrow them with their own ways
- C. Another reason for people not seeing their need for God is their mistaken idea that man is just an animal, the highest form of animal, mind you, but still just an animal.
1. If man is simply an animal that evolved from lower forms of animals, then he, like the beast of the field, has neither an eternal soul nor the responsibility to serve a so-called Creator that man dreamed up in the first place.
  2. Please note that our generation is not the first to maintain a false concept about man and God. Nearly 2000 years ago the Holy Spirit spoke of some "Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator . . ." Romans 1:25

- D. It is pride that causes many to deceive themselves into thinking that they do not need God.
1. They think that they can depend on themselves and get by in life "just fine."
  2. Surely we have all known of those who curse the God Who created the universe and refuse to serve Him, yet despite this they still have a good job, nice family, and are counted as good neighbors.
  3. While it may appear that such individuals are getting by quite well without God, there is more to the story than meets the worldly-minded eye.
  4. God's truth about pride cannot be overturned: "A man's pride shall bring him low" - Proverbs 29:23
  5. Also, do not forget that on the day of judgment each person will give account to God for his every word, action, and thought - 2 Corinthians 5:10 "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things [done] in [his] body, according to that he hath done, whether [it be] good or bad."
  6. Woe unto the proud on that day!
- E. Some Bible examples of those who felt like they did not need God
1. Pharaoh
    - a. Do you remember his blasphemous response to God's charge to release the Israelites?
    - b. "And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go" - Exodus 5:2
    - c. He did not believe in God and did not need God telling him what to do.

2. There was the rich farmer whom God called a "fool" - Luke 12:16-21
  - a. He talked extensively about what HE possessed and what HE planned to do.
  - b. How tragic that he left God out of his thinking!
  
3. Job's wife is another that certainly saw no need to depend on God.
  - a. The ungodly statement that she made to Job, "Curse God and die" [Job 2:9] still causes God-fearing people to cringe.
  - b. She did not think they needed to depend upon God !

## II. WHAT IS THERE IN THE BIBLE THAT CONVINCES US THAT WE REALLY DO NEED GOD?

- A. (1) There is the declaration that God made all things
  1. "God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands." Acts 17:24 NKJV
    - a. Thus, we owe our very existence to Him.
    - b. He is our creator and the creator of all the things in this world
  2. In addition, the next verse declares that He is the Sustainer of life , "Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things." Acts 17:25
    - a. God gave us life
    - b. God continues to give us the things that keep us alive - air - oxygen
    - c. We need food - God gives us all these things for food
  3. Thus, ". . . in him we live, and move, and have our being" Acts 17:28
  4. All men owe their physical existence and material blessings to God.

B. (2) We also need God to provide direction for our lives.

1. The prophet proclaimed, "O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps" Jeremiah 10:23
2. Because proper direction does not come from within man, then we must depend on God to show us the proper course in life.
3. This He has done through His word, as it is written, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" Psalm 119:105
4. The Scriptures make us "wise unto salvation" 2 Timothy 3:15

C. (3) Third, we need God to help us solve the problem of sin.

1. Specifically, we need God in order to obtain the forgiveness of sins.
2. All people have sinned, and thus all stand in need of salvation - Romans 3:23,24
3. Sin causes the sinner to be separated from Jehovah - Isaiah 59:1,2 "Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: 2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid [his] face from you, that he will not hear."

D. (4) We need the Grace and Mercy of God

1. Because of God's wonderful love, grace, and mercy, Jesus died for every person
  - a. Ephesians 2:4,5 "But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, 5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)"

- b. Hebrews 2:9 "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."
2. Our salvation is thus not due to some scheme or plan that we devised. Rather, our only hope of being saved comes from the same One Who both created man and sustains us.
3. In the gospel, God's power unto salvation [Romans 1:16], we read the marvelous message of the salvation that God offers to mankind.
- a. Thanks be to God that the same gospel also plainly shows what man must do in order to have his sins washed away by the blood of Jesus: hear the gospel, believe it, and render obedience to it by repentance, confession of faith in Jesus, and baptism for the remission of sins - Mark 16:15,16; Acts 2:38
- b. Yes, we need God in order to be saved in this life and have the hope of living eternally in heaven - 1 Peter 1:3,4 v. 3 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,"

### Conclusion

1. Do we really need God? Yes!
2. May we never be ashamed to sing "I Need Thee Every Hour." # 837
3. Like the Psalmist, may the following words ever be the thoughts of our heart: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" Psalm 46:1 Refuge = Shelter, hope, trust
4. Song Without Him # 544

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**Source** Sermon by Roger D. Campbell

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