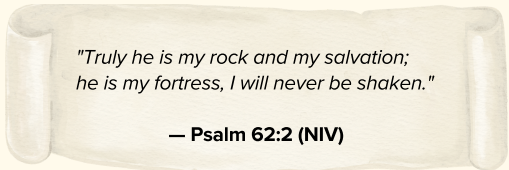


# Q:

## Do I trust God?

Of course, I trust God. What kind of Christian doesn't trust God?

In the Bible, God made thousands of promises to humanity and never failed to fulfill a single one.



*"Truly he is my rock and my salvation;  
he is my fortress, I will never be shaken."*

— Psalm 62:2 (NIV)

And yet if asked, could I say with confidence - I trust God? Completely? Unswervingly?

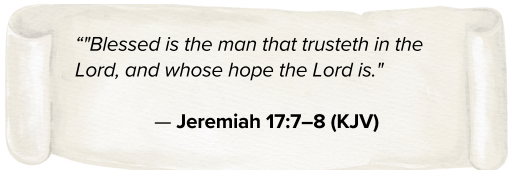
And moreover, trust Him to do what?

What great figures in the Bible trusted God without question?

Not Abraham. He slept with his servant Hagar to produce the son God had promised.

Not Moses. He struck the rock in anger rather than using words as God commanded.

Not Paul. He trusted so completely in his own understanding of God's law and became an instrument of persecution and death.



*"Blessed is the man that trusteth in the  
Lord, and whose hope the Lord is."*

— Jeremiah 17:7–8 (KJV)

**WORD ON THE WORD:** The Hebrew word "BARA" (pronounced "baw-RAW") is reserved exclusively for the handiwork of God, and carries no mention of pre-existing materials.

At one point along my own journey, I made a conscious effort to turn the reins over to God, to trust him with the full direction of my life.

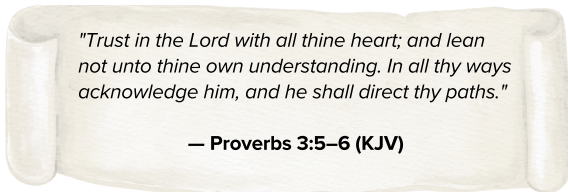
And then I sat back and waited for God to work His magic.

But,...nothing. No positive effects. No changes. No real visible evidence of anything at all.

In fact, life got worse. Considerably worse.

My countenance fell. My faith was shaken. I became dismayed and disillusioned.

Is this how God works? I turn my life over to Him and things go undeniably south?



*"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean  
not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways  
acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."*

— Proverbs 3:5–6 (KJV)

Q:

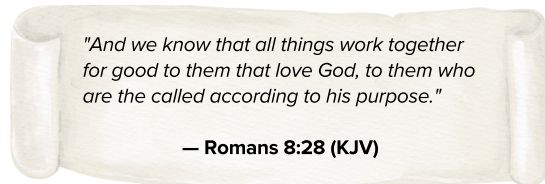
## Do I trust God?

So, what exactly does God promise ME in return for my trust? Nothing. Not. A. Thing. At least not in this world.

God's purpose unfolds regardless of my plans or any ideas I may bring Him.

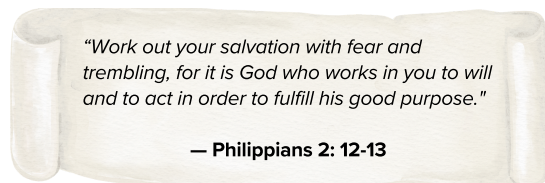
Everything I experience is due to His will – elation, rejection, satisfaction, suffering. All are His will played out in His way in His own time, all according to His purpose and all for His good.

All teaching me how to know Him and accept His purpose.



God's providence alone sets the stage, pulls back the curtain, adjusts the lighting, writes the script, and directs the action. But I must act. I must perform. I walk and God directs my steps. If I choose.

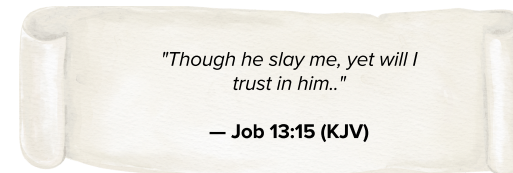
God has granted me agency, my own free will, the opportunity to screw my life up as I see fit. Or can I learn to accept His grace to transform my heart and mind to know MY life is in HIS hands?



I am in no position to judge God's purpose. For His ultimate purpose remains unrevealed, behind the scenes for now.

I can question it. I can lament it. I can even reject it. (The most important choice I will ever make.)

But the real question is...Do I trust myself enough to live inside the structure God has built?



THE **3** STAGES TO ACHIEVE **REQUITED LOVE**:

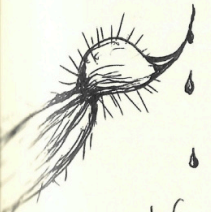


THROUGH DEATH, LIFE.

"THE STING OF DEATH IS SIN."  
- 1 CORINTHIANS 15:56

SIN

A DYING MAN HERE I STAND, WAITING.  
DEATH WILL COME FOR ME AS IT WILL COME FOR YOU.  
AND WITH IT, THE END OF **TIME**,  
AND THE BEGINNING OF...  
**FOREVER.**



def: **REMORSE** - [Latin: "remordeo" - to bite back, to gnaw or nag]

- 1 - THE KEEN PAIN OR ANGUISH EXCITED BY A SENSE OF GUILT; COMPUNCTION OF CONSCIENCE FOR A CRIME COMMITTED.
- 2 - SYMPATHETIC SORROW; PITY; COMPASSION

Q. WHAT SINS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE VICTIMS WILL VISIT ME WHEN THE FINAL CURTAIN FALLS AND AM ABOUT ME... DEEP BLACK DARKNESS?

**PRAY**  
WITHOUT  
CEASING

- NO ONE LIVES BEYOND THE GRASP OF GOD'S GRACE.
- WE HAVE CAST OUT THE CONCEPT OF HELL FROM OUR CULTURE. SO WHAT TITEN IS THERE TO **FEAR**?

"REJOICE EVERMORE.  
PRAY WITHOUT CEASING.  
IN EVERY THING GIVE THANKS; FOR THIS IS  
THE WILL OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS CONCERNING YOU."  
- 1 THESSALONIANS 5: 16-18