



God's Provision - 2

Psalms 37:23-24 -- The steps of a man are established by the Lord; and He delights in his way. When he falls, he shall not be hurled headlong; because the Lord is the One who holds his hand.

Introduction

1. There are about three things people can do when they make a mistake. They can resolve that they will never make another, which is fine, but impractical. They may let their mistakes make cowards of them, which is foolish. Or they can make up their minds that they will learn from their mistakes, and so profit by the experience, and that if the situation comes their way again, they will know just how to meet it.
2. The solutions to problems are not necessarily found in new and brilliant ideas, but they are oftentimes discovered by making the old proven ideas work, such as: *Respect for the given word and the willingness to make sacrifices to attain a worthwhile goal.*

K. When You Sin

God is powerful enough to make things right if we but follow the power of His gospel and depend upon the work of His Son for redemption, justification and salvation.

Isaiah 59:1 -- Behold, the Lord's hand is not so short that it cannot save; neither is His ear so dull that it cannot hear.

Acts 3:19 -- Repent therefore and return, that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.

1 John 1:9,7 -- If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness... but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

L. When You Need to Grow Spiritually

As is evident in the world, growing up is hard to do. It requires the giving up of self and the preparation for handling life: present and eternal. No one but God can help here.

2 Timothy 2:15 -- Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a workman who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Philippians 3:13-14 -- ...but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God...

Colossians 3:1-2 -- If then you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on the earth.

M. When You Need Guidance

Where we need to go and where God wants to take us, no one but He can guide. No man can take you where that man has not himself gone, thus, in order to make it into God's presence, one must rely upon God to get you there.

Psalms 32:8 -- I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you.

James 1:5 -- But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

Matthew 7:7 -- Ask, and it shall be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you.

N. When You Need Help and Care

There are things in life that need to be accomplished and those things can be exhausting. In times of war, in times of construction, in times of caring for others, God can invigorate.

Psalms 37:5 -- Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass.

Psalms 55:22 -- Cast your burden on the Lord, and He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.

Hebrews 4:16 -- Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and may find grace to help in time of need.

O. When You Are ILL

It has been said that sleep is the best medicine. What is meant is that the wondrous body that God has given us has the recuperative powers to rebuild itself, to sustain itself, to fight off any disease that may assault it. But that is just the beginning, for God is still able to enhance that incredible ability in any way He sees fit.

James 5:14-16 -- Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick...

1 John 5:14 -- And this is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

P. When You Face Loneliness

Solitary people often develop a companionship of the mind, however, what is even better than a dual psyche, or an imaginary friend, is actual conversation with God.

Psalms 27:10 -- When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take care of me.

Isaiah 41:10 -- Fear not; for I am with you, be not dismayed; for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous hand.

Hebrews 13:5 -- Let your character be free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you."

Q. When You Are Persecuted and Suffering

The power of God is such that He can help an individual to actually rejoice in the conflicts that occur with this world. He can cause our love for Him to overcome all - joyously.

Matthew 5:10 -- Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Acts 5:41 -- So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name.

Romans 8:18 -- For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

1 Peter 4:12-13 -- Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing; so that also at the revelation of His glory, you may rejoice with exultation.

R. When You Are Sorrowful

When one is full of sorrow, as the term implies, God can drain the mind and heart and fill it with all the blessings of His grace so that one cannot help but be happily grateful.

2 Corinthians 6:10 -- As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

Revelation 21:4 -- And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying; and there shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.

S. When You Need Strength

The mind occupied upon the things of God is never fatigued; rather, it is spiritually sustained and empowered by the will of God. He is love, but also life and power.

Isaiah 40:29-30 -- He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength. But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

2 Corinthians 12:9 -- And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may dwell in me.