

THE GUIDANCE OF GOD

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What is guidance?

Often believers have a wrong understanding of the guidance of God. They think it implies mainly revelations and visions. They think it is mostly about God's predictive skills, God's ability to foretell what will happen next in the game of life! Of course, guidance has something to do with revelation but that is not its major significance. Guidance actually means "leadership", "direction", "management", "supervision", "control", and "regulation". To seek God's guidance is not about knowing what the future holds as such, it is a step you take when you want to surrender to the control and regulation of God. You will never experience the guidance of God on a constant basis unless He has become your Lord and Saviour, the One who rules in your affairs.

Barriers to Divine Guidance

Lack of repentance

2Chron 7:14 "if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Prov 1:28 "Then they will call on me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but they will not find me.

Lack of humility

Ps 25:9 The humble He guides in justice, And the humble He teaches His way.

Isaiah 57:15 For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

Lack of service

Ex 8:20 And the LORD said to Moses, "Rise early in the morning and stand before Pharaoh as he comes out to the water. Then say to him, 'Thus says the LORD: "Let My people go, that they may serve Me.

Malachi 3:17-18: "They shall be Mine," says the LORD of hosts, "On the day that I make them My jewels. And I will spare them as a man spares his own son who serves him."

Then you shall again discern

between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him.

Strange alliances

Ezek 14:3-5 "Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their hearts, and put before them that which causes them to stumble into iniquity. Should I let Myself be inquired of at all by them? "Therefore speak to them, and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Everyone of the house of Israel who sets up his idols in his heart, and puts

before him what causes him to stumble into iniquity, and then comes to the prophet, I the LORD will answer him who comes, according to the multitude of his idols, "that I may seize the house of Israel by their heart, because they are all estranged from Me by their idols." ' "

The Necessity of Divine Guidance

Divine guidance or the guidance of God as it is better known is a critical factor in the success or failure of a believer. By success, we do not just mean "earthly" success but more importantly "spiritual" success. Without the guidance of God, you cannot be greater than an overcomer in the challenges that you face in life. Victory is constant when God is leading, directing, managing, supervising, controlling and regulating your life! Ask Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Take a look at men and women of faith in the Bible. The guidance of God is crucial to the outcome of their battles. Hence, Isaiah writes as follows: "This also comes from the LORD of hosts, Who is wonderful in counsel and excellent in guidance." (Isaiah 28:29)

In Proverbs, the Bible speaks of Wisdom as that Divine Person who leads us through life victoriously. In the New Testament, we know that the Lord Jesus Christ is the Wisdom and Power of God. (Proverbs 8; 1Corinthians 1:22-24; 1 Corinthians 2:1-2; John 15:4-8)

The Nature of Divine Guidance

Divine guidance is a natural process, if we are in Christ Jesus. It is a process that fulfils what is written in the Psalms: "The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD, and He delights in his way." (Psalm 37:23) God is with us all the time through His Holy Spirit to guide us through all the situations of life. We are not alone in the journey of life, God is with us.

Practical Hints for Divine Guidance

- ❖ Seeking the face of God or inquiring of the Lord
- ❖ Leading a consecrated or anointed life
- ❖ Holding fast to the Word of God
- ❖ Gathering together with God's people