

Sermon ~ Sunday, June 21, 2020

Text: Probers 16: 9

KJV ~ "A man's *heart* deviseth his way: but **The LORD** directeth his steps."

NLT ~ "We can make our plans, but **The LORD** determines our steps."

BAS (The Bible in Basic English) ~

"A man may make designs for his way, but **The LORD** is the guide for his steps."

Title: "Dad, do you know GOD?"

Questions from our children can be *challenging*. Sometimes down right *frightening!*

Dad, when do you get paid? *Dad*, are you happy? *Dad*, are you proud of me?

Dad, what's one thing you wish you'd known when you were my age? *Dad*, how do you know if you've made the right choice in a life partner? *Dad*, what do you want us to always remember you by?

On this *Father's Day*, with all that *has* happened and this year 2020 *has* presented, what about this question? Is anyone asking this question?

"Dad, do you know GOD?"

The *Proverbs*, are *purposed* to teach how to *attain Divine WISDOM*, granted by **GOD** for *all* aspects of life. Most precise, **GOD is WISDOM!**

{ "A man's *heart* deviseth his way: but **The LORD** directeth his steps." }

Proverbs are *short, wise, repetitive* sayings, that if *applied* to daily life and if, one *obeys* its moral *instructions*, { "We can make our plans, but **The LORD** determines our steps." }

'no matter what you come *to*, they (*Proverbs*—**GOD'S WISDOM**) will get you *through!*'

GOD'S WISDOM has brought us through the 1950's and 1960's, one of the most *tumultuous* and *divisive* decades in World History; marked by The Civil Rights movement; the Vietnam War and Antiwar protests; political assassinations and the emerging 'generation gap.'

[President John F. Kennedy, Human Rights Activists-Malcom X, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; Politician and Lawyer-Robert Francis Kennedy were all killed over a period of 5 years . . .

urban riots, college sit-ins, massive rallies, protests, protests and more protests . . . and here we are 70 years later—Rayshard Brooks, 27 years old shot in the back... George Floyd, murdered at the age of 46 years old... 'Do Black lives Matter?' Or, any life Matter?

On this *Father's Day*, with all that has happened and this year 2020 has presented, what about this question? Is anyone asking this question?

"Dad, do you know GOD?"

Proverbs chapter 16, has many different subjects, but this one *text (verse)* within the *context*, "A man may make designs for his way, but **The LORD** is the guide for his steps", answers this question that is being raised,

"Dad, do you know GOD?"

* GOD, knows the heart of all people . . . “People may be pure in their own eyes, but **The LORD** examines their motives. (Proverbs 16: 2)

* GOD, controls all things . . . “We may throw the dice, but **The LORD** determines how they fall.” Our response should be, to *fear* and *reverence* **GOD** . . . “**GOD’S** unflinching love and faithfulness cover *sin*; evil is avoided by fear of **The LORD**.”

* GOD is Prudent: cautious, with fore-thought . . . Note Proverbs 16: 2, 25, “All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but **The LORD** weigheth the spirits . . . There is a way that seemeth right unto man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.” {Both verses show that man thinks a certain way of life is proper, but he does not consider **GOD’S WORD** which shows that his conclusions are wrong and lead to defilement and death. *Right* and *wrong* are determined by **GOD**. **GOD purposes** and man *plans* . . . Note Proverbs 16: 3, “Commit thy works unto **The LORD**, and thy thoughts [plans] shall be established.” Doings **GOD’S Will** result in your plans (thoughts) succeeding. Fighting **The Will of GOD**, and you will end up a loser (especially in Eternity, for in this life you may think you are succeeding). Note, Proverbs 16: 4, “**The LORD** hath made all things for **HIMSELF**; yea, even the wicked for the day of evil.” **GOD** created with a ‘*purpose*.’ Man may fight that ‘*purpose*’, but the ‘*purpose*’ will be fulfilled. Those who complain they have no ‘*purpose*’ in life have not learned about the ‘*purpose*’ in **The LORD’S** design. Note, Proverbs 16: 5, 18, “Every one that is *proud in heart* is an abomination to **The LORD**; though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished . . . “Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.” Pride does not go over well with **GOD**. Pride does not *promote*, but it will *demote*. We may build nice things, but **GOD** will destroy them *if* it is a symbol of pride. That destruction will not be hindered “though hand join in hand”.

Note, Proverbs 16: 29, 30, “A violent [wicked] man enticeth his neighbor, and leadeth him into the way that is not good. He shutteth his eyes to devise forward [perverse] things; moving his lips (compresses his lips, that is, he is silent, shutting his eye—evil shuts its eye and mouth to the consequences in order to deceive folk into evil) he bringeth evil to pass.” This is what evil does... Wicked people paint evil as good and shut the eye to any danger. Many have fallen for this tactic of evil and paid a terrible price.

“Dad, do you know GOD?”

Dad, with all that’s happening...

Since **GOD is GOD** and heaven *is* **HIS** dwelling place, **HE** has the right to decide how we can get home. Our opinions don’t change **HIS** decision or the reality of the situation.

What does **The SCRIPTURES** say?

JESUS was explicit: “**I AM The Way**, and **The TRUTH**, and **The LIFE**. No man comes to **The FATHER** except *through ME*.” (John 14: 6).

JESUS prayed to **HIS FATHER**, “And this is eternal life, that they know **YOU The Only True GOD**, and **JESUS CHRIST WHOM YOU** have sent.” (John 17: 3). Eternal life comes in no other way but this.

JESUS is The Only PERSON in history to have come from heaven to humanity: “No one has ascended into heaven except **HE WHO** descended from heaven, **The SON of Man**.” (John 3: 13)

JESUS is The Only PERSON to live a *sinless* life: “We do not have a **High Priest WHO** is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but **ONE WHO** in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without *sin*.” (Hebrews 4: 15)

[Others... Acts 4: 12; I Timothy 2: 5; John 3: 16; Romans 10: 9-11; John 10: 9; John 3: 36; John 1: 14; John 1: 1; John 3: 18; John 8: 24; Romans 6: 23; John 5: 23; John 17: 3; John 8: 58; John 3: 3; John 20: 28; I John 5: 20; Hebrews 4: 15; John 10: 30-33; I John 5: 11-12; John 6: 35; John 10: 30; John 11: 25; John 3: 16-18; John 14: 9; John 11: 25-26; John 6: 50-51 and on, and on and on...

“Dad, do you know GOD?”

WHO made the mountains, **WHO** made the trees?
WHO made the rivers flow to the sea?
And **WHO** sends the rain when the earth is dry
SOMEBODY bigger than you and I!

WHO made the flowers to bloom in the spring?
WHO made the song for the robins to sing?
And **WHO** hung the moon in the starry sky
SOMEBODY bigger than you and I!

HE lights the way when the road is long,
HE keeps you company.
And with **HIS LOVE** to guide you,
HE walks beside you, just like **HE** walks with me.

When I am weary, filled with despair,
WHO gives me courage to go on from there,
And **WHO** gives me faith that will never die,
SOMEBODY bigger than you and I!

Bigger than you and I!
Bigger than you and I!
SOMEBODY bigger than you and I!

(Written by Johnny Langer and recorded and released by The Ink Spots, 1951)

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