

THE



"The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest" (Luke 10:2)

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TRUST IN THE LORD

Lt. Col. Jeff Patton served as a pilot in the United States military. On the night of operation Desert Storm, he was called in to escort a group of bombers to northern Iraq. Soon after crossing into Iraq, his F-15 fighter jet was locked onto by an Iraqi Surface missile. He violently maneuvered his aircraft to break the enemies radar lock on him. He successfully broke the lock, but in the process became disoriented. He mistakenly thought that his plane was climbing upwards, when in fact his instruments were reading that he was in a complete

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nose dive. To make matters worse, he was currently flying in complete darkness and could not tell if he was right or wrong, or if his instruments were incorrect. Well, Lt. Col. Patton decided to trust his instruments and pull up out of the nose dive, ignoring the urge to level his plane, and dip the nose down. This action of trust in his plane's instruments saved his life. In fact, he missed crashing into a mountain by only 2000 feet. Lt. Col. Jeff Patton trusted his instruments over his own instincts and thoughts. Proverbs 3:5 tells us to: "*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding*" (NKJV). The instruments in a plane tell the pilot which direction to go in, the location of the plane, even if flying in total darkness, and if any obstacles are in their path. In the same manner, Christians must look to the Lord and trust Him. Just as Lt. Col. Patton trusted his instruments over his own instincts and understanding of the situation, Christians should always trust in the Lord and not lean on our own instincts or understanding.

While the instruments in a plane tell the pilot which direction to go in, God gives us our direction. The Lord should be our guide as we navigate our way through life. Isaiah 58:11 says,

The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your soul in drought, and strengthen your bones; you shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail. (NKJV)

You see, whenever we have a decision to make, or an opportunity to take, we must trust in Him to be our compass - pointing us in the right direction to fulfill His will for our lives. We must do this without leaning on our own ideas or trusting in our own plans of how we think things should happen. God's way is always right, even

though it is often different than our own plans. When He points us in a certain direction, we must trust that it is His will and it will turn out for our good. As a sophomore in high school, I will have to choose which college to attend within the next two years. I will have many options, and I will have to trust in the Lord to guide me to the right place using his word, the Bible, prayer, and the advice of my fellow Christians.

The instruments in a plane tell the pilot the location of the plane even if it is in complete and total darkness. God is our light in the darkness. By trusting in Him and following Him, we will always find our way. Psalms 18:28 says, *"For You will light my lamp; The Lord my God will enlighten my darkness"* (NKJV). When experiencing sorrow, temptation, loss, or other times of darkness in our lives, we must look to His word. It is the light that will lead us out of the darkness. Psalms 119:105 says, *"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path"* (NKJV). God will illuminate our way with his word, and lay out a path for us to follow. Trusting in the Lord is a righteous path and the one which leads to eternal salvation.

The instruments in a plane tell the pilot if there are any obstacles ahead of him that he would hit. God helps us overcome obstacles that we face in our life. He guides us through them, over them or around them. In John 16:33, Jesus says, *"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world"* (NKJV). By trusting in God and following his Holy commandments, he will help us overcome life's obstacles.

In fact, James 1:2-4 tells us,

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the test-

ing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. (NKJV)

If we are truly trusting in the Lord, and not in our own understanding, we can even consider it a blessing when we are faced with obstacles because we know God uses trials to strengthen us, teach us patience, and produce endurance.

The instruments in a plane tell the pilot which direction to go in, the location of the plane, and if any obstacles are in their path. In the same manner, Christians must look to the Lord and trust Him, for direction, for illumination, and guidance through tribulations. Proverbs 3:5 says, "*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding*" (NKJV). Just as a pilot reads and studies his instruments during flight, we, being Christians, must read and study God's word. Lt. Col. Jeff Patton's story illustrates the concept of trusting in something other than your own thoughts and instincts. God wants us to reach everlasting glory, heaven, and we as Christians must trust in him to direct us on our way there.

MICHAEL PETRUZELLA
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APOLOGIA

QUESTION: Where did the Catholics find the thirteenth chapter of the book of Daniel?

ANSWER: Not only do the Roman Catholics place in Daniel a thirteenth chapter, but my copy of the Douay-Confraternity Version (a Roman Catholic approved translation of the Bible) also contains a chapter fourteen. These two additional chapters are from *The Apocrypha*, a collection

of books not accepted by us as authentic; that is, not inspired or authorized by God. The term "apocrypha" means hidden. Such have appeared in various number and form throughout the centuries either included within or listed separately from the accepted text of the Bible.

In the Roman Catholic version these are the books added:

- Tobit
- Judith
- Wisdom of Solomon
- Baruch
- Ecclesiasticus (Sirach)
- Prayer of Azariah and Song of the Three Holy Children (included as Daniel 3:24-90)
- Susanna (included as Daniel 13)
- Bel and the Dragon (included as Daniel 14)
- 1 Maccabees
- 2 Maccabees

Through the centuries there has appeared a number of other books, as well as these, which we do not accept as inspired because of various reasons:

1. Such were not written in the Hebrew language and were not accepted or listed among the 39 books which comprised the Old Testament. Many were purported to have been written during the 400 silent years between Malachi and Matthew, a period in which no inspired writings were made.
2. No recognized writer of either the Old Testament or the New Testament referred to any of them, as they did to so many of the accepted books.

3. They include doctrines contrary to that revealed in the recognized books, such as the doctrine of purgatory (2 Maccabees 12:43-45).

The Roman Catholic version includes several of these unauthorized books. Esther has added to its ten chapters an addition to chapter 10 plus chapters 11 through 16. Daniel, which has already been noted, has two additional chapters added. Other such additions and changes are made in the Roman Catholic version.

In addition to *The Apocrypha* there has appeared at various times other books known as *Lost Books of the Bible* and such like titles. All such are to be viewed with suspicion. Books inspired by God are very evident by their style and content and are often referred to by Jesus and other inspired men in their writings. These inspired writings do not conflict in doctrine.

Among those writings unacceptable as inspired, some do serve as excellent history. 1 Maccabees, which covers a period a little over a century before Christ is one example. Although not included in *The Apocrypha*, the writings of Josephus, who lived in the First Century and who did not claim to be inspired, wrote an excellent history of the Jews. Many books written after the era of the apostles are available even today and are known as *Anti-Nicene Fathers*. Some of these authors personally knew the apostles or at least knew those who did know the apostles, but they did not claim to be

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inspired. Another grouping of books and of later date are known as *Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers*. These record history and doctrinal matters of the church in following centuries, but it is evident from their writings that disciples of Christ were influenced by surrounding society and became increasingly more digressive.

It is indeed best, and much more pleasing to the heavenly Father, if we accept and remain obedient to the written word which He Himself directed in its writing and has protected in its purity through the past three thousand five hundred years of opposition from Satan. Note Peter's affirmation, "*We have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty*" (2 Peter 1:16).

HARRY COBB
(Wedowee, AL)

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. What did Joseph's brothers do to cover up that they sold Joseph into slavery?
2. Who was the fourth person in the fiery furnace along with Daniel's friends?
3. What was Jonah found doing on the ship while the storm was raging?
4. What animals did Jesus cause to run into the water and drown?
5. What does James say we should do if we lack wisdom?

Gospel Meetings

DATES	PLACE	SPEAKER
May 3 - 5	Van Lear Van Lear, KY	J. D. McDonald (Woodbury, TN)
May 6 - 10	Fairview Near Mt. Vernon, KY	Joe Hill (Hager Hill, KY)
May 10 - 12	Hopkinsville Hopkinsville, OH	J.D. McDonald (Woodbury, TN)
May 12 - 15	Ashlock, KY Near Celina, TN	Wilbur Bass (Opelika, AL)

...and remember last month's questions?

1. What was David's occupation before he became king? SHEPHERD (1 Samuel 16:11)
2. Which small body part "boasteth of great things"? THE TONGUE (James 3:5)
3. What tragedy did Jacob think had happened to Joseph? AN EVIL BEAST HAD DEVoured HIM (Genesis 37:33)
4. How was Daniel protected from the lions in the den? AN ANGEL SHUT THEIR MOUTHS (Daniel 6:22)
5. Who rolled away Jesus' tomb stone? AN ANGEL (Matthew 28:2)