

Pastor Ron Case
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“The Search”

“You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.” (Isaiah 26:3)

In Gold I Trust

2 Chronicles 16:1-6 – (1) “In the thirty-sixth year of the reign of Asa, Baasha king of Israel went up against Judah and built Ramah, that he might permit no one to go out or come in to Asa king of Judah. (2) Then Asa took silver and gold from the treasures of the house of the LORD and the king’s house and sent them to Ben-hadad king of Syria, who lived in Damascus, saying, (3) ‘There is a covenant between me and you, as there was between my father and your father. Behold, I am sending to you silver and gold. Go, break your covenant with Baasha king of Israel, that he may withdraw from me.’ (4) And Ben-hadad listened to King Asa and sent the commanders of his armies against the cities of Israel, and they conquered Ijon, Dan, Abel-maim, and all the store cities of Naphtali. (5) And when Baasha heard of it, he stopped building Ramah and let his work cease. (6) Then King Asa took all Judah, and they carried away the stones of Ramah and its timber, with which Baasha had been building, and with them he built Geba and Mizpah.”

God’s Search

2 Chronicles 16:7-10 – (7) “At that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah and said to him, ‘Because you relied on the king of Syria, and did not rely on the LORD your God, the army of the king of Syria has escaped you. (8) Were not the Ethiopians and the Libyans a huge army with very many chariots and horsemen? Yet because you relied on the LORD, he gave them into your hand. (9) For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him. You have done foolishly in this, for from now on you will have wars.’ (10) Then Asa was angry with the seer and put him in the stocks in prison, for he was in a rage with him because of this. And Asa inflicted cruelties upon some of the people at the same time.”

The Trust Test

Job 1:7-11 – (7) “The LORD said to Satan, ‘From where have you come?’ Satan answered the LORD and said, ‘From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it.’ (8) And the LORD said to Satan, ‘Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright

man, who fears God and turns away from evil?’ (9) Then Satan answered the LORD and said, ‘Does Job fear God for no reason? (10) Have you not put a hedge around him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. (11) But stretch out your hand and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face.’”

Job 13:15 – “Though He slay me, yet I will trust in Him...” (NKJV)

Job 31:24-28 – (24) “If I have made gold my trust or called fine gold my confidence, (25) if I have rejoiced because my wealth was abundant or because my hand had found much, (26) if I have looked at the sun when it shone, or the moon moving in splendor, (27) and my heart has been secretly enticed, and my mouth has kissed my hand, (28) this also would be an iniquity to be punished by the judges, for I would have been false to God above.”

In whom or what do I put my trust in?

“Thus says the LORD: ‘Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.’” (Jeremiah 17:5-8)

“Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God. They collapse and fall, but we rise and stand upright.” (Psalm 20:7-8)

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(ESV used unless otherwise noted)