**He That Trusteth In His Own Heart Is A Fool**

Prov 28:26a reads "He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool." I am afraid a lot of believers are trusting in their own heart instead of trusting in God and his word.

I’ve heard some say “I know in my heart I’m saved” even though they haven’t really done what the Bible says to do to be saved. That is not the way one knows he is saved:

* I John 2:3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.
* I John 2:4 He that saith, I know him, & keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.
* I John 2:5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

So the way we know we are saved is by keeping his commandments, not by some feeling we have in our heart.

When it comes to relying on our feelings, the story of Joseph being sold into slavery provides an interesting test case. Joseph’s brothers tricked their Dad Jacob into thinking Joseph had been killed by a wild animal and Gen 37:34 says “And Jacob rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his loins, and mourned for his son many days. And all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted; and he said, For I will go down into the grave unto my son mourning. Thus his father wept for him.” So Jacob felt in his heart just like his son was dead, but Joseph wasn’t dead. This proves our feelings are not necessarily reliable. How we feel is based upon information that could be false. We should not trust in our own heart as Prov 28:26 teaches. Only information from the Bible is completely reliable.

We know we have become a Christian not by our feelings, but when we have done what God says to do to become a Christian:

* Mark 16:16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved …
* Acts 2:38 Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Have you done that? Then you know you have been saved. If you haven’t, then you know you are not saved.

God gives us a conscience to help guide us in doing right, but if our conscience has not been trained properly by the word of God, then even our conscience can lead us astray. Paul provides a case in point:

* Acts 9:1-2 “And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, … that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.”
* Acts 23:1 “… Paul … said, Men & brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day.”
* Acts 22:16 “… arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”

Prov 14:12 reads “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.” So we can’t go by what seems right to us. We can’t go by what we feel or what we think. We go by the Bible only.

As an example of a believer who is trusting in their own heart instead of in God and his word, I have had a number of women tell me the Holy Spirit called them to preach. How could the Holy Spirit tell a woman to preach from the pulpit in the church service when the Holy Spirit wrote the following?:

* I Cor 14:34-35 Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience as also saith the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.
* I Tim 2:11-12 Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.

Any woman who says God told her to preach in church is obviously trusting in her own heart, because she is not trusting in what we all know God said in his word.

Prov 28:26a says "He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool." Instead of trusting in our own heart, we should trust what God’s word says. John 17:17 says “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth,” and only that truth will set us free from sin (John 8:32).

That is why I offer the one hour phone Bible study. Instead of trusting in our own heart, our feelings, our think sos, we should trust in God. And that means trusting in his word and what it says. If we study the Bible together, by phone, then both of us should end up with a better grasp on God’s word.