

RELIABILITY

Can I Be Counted On?

November 10, 2024

Proverbs 21:5—*The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty.*

Genesis 6:14-22—*“So make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. This is how you are to build it: The ark is to be three hundred cubits long, fifty cubits wide and thirty cubits high. Make a roof for it, leaving below the roof an opening one cubit high all around. Put a door in the side of the ark and make lower, middle and upper decks. I am going to bring floodwaters on the earth to destroy all life under the heavens, every creature that has the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons’ wives with you. You are to bring into the ark two of all living creatures, male and female, to keep them alive with you. Two of every kind of bird, of every kind of animal and of every kind of creature that moves along the ground will come to you to be kept alive. You are to take every kind of food that is to be eaten and store it away as food for you and for them.”*

Noah did everything just as God commanded him.

AM I RELIABLE? ASK YOURSELF 3 QUESTIONS

1. Can God count on me?

Spiritual Dependability

Genesis 6:22—*Noah did everything just as God commanded him.*

1 John 2:3-6—*We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. Whoever says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.*

2. Can others count on me?

Relational Responsibility

Proverbs 25:19-20—*Like a broken tooth or a lame foot is reliance on the unfaithful in a time of trouble. Like one who takes away a garment on a cold day, or like vinegar poured on a wound, is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.*

Proverbs 22:1—*A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold.*

Proverbs 26:18-19—*Like a maniac shooting flaming arrows of death is one who deceives their neighbor and says, "I was only joking!"*

Proverbs 26:23-28—*Like a coating of silver dross on earthenware are fervent lips with an evil heart. Enemies disguise themselves with their lips, but in their hearts they harbor deceit. Though their speech is charming, do not believe them, for seven abominations fill their hearts. Their malice may be concealed by deception, but their wickedness will be exposed in the assembly. Whoever digs a pit will fall into it; if someone rolls a stone, it will roll back on them. A lying tongue hates those it hurts, and a flattering mouth works ruin.*

Matthew 5:33-37—*Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.' But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by heaven, for it is God's throne; or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. All you need to say is simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.*

3. Can I count on me?

Personal Accountability.

Philippians 4:8—*Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.*

John 8:44—*...When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.*

Proverbs 12:14—*From the fruit of their lips people are filled with good things, and the work of their hands brings them reward.*

See also James 2:17-18

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All verses quoted in New International Version unless otherwise noted.

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