

# TRUSTING GOD

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One of the most difficult things for Christians to learn is to trust God—that's why it's so important to learn to develop your faith. Without strong faith you will never trust God. Because of the faith movement that began in the '70s many of us were privileged to sit under some very anointed teachers—the decade of the '70s was also the decade that the Spirit of God was emphasizing and restoring the Five-fold office of *Teacher* to the Church. Most churches today don't want teachers; they want a prophet for “one power-packed service”; however, in case you haven't noticed, these one services are normally not “power-packed.”

There can be no doubt we are living in the Great Falling away Paul wrote about—the apostasy of church that precedes the unveiling of the Antichrist. Yet the Spirit of God is still working with those churches and Christians—the true Church—that have not fallen away.

Today I want to share some things from heart with you about trusting God that I know will help you, especially in the area of trusting Him for finances. Finances seems to be the area today that few Christians trust God at all. This is evidenced by the fact that only 3% of Christians obey the Lord in tithing, not to mention offerings and alms—the other two areas of giving that are New Testament. Based on the vision the Lord gave me in December, 1989, while I was preaching in Akure, Nigeria, I know this is one reason why many Christians are in lack in the area of finances.

This week I've been spending some time with my #11 journal from 1999 because I am working on finishing *Revelations from God, Vol. II*. In December of 1999 I read the biography of Amy Carmichael and I'd encourage you to read it if you've not done so, especially if you're a woman. The Lord sends us a lot more women in ministry than He does men—about 10:1 and I know one reason is because so many women are told that it's unscriptural for a woman to preach. Well, it was much worse in Amy Carmichael's day. She was not only a great missionary that God used mightily but also a poet. I always find it such a blessing to read about the lives of saints of God—especially missionaries who leave the comfort of the Western world to go to barren places. Now, we're the “barren places”; there's not much rain falling on America these days and almost none on the U.K. where Amy was from (Ireland). Even as I picked this book up today, the Spirit of the Lord came upon me.

Another reason I found Amy's life fascinating is because of the way she trusted God like Hudson Taylor, George Muller and others, for finances. Like Hudson Taylor Amy would never allow the DF (Dohnavur Fellowship) she founded to ask for money; mostly she requested prayer although they would ask for clothing, blankets, etc., for the children. She believed this was the Divine Pattern showed to her and, as I wrote in my journal, “reinforces this same faith and pattern for the finances of CCI.

Hudson Taylor said, “God's work done God's way will never lack for finances” and his ministry was the pattern God showed us as well as from the life of the Apostle Paul this “Divine Pattern” Amy spoke about.

I wrote, “Because her methods and what she called “holy living” conflicted with other missionaries she was often criticized as being judgmental but she was not; she simply felt she and those she led were called to live that way. But the truth is those who rely on “gimmicks” and “peddle” the word as Paul said are contrary to Scripture.

“There is probably nothing sinful about sending out an appeal letter as long as it is factual and honest but I don’t believe Jesus, Paul or Peter would ever do such a thing today.

“Paul did exhort giving for the sake of the poor, especially the poor Jews at Jerusalem but we do not find his letters full of financial appeals for himself and I don’t find any offering envelopes in any of his letters when I open my Bible.

“After Jesus sent the disciples out and told them to ‘take nothing,’ He asked them if they lacked anything and they replied, ‘Nothing.’

If we believe the Word then we too will trust the Lord and be obedient when He sends us on a mission trip or across state.

Some of her quotes: “I don’t wonder apostolic miracles have died. Apostolic living certainly has.” “Satan is so much more in earnest than we are—he buys up the opportunity while we are wondering how much it will cost.”

“I could not buy a soul at the cost of sacrificing the truth.”

Perhaps one of her most famous quotes is about the life of missionaries:

“If it were possible to poll all the missionaries who have worked in all the world in all of Christian history, it would be seen that missionary work, most of the time, offers little that could be called glamour. What it does offer is a chance to die.”

Amy Carmichael knew the meaning of Galatians 2:20 and she trusted God her whole life. How about you? Are you trusting God for everything and has He proven faithful? He’s given all of us a “chance to die” for Him; are we taking Him at His Word?”

Evelyn had a vision many years ago; we were both in Heaven and we were sitting at a small table with Jesus after the end of this Age. He leaned across the table and said, “It was worth it wasn’t it!”

Yes, it is worth it. Everything you've done and everything you can do between now and then will pale in comparison to the blessing you will bring to the Kingdom of God and those you bring to the Lord. Paul speaks about this:

“For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh  
For us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.”

■ 2 Cor. 4:17

I want to encourage you to do something that will bless you and help you in your spiritual walk. I'm going to ask you to pray the following prayer:

“Holy Spirit, you are the Great Teacher of the Church—you live inside me. I repent for not being more sensitive to you—in not making quality time to seek You and your will for my life. Precious Spirit, I know I've not always trusted you and most of the time I missed your leading but I'm going to ask You to forgive me. Help me to hear your Voice and to follow You more closely—to trust you. Now I'm asking you to speak to me and tell me what you'd have me to do so that I can bless You, the Lord Jesus and the Father by being obedient and trusting You in whatever you ask me to do. Thank You for speaking to me and trusting me to be obedient. Amen.”