**CAN GOD PUT HIS CONFIDENCE IN YOU!**

***SCRIPTURE READING…1 JOHN 5:14.. And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:***

***BELOVED, AS I READ THIS SCRIPTURE A WORD CAME TO MY MIND THAT NEEDS TO BE CORRECTLY UNDERSTOOD…..THE WORD “CONFIDENCE”***

***We all have great confidence in God in many areas of our lives….***

***Our health ,Our finances, Our prayers, Our protection, Our provisions etc. etc.***

***But can God have Confidence in us!!!!***

***According to Miriam-Webster’s dictionary it means the following….***

**a** **:** a relation of trust or intimacy

**b** **:** afaith or belief that one will act in a right, proper, or effective way in having

 *confidence* in a leader

**c.** **: reliance** on another's discretion or having a vote of confidence IN SUCH A ONE!

***When put in a sentence form….***Her parents had complete ***confidence*** in her ability to succeed.

***It also means…to depend upon or place a certain dependency on something or someone!***

**There is much talk these days about dependability and depending upon others for your welfare and well-being and survival. Some people cannot help but being dependent upon someone else.
In such cases the caregiver also needs to be dependable.**

**THE QUESTION ON THE TABLE THIS MORNING IS ….HOW DEPENDABLE ARE YOU TO OTHERS BUT ESPECIALLY TO GOD!!!**

**CAN GOD DEPEND UPON YOU!! Or CAN GOD PUT HIS COMPLETE CONFIDENCE IN YOU???

Can He Depend On Man?
DO WE REALIZE THAT MAN IS THE AGENCY THROUGH WHICH THE LORD DOES HIS WORK IN HIS CHURCH UPON THE EARTH?**

 **Many believe and teach that it’s the Lord who does all the work necessary and no dependence is placed in man at all.
But this is not so, the Lord has told man to go out and preach the gospel, baptizing believers for the remission of sins.
He has also told believers to be baptized.
Since this is true, can we truthfully say the Lord can depend upon us to do these things?

Can He Depend On You?
THE BIBLE GIVES US A LIST OF PEOPLE THAT GOD COULD DEPEND UPON:
Such as: Enoch -- Abel -- Job -- Noah -- Abraham -- Moses -- Joshua -- Gideon -- Samuel -- David --Peter -- Paul –James, John, Timothy and many others.**

**The Lord had work to be done upon the earth and He could depend upon these people to do it.**

 **There are also apostles, prophets, preachers, elders, etc. that the Lord has depended upon down through the ages.**

***Ephesians 4:11-16. 1And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;12For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:13Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:14That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;15But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:16From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.*
Can He Depend and Rely On You?**

**Let us look at some people the Lord is depending upon, and see if you meet His requirements.**

**PREACHER -- Can He depend upon you:**

 **To preach the word 2 Timothy 4:*22Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine.***

**Can He depend upon you To live the gospel as well as preach it? *(Galatians 2:20) 20I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*
ELDERS: Can He depend upon you:
To feed the flock of God that is among you taking the oversight thereof?**

***(Acts 20:28) 28Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood***

**Can He depend upon you :To guide them and lead them on to those upper and better pastures? To keep the congregation as pure as possible?

DEACONS: Can He depend upon you:
To be subject to the elders and carry out your assigned duties as deacons?**

**TEACHERS: Can He depend upon you;
To prepare yourself well for every class? To show forth your life, by “Walking the Talk and being consistent with that which you teach in your class? In other words are you willing and ready to teach classes that people may be edified and built up in the most holy faith?**

***Ephesians 4:16 16From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.***

***(1 Timothy 4:12) 12Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.*
BROTHER AND SISTER IN CHRIST: Can He depend upon you… to carry on in the worship and services of the Lord in the church of the Lord as the Apostles once did?**

 ***(Acts 2:42). 2And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.***

**Can He Depend on You…to be an influence for good, both in your work and in your play?**

***Matthew 5:14-16 4Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.15Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.16Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.***

**Can He Depend On You.. To Bear fruit to His name's Honor and Glory?**

***Romans 7:4 4Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God. God depends on all of us to bring forth fruit that will remain!***

**Can He Depend On You To Bring up you children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?**

***Ephesians 6:4 4And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.***

 **Can He Depend On You to Walk in the light as He is in the light?**

***1 John 1:77But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.***

 **Can He Depend On You to Pray, study, meditate, visit the sick, relieve and comfort the needy?**

***James 1:27; 27Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.***

***James 5:13-16 3Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.14Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:15And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.16Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.***

**Can God depend on you to assemble with the saints at the appointed times set aside for Bible studies and worship?**

***Hebrews 10:25. 25Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.***

**Beloved, Many expect God to be dependable, yet the same many come to serve Him only at their own convenience?
Can God Depend on you….To arrive on time and conduct yourself decently, orderly, and quietly in His presence? As in…..**

**(*1 Corinthians 14:40) 40Let all things be done decently and in order.***

 **Can God Depend on you?…To sing praises and not sit with your mouthes closed?**

***Colossians 3:16… 6Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.*
Can God Depend On You?
 To lead the church in singing to the best of your ability when called upon to do so?**

**A lead singer in a church once made the following statement……**

**“The greatest joy that I have ever know, is praising Him in song, I know some day when I have older grown, my voice will not be strong; but if good seed for Jesus I have sown, then with angels I belong!!”**

**Can God Depend on You,
To lead congregational prayer so that others might be able to hear and understand and be able to say amen?
Can God Depend On You?
To listen attentively and respectively to the preaching and teaching of the Word of God?
To partake of the Lord's Supper in reverence and respect with meditation, discerning the body of Christ?**

***1 Corinthians 11:23-2623For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread:24And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.25After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, this cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.26For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.***

**Can God Depend on You
To keep your children with you and keep the noise down to a minimum? Children really do not bother me—at least, they are hearing and learning something all the time.

IN CLOSING….
NOW, THAT YOU HAVE HEARD THIS MESSAGE, CAN THE LORD DEPEND UPON YOU TODAY TO FULFILL HIS TRUST IN YOU?
Is there one person here today that has never named the name of Christ, one who has not been baptized into Christ for the remission of past sins, today I ask you this question Can He depend upon you, to obey the first principles of the oracles of God that you might become a Christian?
You can obey these principles by:**

**Hearing the Word of God, (Romans 10:17). *17So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.***

**Believing the Word and in God, (Hebrews 11:6*). 6But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.***

**Repenting of your sins, (Acts 2:38; 17:30*). 38 Then Peter said unto them, 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.***

**Confessing that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, (Matthew 10:32,33*). 32Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.33But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven.***

**Being Baptized in water for the remission of your past sins, ( Acts 22:16).*16And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.***

**LET US HEAR THE CONCLUSION TO THE WHOLE MATTER**

**God has proven HIMSELF dependable.**

**Can you say the same about yourself?
If not, it is time for a change in your life.
Can He Depend And Put His Full Confidence In you?**