

Firm Foundation

3-20-22

2 John 9 (ESV)

Everyone who goes on ahead and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God. Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son.

We have a “Firm Foundation” that we may be complete and equipped for every good work; The Scriptures; The Bible! The teachings of Christ and the Scriptures go hand in hand. If we do not hold to these teachings, the Scriptures declares that we do not have God. However, if we hold to these teachings of Scripture, we have God the Father and Jesus Christ the Son.

2 Timothy 3:16–17 (ESV)

¹⁶All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Scripture is breathed out of the mouth of God. Moving forward in the foundation of the Scriptures means we are moving forward with God the Father and Jesus Christ the Son. Thus, we live like Abraham the man of faith:

Hebrews 11:8 (NIV)

By faith Abraham, when called went

We abide in God through internalizing the Scripture. If we move forward without consulting the Scriptures, we are running ahead of God.

Back to 2 John 9 the word “go on ahead” literally means “go in front of”. A paraphrase of this phrase could be, “Everyone that advances in bold confidence beyond the limits set by the Scriptures.” These are the people who go ahead of God.

These people often think of themselves as progressives, modern, or philosophically and theologically up-to-date.

Today these progressives are redefining social justice and Biblical Christianity. In doing so these people often have left authentic Christianity and here in America are undermining the Constitution. **Thus, through progressive ideas there is a danger of no longer having God.**

With the Scriptures as our Firm Foundation, Christians walking with God should have Christ’s teachings so internalized that our “normal actions” are always influenced by God producing a natural godly way of life.

We don’t want to go ahead of God! Also, we need to look at the other side of the coin. If we know what to do and do not do it that also is sin.

James 4:17 (ESV)

So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

Idleness, or not making a decision can be as bad or worse than making a bad decision. Some of us are in great anxiety now. We are thinking, “I don’t know what God wants or what the Scripture is saying about my situation!”

Don't be anxious, God will always intervene. God is just saying walk with HIM and consult HIM. **IF GOD IS NOT GIVING US A STRONG PROMPTING EITHER WAY, HE IS SAYING THAT OUR NATURAL THINKING PROCESS IS ON TRACK!**

Therefore, after consulting God, God is saying move in the natural mind HE have given you. **However, acting without consulting God is presumption.** In Numbers 14:43-45, God told the Israelites to go into the land of Canaan and the Israelites disobeyed God. Therefore, God told them they would wonder in the desert 40 years. Then they presumptuously said, "Oops, sorry we will go and take the land." God says, "You did not consult me, I am not going to help you."

Numbers 14:43–45 (ESV)

⁴³ Because you have turned back from following the LORD, the LORD will not be with you." ⁴⁴ But they "presumed" to go up to the heights of the hill country, although neither the ark of the covenant of the LORD nor Moses departed out of the camp.

⁴⁵ Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites who lived in that hill country came down and defeated them and pursued them.

Acting without "consulting" God is presumption. Presumption is also idolatry! An idol is anything you put before God. In 1 Samuel, Saul carried out a mission for God, but instead of destroying everything as God told him, Saul brought back some of the best things as an offering to God. **Samuel confronts Saul concerning his presumption.**

1 Samuel 15:22–23 (ESV)

²² And Samuel said,

“Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices,

as in obeying the voice of the LORD?

Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice,
and to listen than the fat of rams.

²³ For rebellion is as the sin of divination,
and presumption is as iniquity and idolatry.

Because you have rejected the word of the LORD,
he has also rejected you from being king.”

Going in front of God is sin and rebellion which moves us into Satan’s territory. **Presumption is like idolatry because we put our own reasoning ahead of God.**

Don’t be anxious! When Christians “consult” God, HE will guide us. If God is not giving us a strong promoting one way or the other, say Halleluiah! God is saying your natural thinking process is on track. **THEN MOVE FORWARD WITH WHATEVER IS IN YOUR MIND. God is totally immersed in our lives and doesn’t just show up on special occasions.**

We are on a Firm Foundation!

1 Corinthians 2:2 (ESV)

For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.