

# WHAT SEEMS RIGHT

There is so much information available to us today. Seemingly anything you may want to know is just a Google search or Siri query away. Do you want to know how to be rich? There are tons of books written about it. Want to be famous? There are Youtube videos to show you how. Recently, I saw an audition on a TV talent show in which a young man described himself as a "Social Media Influencer." I don't remember that being listed as a major when I went to school.

The world has its ideas for success and what someone needs to do to attain it. God, through his word, gives us a very different (some might even call it counter-cultural) picture of what success, satisfaction, and happiness involve. Whom am I going to trust and to whom will I listen to determine the ideas and beliefs by which I will live?

Psalms 5 shows us the difference between a righteous God and those with earthly motives. Am I going to seek God (Matthew 6:33) or will I allow the world to squeeze me into its mold (Romans 12:1-2)? I should be seeking wisdom and instruction from God. I should be letting God tell me what is good and what is not good. I should love the things that God loves, and I should also hate the things which God hates.

In verses 1-3, we see Godly Communication. If you want advice, who is the first person you ask? I wish I could still ask my dad for advice. He was a kind and gentle person and the most generous man I have ever known. He was never rich by American standards, but I never saw my dad refuse to give out of his own pocket to anyone who asked him for help. If human parents know how to give good gifts, how much more will our Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him (Matthew 7:11)! We need to ask him and watch and wait.

In verses 4-6, we see Godly Intolerance. They show us that there are things that God does not like. The writer uses strong language to describe how God views and will ultimately deal with wickedness - hate, destroy, and abhors. This should serve as an example to us not to be involved with nor condone those who are involved with such things.

In verses 7-8, we see Godly Instruction. We should respect and fear the LORD above and beyond anyone or anything in this life. We trust in him, therefore our loyalty and obedience belong to him. We look to him, by his word, to lead us.

In verses 9-10, we see Godly Judgment. Even if the world seems to get it right sometimes, its motives are not pure. The adversary may feed you a little truth so you will swallow the lies that he is giving you. In the end, the truth will be vindicated, the lies will be exposed, and the rebellious and the guilty will be judged.

Finally, in verses 11-12, we see Godly Protection. If you want true peace, take refuge in God. If you want to know and experience authentic joy, love the LORD with all that is in you and do what is best for others. The LORD will bless you and cover you with his favor!

Greg Surles