

Steps of a Good man

We do not have to go through life blindly and concerned. We have promises from God's word of His willingness and ability to direct and lead us. I have been meditating on this and I always trust that the Lord is ordering and directing my steps. When I pray I ask the Lord to do this.

Psalm 37:23-24 The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. ²⁴Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand.

- a) Steps = Ways
- b) Who is a good man? One who has believed on Jesus is a good man. A good man in the eyes of the Lord is not one who does good PERIOD. One's goodness begins with faith in the Lord.

Romans 3:12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

- c) Ordered = set up, Directed, led, guided
- d) Notice that when and as we delight ourselves in the Lord, He orders our steps. To delight is speaking of being pliable, and soft toward the Lord.
- e) The benefit of delighting ourselves in the lord in the context of Him ordering our steps is that our hearts are soft and yielding toward the Lord to the point that we can hear and be led by Him easily.
- f) Being led by the Lord does not mean that we will always do things perfectly. Sometimes we are led by the Lord, but we still screw up along the way and the Lord knows that

though we fall, we will not be completely cast down because the Lord who orders our steps is right there with us upholding us with His Hand.

Psalm 85:13 Righteousness shall go before him; and shall set us in the way of his steps.

- a) God set us in the way of His steps. Psalm 37:23 says our steps while this passage says it is his steps. So, which is it? It is both. Our steps when led and directed by the Lord are His steps.
- b) Psalm 37:4 Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Another example is, when the Lord gives us the desires of our hearts, it is speaking of His desires in our hearts that He gives us and puts in our hearts.

Psalm 119:133 Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

Are you wondering how the Lord orders your steps? The primary way is through His written Word. He orders our steps in His Word.

- a) Proverbs 11:3 The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.
- b) Proverbs 11:5 The righteousness of the perfect shall direct his way: but the wicked shall fall by his own wickedness.
- c) Proverbs 11:6 The righteousness of the upright shall deliver them: but transgressors shall be taken in their own naughtiness

Psalm 121:3,8 ³ He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.
⁸ The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

Proverbs 11:5 The righteousness of the perfect shall direct his way: but the wicked shall fall by his own wickedness.

Proverbs 16:1, 9 ¹ The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD. ⁹ A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.

- a) Notice that preparation is our part and responsibility. When we do, the Lord does his part of giving us the answer of the tongue. This is true also in ministering God's Word.

A minister cannot claim that the Lord will give him what to say in that hour. NO! He is going to be disappointed or operate in the flesh. If he wants God to flow with him and in him, he has to prepare.

- b) When we prepare, God directs and orders our steps.
- c) Verse 9 or Proverbs 16 rehearses what verse one says and adds that the Lord directs our steps, but this is qualified by "A man's heart deviseth his way." Meaning a man has the responsibility to plan his way, but yielded and dependent upon the Lord.
- d) 2 Chronicles 12:14 And he did evil, because he prepared not his heart to seek the LORD.
 - i) This passage reveals that we have the responsibility to prepare our hearts to seek the Lord. The Lord does not do that for us, but as we set on this journey, He directs, orders, our steps, and gives us the answer of the tongue.

1 Samuel 2:9 He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail.

- a) The way the Lord keeps our feet is by directing and ordering our steps.

Jeremiah 10:23 O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.

- a) Jeremiah knew this, do you? He knew that the way of man was not in Himself, and it was not the doing of man to direct his steps. It was the Lord. An understanding of this will allow you to yield to the Lord to direct your steps.