



Now Thank We All Our God

We typically like to understand things, even holy things. Even when we know that we are pondering the supernatural, we want to “get” it. Despite the fact that we walk by faith in the One who does wondrous things and not by sight, we strive to figure everything out on our own. It is our nature.

And so, when we are perplexed, we struggle. We wonder what we have done wrong. We feel cheated. We demand answers.

The writer of Proverbs has famously advised us to trust in the Lord with all our hearts and lean not on our own understanding. We tend to read the first part of this verse and park there, meditating on the idea of trust. There is nothing wrong, of course, with focusing on the need to trust God, but we should not ignore the second part of the verse. The reason we should not lean on our own understanding is that our understanding is flawed.

We fail. We sin. One of the consequences of the fall is that we do not see things as we could have.

We do not know everything. We do not even know most things. One of the consequences of being human is that we are limited.

Some things have not been revealed to us. Even Jesus, as He walked on the earth as a human, said that there were things He did not know, things that were reserved to the Father alone.

So it is no surprise that we can be – and frequently are – perplexed. This world, with all its ills, is strange and scary and complicated and contradictory. People lie and double-cross and just make mistakes. Our own minds fail us.

We are thankful to our God, not because He gives us a diagram and a roadmap and a schematic (in fact, He often does not), but rather because He is near us. He guides us. For we cannot find our own way. Faced with the world, we are perplexed. Faced with the earth over which He reigns and faced with us and our frustration, He is love. He is eternal. He is creator. He is not perplexed.

It is cliché. I do not know what the future holds, but I know who holds the future.

How wonderful that when we are confused, He will guide us. When we pay attention to the writer of Proverbs and trust our God, when we acknowledge Him in all our ways, He in fact directs our paths. There is no promise that He will explain everything to us on this side of Heaven, but there is a clear promise that our God, who has blessed us from the second we were in our mothers’ arms, will lead us. He will show us the way.

Thank Him for that.

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