Daily Devotional, February 26, 2021

"A Way that Seems Right to a Man", (Proverbs 14:12, NKJV)

"There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death." (Proverbs 14:12)

This truth is so important that God inspired Solomon to record it again two chapters later in Proverbs 16:25. Every single day, we are faced with decisions. Will we go to the left or to the right? Will we take this job or that job? Will we go to church today or not go to church today? Will we go to this place or that place? Will we keep company with this person or that person? Will we put ourselves in a position where we are likely to sin but think we are above sinning in that situation, or will we flee from the temptation and not even go there?

The natural man; that is, the unsaved man, will use human reasonings to make life choices. God is not in any of his thoughts, nor can He be, for "the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned" (1 Corinthians 2:14). So he will go about his life bumbling around, either making entirely foolish decisions, or making decisions considered prudent as the world turns. But they will not be godly decisions, because motive to please God and honor Christ is absent.

The spiritual man; that is, the blood bought Bible-believing Christian, has access to the counsel of God the Holy Spirit as he makes his decisions. The Christian in fellowship with God operates in Christ, "not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual" (1 Corinthians 2:13). But there is such a thing as the believer who has taken back his own will, and uses the liberty of Christ as an excuse for vice.

When your way seems right, consider if it is God's way. Pray. Compare the ways to the Bible. Maybe you have a decision to make right now. And if you are still feeling confused or lost, don't go "right" but left. Go God's way.