

How Do I Understand God's Providence Better?



"God not only orders our steps, He orders our stops."—**GEORGE MULLER**

"The mystery of providence defies our attempt to tame it by reason. I do not mean it is illogical; I mean that we do not know enough about it to be able to unpack it."
— **D.A. CARSON**

"Our Lord God doeth work like a printer, who setteth the letters backwards; we see and feel His settings, but we shall see the print yonder—in the life to come."—**MARTIN LUTHER**

These words of counsel are in no particular order, yet they spring from a combination of the Old Testament, the New Testament, experience, Christian history, and solid Christians from the past.

1. Embrace that the Christian life is not lived on explanations, but by faith in the promises of God. (*Heb.10:38-39*)
2. Study the attributes of God. (*Jer.9:23-24*)
3. Survey the cross of Christ. (*1 Cor.1:18*)
4. Study the doctrines of grace. (*Heb.13:9*)
5. Apply the doctrine of sin. (*1 John 3:4; James 4:13-17*)
6. Invite and pursue correction. (*2 Tim.3:16-17*)
7. Prepare to be humbled. (*Job 42:1-6*)

Babbie Mason put doctrine to music in the words to her well-known song, "Trust His Heart." Meditate on these words as you conclude in prayer:

All things work for our good
Though sometimes we don't see
How they could
Struggles that break our hearts in two
Sometimes blind us to the truth

Our Father knows what's best for us
His ways are not our own
So when your pathway grows dim
And you just don't see Him,
Remember you're never alone

God is too wise to be mistaken
God is too good to be unkind
So when you don't understand
When don't see His plan
When you can't trace His hand
Trust His Heart

He sees the master plan
And He holds our future in His hand,
So don't live as those who have no hope,
All our hope is found in Him

We see the present clearly
But He sees the first and the last
And like a tapestry He's weaving you and me,
To someday be just like Him

God is too wise to be mistaken
God is too good to be unkind
So when you don't understand
When don't see His plan
When you can't trace His hand
Trust His Heart

He alone is faithful and true
He alone knows what is best for you

God is too wise to be mistaken
God is too good to be unkind
So when you don't understand
When don't see His plan
When you can't trace His hand
Trust His Heart

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Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture references are from the New American Standard Bible: 1960, 1962, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman Foundation.