



What a fellowship, What a joy divine

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”

–Proverbs 3:5-6

The title above is the opening line from “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”. If there was a reason to trust in Jesus, it seems “fellowship” isn’t what immediately comes to mind. How is that? Isn’t faith just between God and me? Isn’t it a private thing? How does fellowship relate into this?

There are two ways to translate this. The first one is that the fellowship is between God and me. But is that what the author of the song meant? If that is the case, it brings a whole new light to grace and our relationship with God. It means our relationship goes beyond God and creation and obedience and disobedience. So many people miss the fact that God wants more than just our obedience. It is important to note though that God does want and expects us to obey Him but it shouldn’t stop there. He wants fellowship with His children. Just like parents want with their children. God wants a relationship (fellowship) with you and me. Does your time with God involve this?

The second way to take this is on a more horizontal level. I cannot imagine my faith and “leaning” without the encouragement and help from my brothers and sisters in Christ. This idea of trusting God about the things we don’t understand gets messy and difficult. We become weak and troubled and are unable to accomplish many things for Him because of our lack of faith (See Mark 6:5-6). But when we have someone that is there to help us through these times, we are able to build our faith. We are able to “lean on the everlasting arms”. When we fellowship with other Christians, we are able to stand “safe and secure from all alarms”. It is wonderful to know that I am not alone in growing my faith. It is amazing to fellowship with “fellow heirs” on the journey.

So maybe it’s both. A vertical fellowship. A horizontal fellowship. Grow in both. Grow in grace. Grow in faith. Then you will “lean” with more fellowship and joy.

From My Heart,

Billy