

him ask God who gives generously ~~wixxoxk~~ to all without fault, and it shall be given him. But when you ask you must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like the wave of the sea, rolled and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord. He is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does." After making a decision, step out, be conquering. God is leading.

You do not know the distant results but if you decide in the light of all the material you can get, and if your mind is filled with the Scripture and an understanding of God's purposes as far as you can, you can trust God to work things out.

Number twelve. Be ~~xxxxxxxk~~ content with results. If you are quite content it is God's will and you go to Afganistan, and you go there and are a martyr He might use your martyrdom as a means of bringing thousands to Christ. I don't think we should intentionally go where the dangers are serious. But as you make the best plans you can under the situation, God will work out His perfect will, and it may be utterly contrary to what you would expect. But you should be content if you have made your decision in line with your best study of His Word and the best understanding of the situation, and the best knowledge of your own abilities. Distant matters are unknown to us, but they are known to God.

Number thirteen. When you have made the decision and proceeded to act, look to God to over-rule if necessary. I don't think we should make our decisions on the basis of whether there is an open door or not. The door can be shut, or opened by the devil as well as by God. The open door does not tell you what way to go. But if you are going in the wrong way, God can shut the door so completely you cannot go further in that direction.

So if your mind is made up in the light of the best information you can get, you go forward in that direction and you believe that is what God wants you to do. If the results are not what you expect you believe that He will do His perfect will out of it, but He may completely shut the door and make it impossible for you to go further in that direction.

God works in our lives in ways we never dream of. We can know that if after studying His Word, and studying all the factors, we make a wrong decision -- a decision that is not His will -- He can overrule and cause that it be made evident to you that this is wrong.

I don't think this will often happen if your decision is made carefully in the light of the Word, but I think we should recognize it as a possibility and it should help us -- the knowledge that God can and will do better -- to go forward with trust and with faith in that which we have decided after careful study of His Word, careful study of all the facts involved is the decision that God wants us to make. Let us pray.

Father we thank you for Jesus that he paid the terrible thing of going to the cross, that He was ready to make a decision that produced our salvation. Quiet our hearts and help us forget the selfish feelings, the pride that can so easily beset us. Help us to know your word so it is a part of our very being so you can lead us.