When we look around at the world today, it is a lot different than it was even 10 years ago. Mor ally and spiritually, we have degraded and have gone in a wrong direction, or in a direction that God has said that we should not go!

Many times we pray and when God does not answer our prayers, right away, we ask either 1) Why not God, or even worse, 2) Are you there God? Let me remind you God is not bounded by time.

The last book of the Old Testament, Malachi, and the first book of the New Testament, Matthew, over 400 years lapsed. That is a long time, or so it seems. But when you compare it to what Peter says in 2 Peter 3:8, a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years, like a day with the Lord, it is really only a few hours.

So what can we do when we are in doubt about God? Consider what God's word says:

Picking up on the verse after 2 Peter 3:8, Peter tells us in verse 9, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

God makes good on his promises. He gave Noah the rainbow in Genesis after he supernaturally flooded the earth and said that the rainbow is a sign of the covenant or promise that He made with Noah. Each time we see the rainbow after it rains, we should be reminded of that promise God made to Noah.

Many times we are concerned if we are going to get something to eat or even something to drink. Jesus tells us in Luke 12:29-31, "And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind." For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you." Many times we don't have our priorities right. From what Jesus told us, we should seek God and His righteousness, first and foremost, and all the things we physically are in need, NOT WANT, will be provided.

We doubt God sometimes because we don't always know His ways. Let me remind you of what the prophet Isaiah said **Isaiah 55:8-9**

"For *as* the heavens **are** higher **than** the earth, so **are my ways** higher **than your ways**, For **my** thoughts *are* not **your** thoughts, neither *are* your

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ways my ways , saith the LORD."

His ways and thoughts are greater than our ways and thoughts. That does NOT give us reason to doubt!

We can take God's word to the bank, and have no doubt in doing so. Again, in Isaiah 46:10, 11 Isaiah reminds us that "My counsel will stand, and I will do all my pleasure: I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it."

Lastly, after Jesus resurrection he came back to visit with his disciples, Jesus told the Apostle Thomas when he would not believe that it was Jesus returning unless he saw his holes from the nails on the cross. Jesus said in John 20:26-29: "And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God." Jesus then responded: "Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." Thomas believed, because he saw! If Missouri had been a state back then, I am sure Thomas would have been one of their first residents!

"As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the Lord is tried: he is a buckler to all those who trust in Him." Psalm 18:30

As Christian's in Leadership, people will be looking to us for answers to questions that they may have. If we give the impression that we doubt God, how can we bring hope to those who are looking for hope? May I encourage you to be strong in the faith of our Lord Jesus? Be that light and let your light shine before men that God would receive the Glory.

If you have not yet accepted Christ as your Lord and Savior, won't you do so today? Paul says today is the day of Salvation, now is the accepted time. Ask Jesus for that courage, He will never fail you! Jesus reminds us, that

you have not because you ask not.



Born in Toledo, Ohio in 1964. Lynn Petersen graduated in 1986 from the United States Naval Academy and commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Navy. I Married the dream and love of my life, Alena, in 1987. Became the daddy of two great children in 1988 and in 1990. In

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April of 1990, my wife's uncle, a "Completed Jew" shared the Gospel of Christ with me, and I trusted in the blood atoning work of Jesus, and asked Jesus to forgive me of my sins and save me. In July 1991, Alena and I were baptized. Fast forward to 2012, having served as a church deacon, Sunday School teacher, and congregational song leader, we started ALL four HIM, a Southern Gospel Quartet. Lynn sings bass for the quartet and also plays the clarinet. It is a joy to sing unto the Lord to glorify HIM, and to encourage others with the Gospel of Christ.

My desire is to reach as many men, women, boys, and girls with the Gospel of Christ in message and in music so that they, like I have, can experience the rich joy and peace that passes all worldly understanding; that joy that is only provided by faith in Christ.

My life verse is Philippians 4:13. *"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."* Prov 3:5,6, 2 Chronicles 7:14, Psalms 41, Ephesians 2:8,9 and John 14:6, among others, are all verses that strengthen and encourage me.