

CHAPTER ONE

Introducing Luck's Controversy

What **luck** is, where it came from, and its true meaning, are going to become fully evident as we move through the pages of this book. **Luck** is a much-used word in our modern-day vocabulary. We hear this word over and over again. Good **luck** and bad **luck** are concepts we have known about from our youth. References to **luck**, being the direct cause behind this-and-that event, are as commonplace to us as the daily rising of the sun.

We have grown fully accustomed to hearing **luck** used by people in every segment of our society. We have heard it spoken by well-meaning friends and acquaintances. We have heard it spoken regularly by the average person on the street, but its use is certainly not limited to the “average person.”

No Such Thing As Luck

The word **luck** is also commonly used among teachers and professors, doctors and lawyers, authors and intellectuals, media commentators and journalists.

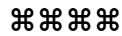
The use of the word **luck** has become so commonplace and acceptable that people rarely think seriously about its real meaning. The public's ear has become conditioned by having heard it so often. They have been "lulled to sleep" by its repeated use. Hardly anyone challenges this word; nor is there any sense of embarrassment for having uttered it. Start to train your ear and you will hear its insatiable use!

Actually, the credibility of **luck** is just assumed by a large segment of our population. They are not bothered or irritated by its having been used in their presence or in a conversation with them. As a matter-of-fact, the public at large has bought heavily into this word; they have fully accepted its concept. They have breathed it in, so to speak, and made it an acceptable part of their logic, but by speaking it casually, they validate its preposterous meaning. Occasionally, people appear to be clowning around, in lighthearted jest, with their use of this word; but more often than not, they seriously believe in **luck** with a truthful conviction. They are convinced that **luck** is real.

Sadly, the **luck** terminology we hear in our everyday lives is more than just idle talk. The concept of **luck** is embraced as truth by countless millions. They use it as if it were a truthful explanation for both catastrophic and favorable happenings. If their house burnt down, without any hesitation, they would explain that it was bad **luck**. If they won the lottery, they would attribute good **luck** as the cause. For some, it is an acceptable explanation of why bad things happen to good people, and of course, why good things

Luck's Controversy

happen to those who do not deserve it.



The varying context in which **luck** is used is almost unbelievable. Its use is extensive and far-reaching. It is used in figures of speech, expressions of belief, common sayings, and as we will see, in many other ways. In the next few pages we are going to highlight some of the popular ways in which **luck** is used. We are already familiar with many of these expressions and beliefs about **luck**. My guess is, you are accustomed to hearing most of them regularly. How often do you hear these common phrases and sayings?

Tough Luck	Best of Luck	Hard Luck
Good Luck	Out of Luck	Pure Luck
Blind Luck	Plain Luck	Push One's Luck
Beginner's Luck	Lady Luck	Wish Me Luck
Lucky	Worse Luck	Luck Upon
Bad Luck	Luck Into It	Lucky Dog

Notice how many different descriptive kinds of **luck** are listed above. You may know of others. I guess “rotten” **luck** is supposed to fit in at the bottom of the barrel, and with “pot” **luck**, you might get anything.

No Such Thing As Luck

Here are a few examples of how **luck** is regularly used as a figure of speech, metaphorically. The vast majority of us will be familiar with these sayings and what they mean.

<u>Saying</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
Better luck next time	an expression of encouragement
As luck would have it	beyond personal control
Try one's luck	to do something without being sure of the outcome
You can never know your luck	you can not be sure your luck will not change
Down on one's luck	hard circumstances
A little luck never hurts	added advantage
Devil's own luck	uncanny good luck
The luck of the draw	an expression of resignation to chance
Push your luck	go too far in an effort or activity
Just my luck	typical occurrence
Happy-go-lucky	easygoing - trusting in luck ¹

Luck's Controversy

These expressive figures of speech are not designed to be harmless, innocent sayings. Rather, they are designed to have an impact upon our thinking and believing. They are loaded with intent and purpose, and they are designed to teach, to instruct, and to motivate us.

The popularity of **luck** is vividly expressed in song titles and musical lyrics. *The Green Book of Songs by Subject* lists over fifty popular song titles about **luck**.² Here are just a few titles with which you may be familiar:

Luck Be a Lady Tonight
A Good Run of Bad Luck
I Feel Lucky Today
Luckie One
Some Guys Have All the Luck

Almost any category of contemporary, popular music will include lyrics about **luck**. Some examples follow:

From the musical, *My Fair Lady* – “with a little bit of luck.”

From the television show, *Hee Haw* – “if it weren't for bad luck I'd have no luck at all.”

From the popular hit song, *God Bless the USA*– “thank my lucky stars.”

From *People Who Need People* - “are the luckiest people in the world.”

From *Asleep at the Wheel* - “that lucky old sun.”

No Such Thing As Luck

References to **luck** seem to be particularly popular with songwriters of country music. Many of them like to utilize it as a “catch all” explanation. They use it repeatedly in their musical lyrics. They use it to explain practically every other misunderstood cause under the sun. Try humming some of these:

I Always Get Lucky with You

Just My Luck

I'm Just a Lucky So and So

Hard Luck Woman

Just Lucky I Guess

Running Out of Luck

Sometimes I Get Lucky and Forget

Luck in Love

Some Guys Have All the Luck

You Got Lucky

If I Were a Gambler I Might Have Better Luck

Hard Luck Stories

Till Good Luck Comes My Way

With a Little Luck

Twinkle Twinkle Lucky Star

Mr. Lucky

Luck's Controversy

Books about **luck** abound. The web site *Amazon.com* recently had a listing of over seven hundred books dealing with the subject, **luck**. Do you need “how-to-books” on this subject? Try these:

How to Make Luck
Luck Doesn't Happen By Chance
Make Your Own Luck
Seeds of Luck
Raise Your Luck High
Create Your Own Good Luck
About Your Luck
Dream Power: Improve Your Luck
Luck Builders
Luck is Where You Find It
How to Control Fate, Luck, Chaos, and Carma
The Fortune Telling Book: (Omens of Love and Luck)

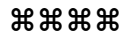
By and large, books that are written about **luck** support the concept. Those that denounce the idea are very few and far between.

References to **luck** abound in literature of all kinds: history, fiction, even science and religion. Evidently, there is no sense of embarrassment to journalists for having used this word in printed publications. As you can easily discover by reading your local newspaper, the word **luck** appears regularly, even daily, and often in several articles. It might not be possible to print the sports section of our newspapers without the use of it. Take a look for yourself; the word **luck**

No Such Thing As Luck

will pop out at you in this section of your newspaper right away. For example, in the sports section of our local paper the AP football writer, David Goldberg, started his football article: “In the modern NFL, the salary cap makes depth a matter of chance and luck.”³

By the way, have you seen any good movies lately? The recent movies, *Lucky Girl*, *Luckie Me*, *Lucky Lady*, *Lucky Seven*, *Luckie Numbers* and *Pure Luck* may not fit into the category of good movies, nevertheless, **luck** is one of their central themes.



Advertisers love to use the **luck** word. McDonalds Corporation’s 2003-Dollar Menu ad started off with the catchy little rhyme – “Got a Buck? You’re in Luck!” The Coca-Cola Corporation followed that same year with their ad campaign that began, “Hey, want to get lucky? The odds are in your favor!” Recently, in our Sunday paper’s insert, a California business advertised their fourteen-inch “Lucky Fairy” doll. For just two payments of \$12.49 and \$5.96 shipping, this supposed magical leprechaun treasure could be yours. (No thanks!)

Luck's Controversy

Proverbs and folk sayings about **luck** abound in the hundreds. Here are just a few to consider:

- ◆ Lucky men need no counsel
- ◆ Better to be born lucky than rich
- ◆ Lucky indeed is he who suffers no ill for one day
- ◆ Good luck reaches farther than long arms
- ◆ Good luck is easier to win than to retain
- ◆ If unlucky today, it will not be always so
- ◆ Lucky at cards, unlucky in love

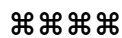
Here are a few common beliefs about **luck**. Maybe you have heard about, or even practiced, some of these:

- ◆ Knock on wood to take the bad luck off a brag.
- ◆ Try everything three times – the third time for luck.
- ◆ Get up and walk around your chair to change your luck at cards.
- ◆ Spit on your fishhook for luck, to make fish bite.
- ◆ Eat black-eyed peas on New Year's Day for good financial luck all year long. (Pork and sauerkraut in some circles)
- ◆ A bride wears something old, something new, something borrowed, and something blue, to bring good luck.
- ◆ Kiss a newborn baby for good-luck.
- ◆ If a ladybug lights on you, you will have good luck.
- ◆ Tossing a coin into a fountain brings good luck.

No Such Thing As Luck

References to **luck** are sometimes made in thoughtlessness. But, this is only true because, somewhere along the way, a conscious decision was made to adopt the validity of **luck**'s concept. Then, by using it again and again, a habit was formed. The choice to use this word usually reflects the believing stance, or position, of the user. They have chosen to use it because they have embraced its validity. For them, **luck** has become a valid explanation and expression of their reasoning.

While at the library working on this book, an acquaintance stopped at my table to say, "Hello." Our conversation centered on my writing to expose the fallacy of **luck**. When we finished our chat, my acquaintance walked away uttering these parting words, "Good **luck** on your book." I could not believe my ears, but there it was, right in my face. To me this was a prime example of the seemingly innocent habit of wishing someone good **luck**. Thanks, but no thanks! The choice of almost any other parting words would have been more encouraging. By the way, this was not an isolated incident. Similar conversations with others produced about the same result. People often have difficulty jarring themselves free of **luck** logic.



The term, "good **luck**," is the standard popular pronouncement on almost any activity where a good outcome is desired or hoped for. Its use is like a prayer, beseeching the force of **luck** for a blessing. We hear it daily:

Luck's Controversy

- ◆ Undertaking a difficult task – good luck!
- ◆ Looking for a job – good luck!
- ◆ Taking a test today – students, good luck!
- ◆ If luck smiles on us — the weather will be good for our picnic today.
- ◆ If we are lucky – we might catch fish today.
- ◆ If “Lady Luck” is with me - I will win the lottery.

Good examples of this common pronouncement can be heard in numerous contexts; for example, the television game show, *Jeopardy*. We might all fall off our chairs if Alex Trebek, *Jeopardy*'s host, failed to speak forth his wishful little prayer of “good **luck**” to his contestants as they start the game. In the sporting event of football, the game starts off with a coin toss, and then, inevitably, the referee offers what is essentially his prayer of blessing: “good **luck**, and may the best team win.”

Conversely, most any event with a disastrous or an undesirable outcome is explained by attributing it to “bad **luck**”:

- ◆ A slippery fall in the tub – bad luck!
- ◆ Loss of your wallet – bad luck!
- ◆ Lost your tennis match today – bad luck!
- ◆ My career is faltering – I'm just having bad luck!
- ◆ Rained on our picnic today – bad luck!
- ◆ Home burnt down – really bad luck!

The term **luck** is often used to explain the unusual, the odd, and the seemingly supernatural. Participants in sporting contests attach descriptive terms to **luck** constantly. Comments like: “that was a lucky shot, a lucky punch, or a

No Such Thing As Luck

lucky throw” are often heard. Sports commentators are perhaps the biggest offenders. They attribute almost any outstanding or unusual occurrence to some kind of **luck**. Utterances such as: “that catch was pure **luck**,” or “that race car driver is pushing his **luck**,” or “he’s down on his **luck**,” are not unusual to hear.

Luck is actively summoned. People actually pursue its blessing. In gambling activities, Lady Luck is the “big star.” Vast numbers of those who gamble believe she holds the power to make them winners, and they summon her help. Gamblers frequently carry a rabbit’s foot with them, or a special shaped (**lucky**) stone or other superstitious article they believe will bring “Lady Luck” to their side. (Later we will discover how **luck** came to be called a lady.)

Gamblers are not the only superstitious people who pray to **luck**. A large segment of our population believe rituals and magical charms can summon good **luck**. These are the people who wear **lucky** clothes or a **lucky** cap. They choose to sit in their same **lucky** chair. They perform little **lucky** rituals before the start of events in which they participate. People of this persuasion wear charm bracelets and other special objects such as talismans, which they believe have magical powers and will help to procure them **luck**’s blessing.

Individuals not only believe good **luck** can be summoned, they also believe bad **luck** can be warded off. People with this conviction wear amulets. Amulets are used to ward off and protect against evil. Those who believe bad **luck** can be warded off avoid the path of black cats; they avoid walking under ladders; they toss spilt salt over their left shoulder. They would never open an umbrella in the house. They

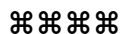
Luck's Controversy

believe that by wearing objects which possess magical powers, their lives are protected from ill **fortune** or bad **luck**.

There is a tremendous demand, year in and year out, for the Virginia Fairy Crosses, or lucky stones, for watch charms or locket to be worn as amulets against witchcraft, to prevent disease, or to avert misfortune generally.⁴

In passing, it needs to be pointed out, talismans (to bring good **luck**) and amulets (to ward off bad **luck**) are not only worn but are often displayed. A case in point is the rear-view mirrors of automobiles. Just take a look and you will see all kinds of objects: beads, medallions, Saint Christophers, tassels, dice, rings. This activity is not based upon an innocent, meaningless, cultural practice. This practice is based upon a belief in the effectiveness of these objects to secure the blessing of good **luck**, and to ward off bad **luck**, while people are traveling.

The Irish have built a sizeable part of their culture around claiming protection against bad **luck**. They are quick to lay the blame upon it when they believe it strikes their lives. Everyone has heard about “the **luck** of the Irish.” Their persuasions about leprechauns and shamrocks, and a host of other superstitious beliefs, are as current today as in earlier years. The movie, *The Luck of the Irish*, features a story of a teenager who must battle for a gold charm to keep his family from being controlled by an evil leprechaun.



No Such Thing As Luck

The ridiculous absurdity of **luck's** use goes on and on. Before we end our survey, take a look at the following hard-to-believe applications of this word in the marketplace:

The *Hi Continental Corporation* cans and distributes a product they call *Double Luck* green beans.

You can find the *Lucky Spa* massage parlor off Highway 75 near Tifton, Georgia, and the *Luckie 13 Truck Stop* on Interstate 10, near DeFuniak Springs, Florida.

You can order a *Lucky Angel Bingo Pin* from current gift catalogues.

Looking for toilettes? *Lucky You* fragrance sets are available from a firm by the name of *Lucky You*.

Need a mantel piece? Lenox markets a *Touch of Luck* elephant sculpture – it is 3½" H x 3" W.

The next trip to the grocery store remember to buy *Lucky Charms* cereal.

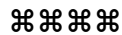
Lucky Craft Incorporated announced their new *Symbol VIB* fish lure in February of 2003.

Be advised – a Florida based company, "*B*" *Lucky Auto Sales*, has just the car they think you need!

I almost forgot, *Harriet Carter's* gift catalogue sells a black, 100% cotton tee-shirt with the following message printed in white and gold – *At My Age "Getting Lucky" Is Finding My Car In The Parking Lot.*

Luck's Controversy

Categories and context involving the use of **luck** are unbelievably numerous. Its use is prolific, but we have seen enough. Now it is time for us to get more serious about our use of this word.



Immediately, we can consider two aspects about **luck**. We use the term “good **luck**”, but we also use the term “bad **luck**.” Obviously, this makes the concept confusing and complicated. These two common concepts of **luck** are contrary to one another; it is not all-good, nor is it all-evil. These expressions are actually antithetical; they are set against each other. Essentially, **luck** is viewed as a fickle, flip-flop, haphazard force of action, working good and evil upon and around our lives. If this is true, all of us are in serious trouble!

We need to understand all that we can about **luck**'s fundamental concept and its true meaning. This is indeed the right time to start asking some realistic questions about our use of this word. Here are a few forthright questions that might help us to think more soundly about this subject:

- ◆ Is the force acting behind “good **luck**” the same as the force that acts behind “bad **luck**” or do we have two separate forces acting independently?
- ◆ How and why does **luck** choose whom it will bless or curse?

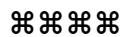
No Such Thing As Luck

- ◆ Why is bad **luck** visited upon the seemingly innocent?
- ◆ What is **luck** in its essence — is it a living entity?
- ◆ How did **luck** get started and from where did it come?
- ◆ Just how powerful are these supposed forces of good and bad **luck** — are they ultimate powers?
- ◆ Is God the bestower of **luck**?
- ◆ Does **luck** exist independent of God?
- ◆ Is the power of **luck** greater than God?
- ◆ Does **luck** control our lives, leaving us no recourse?
- ◆ Can **luck** make us successful, wealthy superstars?
- ◆ Can **luck** walk into our lives at its will to wreck us, crush us, take from us, and ultimately defeat us?

These questions deserve honest and forthright answers. We truly must have relevant and accurate explanations for all these questions. We need to know where and how the concept of **luck** got its start, but we also need to understand both why and how its teachings flourish today! The enlightenment of biblical understanding is going to provide the meaningful answers we are seeking.

Luck's Controversy

As we will soon see, the weight and enlightenment of God's Word deals with our subject authoritatively. By using God's Word and the testimony of history, we will now begin to focus upon and answer these serious questions. Our discussion of these important questions is designed to expose the pathetic claims and teachings that surround the subject of **luck**. People who desire an understanding in this category are going to have the opportunity to confront **luck** for what it truly is.



Maybe you have never seriously looked into the real meaning of what **luck** is all about and what it implies. As we are about to see firsthand, a careful examination of **luck's** teachings and philosophies are disturbing. By probing the various aspects of what is taught about **luck** (its doctrine) we are going to uncover strange, uncanny, and even bizarre reasoning. The boastful teachings of those who embrace **luck's** doctrine abound worldwide. Their sassy, outrageous claims and teachings need a long overdue truthful examination.

No Such Thing As Luck

Listen carefully to their suspicious teachings, and to their obstinate, boastful claims. Their outlandish claims about good **luck** say:

- ◆ Find a four leaf clover and **luck** will bless you.
- ◆ Carry a rabbit's foot in your pocket and **luck** will be there for you.
- ◆ Wear your **lucky** shirt today and you will win the game.
- ◆ Just cross you fingers and hold them there and **luck** will bless you eventually.
- ◆ Change your **luck** at cards by drawing a bridge under your score.
- ◆ Toss a few coins into a fountain and that will bring **luck** to your side.
- ◆ Stay with your **lucky** numbers and they will help you win the lottery.
- ◆ Nail a horseshoe to the top of your door and that will attract good **luck** to your life.
- ◆ Be sure to thank your **lucky** stars because they are out there and they are going to help bring good upon your life.

Luck's Controversy

Conversely, the disciples of bad **luck** have called out just as boisterously with their threats and intimidation. They say:

- ◆ Walk under that ladder and you are in for bad **luck**.
- ◆ The number 13 is mystical and evil so don't use it.
- ◆ If you spill that salt, you are in trouble.
- ◆ Avoid this and avoid that or bad **luck** will rain hurt upon you.
- ◆ Friday the 13th is, of course, bad **luck**'s day to curse and work havoc.

We have some potentially devastating problems here. If we have adopted the concept of **luck** and are using the terminology, surely that makes us subject to the ups and downs of life. If it is good **luck** we long to have, then we must wait for it to come to us. If it is bad **luck** we fear, then we must guard against the disastrous outcome looming just ahead. Our beliefs about **luck** push us around. **Luck** enters into our life, at its will, to control our good or to cast evil upon us. Where does this leave us? Who wants to be controlled and pushed around? No one!

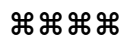
A confession of dependence upon "good **luck**" diminishes the personal responsibility and work required to bring a thing to pass. It leaves us standing on the sidelines

No Such Thing As Luck

waiting for **luck** to bring good upon our lives. The negative we have confessed is, “My personal work and accomplishments are not great enough, not sufficient, to get the job done.”

Again, where does confessing **luck** leave us? It takes away our freedom to control what is happening in our lives. We become helpless and powerless. By embracing the doctrine of **luck**, we have shifted our personal responsibility to something outside of our control. We have become docile, submissive, used and controlled. We have yielded to a supposed force of happenstance that chooses to bless us, or to condemn us at its will and fancy.

No one should ever be duped into crippling promises about **luck**. As we are going to see, all of **luck**'s promises add up to nothing more than empty, hot air illusions. Lusting after what **luck** promises diminishes the building of character and morality. Waiting around for the fulfillment of **luck**'s claims undermines discipline. Teachings about **luck** foster the “free-loader” mentality of getting something for nothing. The boastful doctrinal claims of **luck** also set forth instructions that advocate the use of magic and the practice of meaningless, ridiculous rituals.



It is important that we start to look behind **luck**'s promises of good and its threats of harm. We need to see the underlying motives behind its outrageous claims and intimidating threats and we need to aggressively dissect commonly

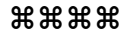
Luck's Controversy

accepted beliefs that surround **luck**. We also need to thoroughly examine the purposes and the intentions of those who continue to pawn off their vain beliefs for truth.

The fundamental claim of **luck** is power. **Luck** claims the power to bring benefits and to bestow blessings. It claims the ability to protect and to care for us, and claims the ability to supply our needs and wants. It also claims the ability to bring harm upon our lives. All these claims add up to something of great importance, if they are factual. If the assertions made by **luck** are true, we have an exalted god-force operating in and about our lives, and this force is not the God and Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ! This wayward doctrine is exactly what the proponents of **luck** are setting forth. They teach, "The god-force of **luck** is alive and operating in the universe today." However, their teachings are not new.

Throughout history, there have always been those who have stood up and proclaimed **luck's** truth. They say it is real, that it exists, and it operates either for them or against them. Our generation is no different. People today are still confessing these same beliefs about **luck**. They continue to teach the validity of its power. As we will shortly see, up until this very day, **luck** remains a controversial subject.

No Such Thing As Luck



Current controversial beliefs about **luck** are not harmless games or innocent jesting, nor do they concern questions of ignorance, as some suppose. The controversy that surrounds **luck** deals with something of vast importance. It is about the reasons and causes behind some of the critical events in our lives. A confession of **luck** ultimately centers on the important question of naming and explaining the forces operating about us, upon us, and ultimately even in us.

Luck claims the power to act and to bring great things to pass. The problem with this is the big claims and promises of **luck** stand in direct opposition to God, the Creator of heaven and earth. What is said and taught about **luck** stands diametrically opposed to what God has to say in His Word.

The controversy here is between those who choose to embrace and elevate the claims and promises of **luck** over the abiding certainty of God and what He has promised to us in His Word. God's promises are openly laid before us in the truth and accuracy of His Word. The testimony of countless thousands throughout the ages of history has been, "God is Faithful to His Matchless Word; What God has promised in His Word, He will do." God's promises to us are, "Yea" and "Amen". His promises are also to every individual, man, woman and child, without partiality. Any individual who becomes persuaded of God and acts upon His Word will absolutely receive the blessings God has promised. The reality of what God has made available to us can be appropriated by belief; our receiving equals our believing.

Luck's Controversy

An outstanding example of God's promises in the financial category is found in the Old Testament book of Malachi:

Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in Mine house, and prove Me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that *there shall not be room enough to receive it.*

Malachi 3:10

God's Word proclaimed to the Old Testament nation of Israel can be paraphrased this way: "Honor Me with your finances. Place Me, God, first in your hearts. Give to Me the proportion which I ask of you, and as you do so, I will pour out blessings upon your life, so much so, you just will not be able to receive it all. That is My promise to you; that is My claim; just give it a try and you will see it come to pass!"

Whenever Israel honored God's Word in this manner, they always prospered. They literally received what God had promised them. This same promise stands today for any individual who decides to put God to a personal test in the financial category. God makes a claim in His Word and He absolutely delivers to anyone who acts upon His Word. God is always faithful to His Word. He always performs His promises.

No Such Thing As Luck

God says of the man that delights in His Word:

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers
of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his
season, his leaf also shall not wither; and
whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Psalm 1:3

The Apostle Paul boasts of God:

But my God shall supply all your need
according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:19

The most fundamental knowledge and experience we have of God is that He cares for us. We humans do have needs. We need help which is outside of, and bigger than, our human capacities. We need to prosper and to be in health. We need protection from harm's way. We also need peace of mind, understanding, and guidance. God has both proclaimed and demonstrated what He will do to meet our needs.

The proponents and promoters of **luck** doubt God's Word. They have proclaimed, "**Luck** will supply, **luck** will protect." Consequently, this great controversy which surrounds **luck** is about belief. It centers on what, or whom, we choose to believe. Are we going to embrace God and His Word or will we embrace **luck** and that which is taught about it? The doctrinal claims of **luck** do not please God! Every aspect of **luck** contradicts God's Word. To confess a belief in **luck** is to countermand and deny God's Word. But, to believe God's Word is to toss the fruitless doctrines of **luck** behind us and to move ahead confidently with what God has promised.

Luck's Controversy

The following pages of this book are going to unravel the ongoing controversy that has surrounded **luck** throughout the ages. The goal for the chapters that lie ahead is to expose every pertinent aspect of **luck's** attempt to undermine sound thinking and believing. The negative, hurtful influences that emanate from the concept of **luck** are going to come to light. The reader is going to gain an understanding of just how extensively the doctrines of **luck** have permeated both historical and modern-day reasoning. Chapter Two will begin to trace the origin of **luck**.

¹ *The Oxford English Dictionary*, Second Edition, Clarendon Press., Oxford, s.v. "luck"

² Green, Jeff, *The Green Book of Songs by Subject*, 4th edition, Professional Desk References, Inc., Nashville, TN, pp.357-358

³ Goldberg, David, "In the Thin NFL, Depth can be a Matter of Luck", *Jackson County Floridan*, 9 Oct. 2001, p. 2B

⁴ de Lys, Claudia, *What's so Lucky About a Four-leaf Clover?*, Bell Publishing Co., NY, 1989, pp. 444