

## **“BY NO MEANS”**

### INTRODUCTION:

- A. There are a number of times in Scripture (NKJV) where the phrase “by no means” is used.
- B. Thayer defines this phrase as: “never, certainly not, not at all, by no means”
- C. Let’s look at some of these passages and draw some lessons from them.

### DISCUSSION:

#### **I. “ONE JOT OR ONE TITTLE WILL BY NO MEANS PASS FROM THE LAW TILL ALL IS FULFILLED” Matt 5:18**

- A. Jesus never intended to destroy but fulfill Moses’ Law Until it was fulfilled, even the tiniest dots and dashes would remain in force Matt 5:17; Lk 16:17
- B. Jesus is the end of the Old Law. Having fulfilled it, it is complete. It no longer applies Rom 10:4
- C. Having done what it was intended to do, bring people to Christ, the Law is no more. It is obsolete and dead Col 2:14; Gal 3:23-25; Heb 8:13; 10:9

#### **II. “WHOEVER DOES NOT RECEIVE THE KINGDOM OF GOD AS A LITTLE CHILD WILL BY NO MEANS ENTER IT” Mk 10:15**

- A. Entrance to God’s kingdom depends on childlikeness
- B. Child pure, innocent, free from sin. Sin not inherited Each responsible for behavior. Ezek 18:20; Rom 5:12
- C. Comparison to children only relevant in that children are lacking malice. In understanding, we are not to be childlike 1Cor 14:20
- D. Children should grow 1Pet 2:2
- E. Grown-ups acting like children, is sad 1Cor 3:1

#### **III. “HEAVEN AND EARTH WILL PASS AWAY, BUT MY WORDS WILL BY NO MEANS PASS AWAY” Lk 21:33**

- A. Even when the world is on fire, what Jesus said will remain true and relevant!
- B. The material universe will come to total annihilation, even the elements will melt away 2Pet 3:10-13
- C. God’s word abides, the standard of judgment when everything else is gone. 1Pet 1:25; Jhn 12:48

#### **IV. “WE WHO... REMAIN UNTIL THE COMING OF THE LORD WILL BY NO MEANS PRECEDE THOSE WHO ARE ASLEEP” 1Thess 4:15**

- A. May be confusion about order of events when the end comes, but comforting to know the living and dead will meet Jesus on the same day. 1Thess 4:13-18

1. To suggest the resurrection has already occurred will wreak havoc of faith. 2Tim 2:16-18
  2. Christ and His angels coming from heaven to punish evil and reward saints. 2Thess 1:6-2:12
- B. If Jesus has already come, Lord’s supper not valid 1Cor 11:26 and Christ no longer King 1Cor 15:23-28
1. Must quit breaking bread
  2. Must cease calling Him King.
- C. Lord’s return will match His departure, a physical, visible occurrence. Acts 1:9-11
- D. Christian’s hope is eternal salvation when Christ returns Heb 9:27-28
1. He went to prepare us a home that He might bring us with Him, not remain earthbound. Jhn 14:1-4
  2. The rest for God’s people “remains”; it is an as yet unobtained promise. Heb 4:1-11
  3. Hope is about unseen things. Rom 8:24-25

#### **V. “HE WHO BELIEVES ON HIM WILL BY NO MEANS BE PUT TO SHAME” 1Pet 2:6**

- A. Those with real faith have nothing to be embarrassed about.
- B. The gospel is not a source of shame. It is too powerful for that! Rom 1:16
- C. Amazingly, people who serve God, He is proud of! Heb 11:16
- D. Only sin causes shame, and that is an important shame to have, that repentance may follow. Jer 6:15; 2Cor 7:10

#### **VI. “THERE SHALL BY NO MEANS ENTER IT ANYTHING THAT DEFILES” Rev 21:27**

- A. Wickedness cannot be found in heaven.
- B. Sinners, of all varieties, will be excluded, unless washed, sanctified, and justified in Christ. 1Cor 6:9-11
- C. It is so obvious, as God reveals, what displeases Him, so none can blame their exclusion on ignorance. Gal 5:19-21

### CONCLUSION:

- A. We must recognize that God’s word is everlasting and we must come to understand it and become like little children in our disposition, but adults in understanding
- B. Our entrance into Heaven is dependent on our response to the everlasting word of God Jhn 12:48

(From a sermon by: Bryan Dockens revised by JLH)