

THE RIGHT COMBINATION

Jhn 4:23,24

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Right combination necessary in all walks of life: open locks, produce water (H²O), marriage, sports, etc.
- B. Right combination essential in religion. Jhn 4:24
 - 1. Spirit and Truth necessary to worship acceptably
 - 2. One can worship in spirit but not in truth (right state of \ mind but wrong action)
 - 3. One can worship in truth but not in spirit (right action but wrong attitude)
- C. Man is lost in sin Rom 3:23; 6:23 and has four different combinations from which to choose
- D. It is my responsibility as well as yours to choose the right combination for salvation

DISCUSSION:

I. WRONG ATTITUDE PLUS ERROR

- A. Many are in error because they do not want the truth Matt 13:13-15 (closed eyes, ears & heart) Matt 15:8,9
- B. Attitudes that accepts error today
 - 1. "One church as good as another" compare Eph 4:4
 - 2. "Everyone going to heaven different ways" Jhn 14:6
 - 3. "All honest & sincere are Christians" Mk 16:16
 - 4. "Makes no difference the name you wear" Acts 11:26
- C. Note Paul's warning about such 2Thess 2:10-12
 - 1. Error: lying wonders, powers, signs
 - 2. Attitude: did not love the truth
 - 3. Results: belief of a lie and damnation

II. WRONG ATTITUDE PLUS TRUTH

- A. One may have the truth but if his attitude is wrong he is condemned Matt 19:16-22 (rich young ruler)
 - 1. Attitude: prized material wealth above truth
 - 2. Had observed the letter of the law, but unwilling to put his heart into it by selling what he had
- B. Stephen's audience knew he spoke the truth Acts 7:1-60
- C. Individuals today know the value of practicing the truth but are unwilling to put their heart into service
- D. Apathy is a dangerous attitude: (*Note: In New York a mailman shot by a sniper, is ordered from a building lobby because he is dripping blood on the carpet. In Dayton, Ohio a dozen people see a woman drive her car into the river. They watch indifferently as the woman climbs on the car's roof and screams that she can't swim. The woman drowns. Because of so many such incidents, the Chicago Times library now has a special file tabbed "apathy".*)

III. RIGHT ATTITUDE PLUS ERROR

- A. One might be as honest and sincere as possible and still be in error
 - 1. Saul of Tarsus Acts 23:1; 26:9-11
 - 2. The Ethiopian Acts 8:26-29
- B. We recognize this fact in the field of medicine and many other secular fields
 - 1. Doctor, pilot, etc must pass a very rigid test
 - 2. Sincerity alone does not qualify

IV. RIGHT ATTITUDE PLUS TRUTH

- A. The Pentecostians Acts 2:5,37,38,40,41
 - 1. Were pricked in their hearts
 - 2. Wanted to know what to do
 - 3. After learning the truth, they then obeyed it
- B. Saul after hearing the truth Acts 26:15-19
 - 1. Who art thou Lord
 - 2. Not disobedient to the heavenly vision
- C. The Ethiopian Eunuch Acts 8:35-39
 - 1. Philip preached unto him Jesus
 - 2. What hinders me from being baptized
- D. The Bereans Acts 17:11,12 the right attitude caused the results
 - 1. With all readiness of mind (eagerness, rushing toward)
 - 2. Received the word i.e. the truth Jhn 17:17
- E. This is the right combination; the only one that can save
- F. If we expect to have salvation we must search for and then receive (obey) the truth

CONCLUSION:

- A. The Lord expects and demands that our worship be in spirit and in truth to be acceptable to Him
- B. In the same way He expects and demands that our obedience to Him be with the proper attitude and according to the truth or it is not acceptable to Him
- C. A person's attitude determines what he will or will not do
 - 1. What is your attitude toward truth?
 - 2. Are you willing to search it out, accept it and obey it from the heart? Rom 6:16-18