

WHY WE DO NOT SEE THE BIBLE ALIKE

Eph 3:1-5

INTRODUCTION:

- > A. Evident from religious world we do not see the Bible alike
- > B. Why? To many it's an unsolved mystery. Answer different to different people depending on motives, background, etc
- > C. Reasons today same as those causing rejection and crucifixion of Jesus by "righteous" people of his day
- > D. One body, spirit, hope, Lord, faith, baptism, and God Eph 4:4-6
- > E. Jesus prayed and Paul pleaded for unity Jhn 17:20-23; 1Cor 1:10-13
- F. If we understand Bible at all, must "understand" it alike

DISCUSSION:

> I. THE BIBLE CAN BE UNDERSTOOD

- > A. The Bible itself claims it can be understood
 - 1. Jesus said His word could be known Jhn 7:17; 8:31,32
 - 2. Bible is revealed that we might know 1Cor 2:11-13
 - 3. When we read we can understand Eph 3:4
- > B. God's justice demands the Bible can be understood
 - 1. Obedience to his will is necessary to salvation Matt 7:21-23; Jhn 12:48
 - a. Those who obey not are lost 2Thess 1:7-9
 - b. God's law same for all - no respecter Acts 10:34
 - c. Though we may not fully understand all things; all we need to know for salvation can be understood
 - 2. God is unjust if: He gave a law to be obeyed yet made it incomprehensible - unable to be obeyed
- > C. God's power assures it can be understood
 - 1. The gospel is God's power to save Rom 1:16
 - 2. If God had power to reveal the Bible 2Pet 1:20,21
 - a. Could he not make it comprehensible
 - b. Did he not have the power to preserve it
 - c. What point in history did God's power become so weak man was left to a garbled understanding of God's revealed will

> II. REASONS FOR THE CRUCIFIXION ALSO CAUSE OF REJECTION OF GOD'S TRUTH TODAY

- > A. Prejudice - Christ said some would not understand Matt 13:13-15
 - 1. Caused "religious" Jews to reject Jhn 5:39,40

- a. Saw miracles, heard parables, yet "ye would not." Matt 23:37-39
- b. Fault not with Jesus nor message but hearts and attitudes of hearers
- 2. Must guard against trying to make the Bible prove what we want it to 2Thess 2:11,12
- > B. Traditions of men
 - 1. Jews rejected Christ because he would not to conform To their traditions Mk 7:6-9
 - a. Following righteousness of men Rom 10:1-3
 - b. Led to crucifixion - did not come like Jews expected - royal apparel, great army
 - 2. Many in error today because of "inherited faith"
 - a. Follow human creeds - what men of past generations taught concerning religion
 - b. Parent's influence, want to be like parents
 - 3. Such are causes for not understanding Bible alike, yet the fault is not in the Bible
- > C. False teachers Matt 15:13-14
 - 1. Jesus constantly opposed by false teachers with hard questions trying to turn away multitudes Matt 22:34-40; 21:23-27
 - 2. Multitudes today are placing confidence in men who are false teachers 2Cor 11:14,15
 - a. Try the spirits 1Jhn 4:1
 - b. Changed is a perverted Gospel Gal 1:6-8
- > D. Ignorance and unconcern
 - 1. Had Jews know he was Son of God would not have crucified Him Acts 3:17; 1Cor 2:7,8
 - 2. Most people have good hearts, but have never investigated the Bible for themselves
 - a. We must be like the Bereans Acts 17:11
 - b. Makes difference what we believe Matt 7:21-23
 - c. We must seek to know Hos 4:6

CONCLUSION:

- > A. There are many reasons that enter into the cause of religious confusion in the world today
- > B. Failure to rightly divide the word, following opinions rather than revealed word, etc
- > C. Mostly can be carried back to reasons for crucifixion of Jesus (Prejudice; Traditions of men; False teachers; Ignorance and unconcern)
- > D. If we keep our attitude pure and sincerely search the Scriptures, we can know the truth and thereby save our souls. Jhn 7:17; 8:32; 17:17

Jhn 7:17 If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

2Thess 1:7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

Acts 10:34 Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:

2Pet 1:20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. 21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

Jhn 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. 40 And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.

2Thess 2:11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: 12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Rom 10:1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. 2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. 3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.

Matt 15:13 But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up. 14 Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.

2Cor 11:14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

1Jhn 4:1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

Gal 1:6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: 7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

Acts 3:17 And now, brethren, I wot that through ignorance ye did it, as did also your rulers.

1Cor 2:7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: 8 Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

Acts 17:11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

Matt 7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

Jhn 7:17 If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

DATES AND PLACES PREACHED

Pekin, IL 9-24-72 & 3-17-74

Thorn, MS 2-8-76 & 1-29-78

Malvern, AR 2-11-79 & 2-1-81

Ocean Springs, MS 12-12-82 & 6-23-85

TV Southern Blvd, AL 7-21-87

Wilson Dam Rd, AL 8-9-87

Piney Grove, AL 1-10-93

Mountain Home, AR 9-1-96

Trenton, TN 8-26-01;