

A meditation on Ecclesiastes 8:5/ This Morning:

PART ONE:

*Ecclesiastes 8:5 Whoso keepeth the commandment shall feel no evil thing: and a wise man's heart discerneth both time and judgment.*

In my mornings meditation of Ecclesiastes 8:5, I consider the verses below that begin to declare God's understanding of what it means to keep the commandment, to feel no evil thing, and to discern both time and judgment. Further, if Ecclesiastes 8:5 is not referring to the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ in its entirety, then, in all likelihood, this verse is being isolated from all of scripture, as it stands on its nineteen words alone. This, however, cannot be how God's faithful approach the Bible. So is it possible we might see how Ecclesiastes 8:5 relates to the true gospel:

*Deuteronomy 6:5-17 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. 6 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: 7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.*

*Leviticus 19:17-18 Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him. 18 Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD.*

Additionally, revealed with-in John 3:3-5 is how God's people keep the commandment to feel no evil thing, and to discern both time and judgment, *[to love not the world which is not their home], (1John 2:15)*; that is, they become born again:

*John 3:3-5 ... Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. ... 5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.*

When we become born again only then are we given the ability to obey the command as seen in Deuteronomy 6:5-17, and Leviticus 19:17-18, as well as all of God's word.

According to the scripture, the children of God who become born again, *[the wise]*, discern both time, *[ei, that they cannot remain on this earth]*, which is God's judgment. For the wages of sin is death ... (Romans 3:23). They discern time, in, that, this earth is temporary, and is NOT their permanent home. The aging earth, which has a beginning in Adam's sin, now, has an end in Jesus Christ, *[the last Adam]*, who is the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the end (Revelation 1:8). This is God's judgment structured and determined before the world began, and it is eternal (2 Timothy 1:9; Jude 1:4), which means it cannot be measured by man.

Because God has no beginning, and because God has no end, (Hebrew 7:3), 'time', which is an attribute of God's curse on mankind, is God's judgment for this earth. That is, the Law, and Time, and Sin shall not exist in the New Heaven and the New Earth (Isaiah 65:17). And it is in this context that time and judgment is understood as, 'WHILE IT IS CALLED TO DAY' (Hebrews

3:13). That is, while the gospel continues, [*while it is day*]; for the night cometh, [*the last day*], when no man can work (John 9:4).

In Revelations 10:6 God warns, that, following Adam's sin, the day must come *that there should be time no longer*. This day arrives each twenty-four-hour-day that hundreds of souls depart the earth in physical death – whether they were good or whether they were evil – judgment day has come for them. If they were good they were judged in the blood of Jesus Christ, as their stand-in, by the forgiveness of sin. If, however, they knew the word of God, but, remained evil, then they shall be judged according to Obadiah 1:16:

*Obadiah 1:16 For as ye have drunk upon my holy mountain, so shall all the heathen drink continually, yea, they shall drink, and they shall swallow down, and they shall be as though they had not been.*

This is a horrible judgment that God's faithful do not take lightly. And it is why they continually seek those who come out of the mire of this world as the Holy Spirit reveals it to them.

When Ecclesiastes 8:5 is understood as part of God's gospel proclamation to mankind, God is teaching, that, [*while on this earth*], the ungodly will feel the evil thing which is eternal damnation; yet, the faithful will not; for in the twinkling of an eye they shall be taken up to be with Christ in the air where they shall be with Him forever more (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

Eternal damnation for the ungodly is confirmed by the last day when God's elect are taken up, but the ungodly, [*the tare that were bundled to be burned*], are left behind to be destroyed with the earth. This is a Horrible reality that is going to happen! On 'this day' there is no longer the hope of God's mercy and love for those that did not become born again. This is God's ultimate and final judgment that is coming, and it is why God's ambassadors continue to witness the gospel that many might still become saved while it is called TO DAY.

A meditation on Ecclesiastes 8:5/ This Afternoon:

PART TWO:

Unfortunately, Ecclesiastes 8:5, the way some will interpret this verse, inevitably discredits the verses of the bible that also have to do with the true gospel. That is, Ecclesiastes 8:5 is thought to prove how time measures God's judgment and salvation via calendar dates. For the elect this cannot be so; for they are without beginning of days, nor end of life (Hebrew 7:3). From the 'time' they were born again 'time' ceased to be a consequence of their spiritual end. Certainly, however, time does measure mankind's earthly existence, and the signs that point to God's eternal judgment and salvation!

But Christ spoke in parables, [*signs, and seasons and days and years*], and without a parable He did not speak (Genesis 1:14; Matthew 13:34). But the parable cannot be the substance of God's eternal spiritual truth! It is a sign or season, or day or year that is pointing to an eternal spiritual reality. It is an allegory, but it is not the spiritual reality itself. If the sign were the spiritual reality there would be no need for the Savior who is Lord of all to be in His elect (1John 4:2-3)! Subsequently, God has warned those who seek

after a sign, (Mark 8:12); for they shall not receive what they are looking for – seeing it is according to their own work and their own understanding (Galatians 2:16; 1Thessalonians 1:3). That is, the act of spiritual work, faith and believing cannot be the cause of ones salvation, except it is Christ's work and Christ's faithfulness, that had been performed before the world began (Titus 1:2). This is very serious as it separates the true gospel from all other gospels. "Salvation is of the Lord".

The bible teaches, that, from the garden of Eden, all of mankind have fallen from grace, and that except the Holy Ghost saves and eternally abides in His chosen people, the soul that sinneth it shall die – eternally (Ezekiel 18:4; Romans 3:10, 23).

It cannot be an earthly measurement God is referring to in Ecclesiastes 8:5! Eternal damnation has no measurement, except by the Lord's eternal suffering which only Christ can know. Like wise Eternal life cannot be measured, except by the new life in Jesus Christ. It is in this context that Christ is the believers measurement (2Corinthians 10:13-14). And this measurement, *[the Lord Jesus Christ]*, is eternal, without beginning of days, nor end of life (Hebrews 7:3).

God's people discern time and judgment by God's eternal truth abiding in them; for they have been born again (John 3:3-5). An earthly calendar cannot reveal God's eternal truth. God demonstrates this with Lot's wife who had been warned of the day of God's Spiritual judgment on Sodom and Gomorrah. This knowledge was of no benefit to Lot's wife, except, physically, so that she had to look with her earthly eyes to see. In this, Lot's wife is a picture of the apostate church that shall have known time and judgment from an earthly standpoint *[worldly calendars]*. It is in this context that God would warn those who look at time, *[the curse]*, as an indicator of Christ's coming: "REMEMBER LOTS WIFE!"

As with Lot's wife, if, upon hearing the final day of God's judgment, one is not of God's elect, though they knew the last twenty-four-hour day, *[an attribute of the curse]*, yet, they must look back at the only thing they can see which is the curse, *[the world]*, having not been regenerated. This is a parable that points to all of unsaved mankind who's eyes are for this earth only until they die which is their judgment day. This 'can' include the religious observance of earthly calendars! In other words, a born again soul will not continually seek to know God's judgment by what they can see with their earthly eyes. They will NOT look back at how they once saw things according to the carnal mind. For they NOW have the mind of Christ!

A believer discerns time and judgment according to all of scripture which is not limited to the earthly calendar though it be biblical. An earthly calendar can only reveal the age of the sin cursed earth. It cannot reveal the presence or absence of eternal life, nor eternal damnation, according to the observance of a day that has passed, or has yet to arrive (*Luke 17:20*).

Therefore, those who HOLD ON TO calendars as part of their gospel TRUTH will have a wider authority than that of the BIBLE, ONLY, and in its ENTIRETY. This is because they are comparing verses of THE BIBLE through the lens of A CALENDAR, there-by manifesting a wider authority than the Bible Only. Ultimately, they will NOT be walking by faith, but by sight. And this is contrary to God's word as it is found in 1 Corinthians 5:7, and Revelations 22:18-19.