

Oh How Love I Thy Law:

Quoting scripture is a beautiful thing, and God assures us that we don't have to be ashamed of it:

Mark 8:38 Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

The Apostle Paul, who was once a Pharisee named Saul who killed the Christians, after His salvation in Jesus Christ, declared:

Romans 1:16 ¶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

As God Himself teaches us from His word, we certainly don't have to submit to words that would scold us for our faithfulness to God's word, nor should we accept judgments against what God calls us to believe:

To the faithful in Christ, in, Psalm 119:97, God declares:

Psalm 119:97 ¶ O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day.

For those who would be faithful teachers, in, 2 Timothy 2:15, God shows us what our daily spiritual attitude should be:

2 Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

The question for us then might be, are we desirous to be faithful in our witness to all of God's word, or just those parts we agree with, while manipulating the parts we don't like, or, worse, don't believe?

Does God's word address everything that takes place in this world, or is God's word only for those fellowship clicks who see themselves as the true elect, according to their knowledge and doctrinal standards, where-by they stand above the rest of the world? This arrogance seems to identify many of the Christian congregations and fellowships today.

God's word shows us how the world in its pride, and in its attempt to keep their lives simple, show themselves to be hypocrites in regard to all of God's word. They have no desire to obey God; except for those parts that are convenient, or that would show them to be 'good people' in front of their peers!

Even as many attend their church, in too many cases, it's so that they can be around people to avoid loneliness. Yet, physically speaking, many of God's elect were alone, like, Elijah, and several other prophets, and disciples! Yet, they were not lonely because they had the Spirit of Holy God working in them. However, the ungodly who reject God's word have only themselves, who are ever working to get those who are simple to remain deceived like themselves. In, Romans 16:18, the Lord warns:

Romans 16:18 For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple.

When many verses are quoted from the bible this can be a great blessing. But we can't know what the total message is, except we research all that is being taught, according to the scriptures. Only by studying and witnessing God's word in its entirety can we be sure that what we are teaching is rightly coming from God and not from ourselves and our own thinking. Fact is, whenever we teach conclusions that cannot be found in God's word, "IT IS A LIE", and ultimately from the devil if not repented of. And, so, especially for those who would be teachers, this is the very reason God commands what we read in, 2 Timothy 2:15:

2 Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

God word teaches how the world shall insist on its pride and self-righteous attitude; because, in its arrogance, it refuses to submit to an authority that is not themselves. This is why the prophets who held, as their only authority, God's holy word, were killed, and why Jesus, who is God, was crucified, and why the New Testament disciples were killed, discredited, and put in prison; so that the world of that day didn't have to hear God's justice and judgment.

And so it is today. Those who are called to be faithful servants, by the work of Jesus Christ, can expect to be persecuted and reviled, as the world endeavors to discredit their testimony. Yet, God's Spirit shall keep them safe as God promised before the world began, (Titus 1:2).

John the Baptist, for his witness, had his head cut off. But John witnessed the way he did because John feared God:

Proverbs 1:7 ¶ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

But the unbelieving world has no fear of God; for God is not in all their thoughts:

Psalms 10:4 The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.

Psalm 56:5 Every day they wrest my words: all their thoughts are against me for evil.

Romans 3:18 There is no fear of God before their eyes.

No worldly person whom God is not drawing will witness the truth of God's word for fear they will suffer the non-acceptance of their peers, which, unfortunately, includes many professing Christians. It is a worldly fear that leads to death. It is a fear that is too often found in today's Christian congregations. But John the Baptist feared God not the world. John didn't care what the world thought of him. John wanted God's way to be His way. John did not want his own way, but God's way. And by this spiritual attitude, which God had given him, by which John witnessed the whole counsel of God, John would sacrifice his life for the gospel; which, Romans 12:1, confirms is according to the word of God:

Romans 12:1 ¶ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

In, John 12:25, God presents the contrast between the faithful professing Christian and the worldly Christian:

John 12:25 He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal.

For those who would be faithful in Christ, there are things more important to them than the fear of physical death:

Matthew 10:28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

Psalm 116:15 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.

It is the work of Jesus Christ that paid for the sins of John the Baptist. And it was the Spirit of Christ working in John that caused him to witness the truth of God, which led to his death.

John, in himself, was nothing:

Luke 3:16 John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:

The Apostle Paul also witnessed the same:

1 Corinthians 4:4 For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judgeth me is the Lord.

2 Corinthians 12:5 Of such an one will I glory: yet of myself I will not glory, but in mine infirmities.

This is the spiritual attitude every believer desires if God is drawing them unto Himself, (John 6:44). Otherwise, we would be like the world that shoots from the hip in a never ending intellectual endeavor to witness our own ideas, and self justification, which is contrary to the word of God. And this is a matter God takes exceeding seriously.

The world in its arrogance will insist on its own way, contrary to the Holy Spirit who confirms God's truth found in the Bible. Today this arrogance includes much of the Christian congregation as a whole, which has become one with the world. This is an exceedingly serious matter to Almighty God; for the world doesn't believe God's word because they are not of God but are of the world. "So what are these doing in the house of God? But this is not new!" In, John 8:19-23, God gives an example of how the world, and the church, [*ancient Israel, that was in bed with Rome, and now the NT church*], will arrogantly speak to God, as it is today:

John 8:19-23 Then said they unto him, Where is thy Father? Jesus answered, Ye neither know me, nor my Father: if ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also. ... 21 ¶ Then said Jesus again unto them, I go my way, and ye shall seek me, and shall die in your sins: whither I go, ye cannot come. 22 Then said the Jews, Will he kill himself? because he saith, Whither I go, ye cannot come. 23 And he said unto them, Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world.

As in Noah's day, the world is going to be destroyed from under the feet, [*the will*], of the arrogant and the prideful who reject God's truth. This is a major biblical truth that is not going to go away! It's going to happen! And very soon.

The world of Noah's day heard and saw the warning, but took no heed and were all destroyed, except Noah and his house. Noah would have been the scorn of the town in his day, as he used the resources given to him, not to live for himself, but to obediently build an ark that was as big as a football field, in a place where rain was of no concern to the world of that day. "Yet it came! Forty days and forty nights; until every living thing, man, woman, child, and elderly, and every beast were destroyed from off the face of the earth; except Noah and his house, who would typify God's elect, who will be taken up on the last day which is very soon".

As the earth is covered by 70 percent water, with all manner of dinosaur imprints found in fossil stone, [*from the flood*], so the unbelieving world has been warned. Making up doctrines from their unproven ideas of evolution, and asteroids hitting the earth, is not going to save them, but only condemn them, when they might have considered God's word!

As God's word teaches: today's professing Christian who pridefully show no fear of God's word, while strutting their ideas, as they hypocritically accuse others of the same, shall be those who were without excuse, who God shall not know on that day:

Romans 1:18-19 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; 19 ¶ Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. 20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

Luke 13:27 But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity.

These verses are very harsh and hard to hear. But if they are from the mind of God, and they are, we had better hear them and be warned, lest we be found disobedient on that day!

Be that as it may, God's elect shall know no harm upon Christ's return, but will be glad at His appearing; because while they remained on this earth God's Holy Word was their only authority in life and in death; for the Spirit of Christ abides in them:

2 Timothy 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Psalms 119:97 ¶ O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day. 98 ¶ Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me.

By God's eternal grace working in us, drawing us to Himself, according to His will and good pleasure, we come to know it is Jesus Christ who is the light of this world, and not we of ourselves, or anyone else:

John 8:12 ¶ Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.