



Session 5: False Teachers Vs. The Truth

Do you believe that Scripture is all truth....no lies, no half-truths, and no "gotchas"?

Scripture is...not singular, but complete!

Scripture is...authorized and approved by God for mankind!

2 Timothy 3:16, "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness."

But...there are scoffers who question the truth of God's Word.

I.e. "What is truth?".... "Did the Bible or God really say that?"

Scoffer—one who mocks others or the beliefs of others; one who ridicules and laughs at those who hold to absolutes..... Scoffer: better known as "one who rides the fence"...or one who states 'it depends' when it comes to God's Word, His wisdom, His requirements, or His standards of living for a Godly, wholesome life.

2 Peter 3:1-9, "Dear friends, this is now my second letter to you. I have written both of them as reminders to stimulate you to wholesome thinking. ² I want you to recall the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the command given by our Lord and Savior through your apostles. ³ Above all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. ⁴ They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." ⁵ But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens came into being and the earth was formed out of water and by water. ⁶ By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. ⁷ By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the Day of Judgment and destruction of the ungodly. ⁸ But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

Summary:

Peter restates his purpose, and desires to get his people thinking about Christ:

- not the trends of the day,
- not the new philosophies,
- false teachers,
- or the scoffers.

He wants them and us focused upon Christ and the precepts and hope He brings.

Our thinking needs to be based on Christ, not what we want or how we think things should be.

Note: This takes trust and "seeing hope".

What is "seeing hope"?

Seeing hope...Not with our eyes, but what we know in our spirit.

Remember: "Thomas, you believe because you see me; blessed are those who have not seen but believe."

God wants us to understand that He has real, true substance for us to know and do! We have the responsibility to know this trust and hope and put both into our life and practice them.

Peter then shows his "friends" (recipients of his epistle) the ultimate hope we have in Christ that our life is:

- All about Him;
- What He has done, and
- What He is yet to do.

The big yet to do is His Second Coming.

Yet, in the mist of our great hope there will be great distracters who seek to derail us off His tracks by seeding our fears and unbelief.

- ❑ If a false teacher can't get you to see a variant view of a skewed truth, they will turn and ridicule real truth. Thus, they will get you to laugh at the truth to demean it so you will not take it seriously.
- ❑ Scoffing puts the item being scoffed at down while it lifts up the scoffer.

Pride is at the base of this, which is always the way Satan works.

- They will say, "Do you really believe that? How can you take that seriously?"
- Their arguments come from faulty thinking and conniving agendas causing us to forget God's promises and even His past provisions.

Do we really want the truth? Listen to your heart. If it is telling you that any part of God's Word is questionable, then Satan is doing his work. He is good at it...and he works his best when he can deceive the people.

IT IS SATAN'S AGENDA AND DELIGHT TO CAUSE GOD'S CHILDREN TO QUESTION AND REBEL OVER GOD'S STATEMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS.

IT IS GOD'S AGENDA TO GIVE EVERY PERSON A CHANCE TO REPENT AND BE SAVED....FROM COMING JUDGMENT!

THE DAY OF THE LORD!

To the Jew, time was divided into two ages.

- *The Present Age*
- *The Age to Come (Golden Age of God)*

Between the two there was to be “the Day of the Lord” which was to be the terrible birth pangs of the new age.

They knew from Old Testament prophets that it would come:

- *Like a thief in the night...suddenly*
- *As a day when the world would be shaken to its very foundations*
- *As a day of judgment and of terror*

Isaiah 2:12; 13:6; Amos 5:18; Zephaniah 1:7; Joel 2:1

1 Thessalonians 5:2; 2 Peter 3:10

Jesus came into the world not to condemn the world but that through Him the world might be saved...God sent his Son, not as a King that the Jews thought him to be... “The Day of the Lord” for the Jews was not as they thought...Jesus came into the world to make it possible that all the world might be saved whereby we can escape “the great Day of the Lord!”

Three (3) important words sometimes missed in this reading of Scripture:

1. Remember and remind; do not forget...
2. Stimulate you to wholesome or pure thinking...
3. “Deliberately” forget; deliberately ignore; willingly ignorant of.

The recipients of Peter’s letters....Reminders or nudges by the Holy Spirit that God’s plans are going to come true....and time is of no essence with God. His timing is the one that we should either be fearful of...or grateful for as we are running the last lap!

Be thankful, be grateful, be mindful, be fruitful, and be prayerful in these last days!