

People of the Book

Sunday Morning, September 15, 2013

Thesis:

Do Our Lives Truly Reflect that We are "People of the Book"?

Introduction:

"People of the Book" is the Muslim perspective of Jews and Christians who use the Bible. Note: We have the deposit of the Holy Spirit confirming truth. Ref: Romans 8:16.

Are We People of the Book?

I. Is the Book a Part of Your Life and Home?

(Psalm 119: 1 – 11)

- 1 How happy are those whose way is blameless, who live according to the Lord's instruction!
- 2 Happy are those who keep His decrees & seek Him with all their heart.
- 3 They do nothing wrong; they follow His ways.
- 4 You have commanded that Your precepts be diligently kept.
- 5 If only my ways were committed to keeping Your statutes!
- 6 Then I would not be ashamed when I think about all Your commands.
- 7 I will praise You with a sincere heart when I learn Your righteous judgments.
- 8 I will keep Your statutes; never abandon me.
- 9 How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping Your word.
- 10 I have sought You with all my heart; don't let me wander from Your commands.
- 11 I have treasured Your word in my heart so that I may not sin against You.

Knowing the Word
Keeps us from Sin Which
Keeps Us Happy & Pure

(Joshua 1: 7 – 9)

- 7 Above all, be strong & very courageous to carefully observe the whole instruction My servant Moses commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right or the left, so that you will have success wherever you go.
- 8 This book of instruction must not depart from your mouth; you are to recite it day and night so that you may carefully observe everything written in it. For then you will prosper and succeed in whatever you do.
- 9 Haven't I commanded you: be strong and courageous? Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Reading, Speaking, Memorizing the Word Daily is a command with a blessing.

We Will Prosper and Succeed, When His Word is in the Center of Our Heart, Mind, Lives & Homes.

(Joshua 24:15)

And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Have You Made a Commitment to God and His Word?

II. Is Your Conduct Biblically Based? (Matthew 5: 44 – 48)

- 44 But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,
- 45 so that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. For He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.
- 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward will you have? Don't even the tax collectors do the same?
- 47 And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing out of the ordinary? Don't even the Gentiles do the same?
- 48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Is God Seen By the Way We Treat Others?
Do Our Motives Please God?

III. Are We Spiritually Focused? (I Corinthians 2: 11 – 12)

11 For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man that is in him? In the same way, no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.

12 Now we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who comes from God, so that we may understand what has been freely given to us by God.

A Different Culture

Conclusion: *Stand for the Reading of God's Word*
"A Call to Holy Living"

(I Peter 1: 13 – 23)

13 Therefore, with your minds ready for action, be serious and set your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

14 As obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires of your former ignorance.

15 But as the One who called you is holy, you also are to be holy in all your conduct;

16 for it is written, Be holy, because I am holy.

17 And if you address as Father the One who judges impartially based on each one's work, you are to conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your temporary residence.

18 For you know that you were redeemed from your empty way of life inherited from the fathers, not with perishable things like silver or gold,

19 but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.

20 He was chosen before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the times for you

21 who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead & gave Him glory, so that your faith & hope are in God.

22 By obedience to the truth, having purified yourselves for sincere love of the brothers, love one another earnestly from a pure heart,

23 since you have been born again—not of perishable seed but of imperishable—through the living and enduring word of God.

Be People of the Book!