

Cyber Truths By E-mail

21. The Faithfulness of God and His Word **(August 7, 2006)**



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Dear Friends,

As Sue was doing some research, she came upon some startling statistics from a survey of clergy in the late 1970's. The survey reveals an insidious distrust in the Bible as God's inerrant and unchanging Word. And since then, the situation has only gotten worse...

Ten thousand clergymen from 5 major denominations were asked this question:

"Do you believe the Bible to be the inspired Word of God?"

Would you like to know how these leaders responded?

"NO!" answered 82% of the Methodist clergy;
"NO!" answered 89% of the Episcopalian clergy;

"NO!" answered 81% of the United Presbyterian clergy;

"NO!" answered 57% of the Baptist clergy;

"NO!" answered 57% of the Lutheran clergy.

When church leaders deny the inerrancy (the freedom from error as it was written) of God's Word, they pick and choose what they preach so that people are entertained rather than convicted of sin. Without the authority of the Bible as a foundation, it becomes easy for clergy and hearers at large to give way to the ungodly standards of the culture around them.

***"Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Your dominion endures through all generations.
The LORD is faithful to all His promises and loving toward all He has made"***
(Psalms 145:13)

If you hold, as we do, to the inerrancy of the Scriptures as foundational for your way of life, be encouraged: When you determine to walk in obedient trust in the authority of Scripture, you can be sure that its timeless truth won't vary with the life circumstances you face or the cultural chaos around you.

What you may not realize is this:

**When God's Word isn't trusted,
then His faithfulness
is brought into doubt.
If His Word is considered unreliable,
then He is perceived with
the same misgivings.**

Do you see the sinister connection here? When His Word isn't trusted to represent His unchanging and holy nature and standards for relating to mankind, then the God Who created everything isn't trusted either. His Word that was breathed out by Him to His chosen writers for all generations has given way in the hearts and minds of men to an optional, historical collection of moral sayings.

What a treacherous and evil scheme of Satan to stir man's sin nature by developing distrust and doubt in God: by undermining confidence in His Word. The rotten fruit of giving in to such a lie is devastating millions in Christendom today. How?

Remember what the Hebraic Restoration is all about—it is our Father's affirmation for His people to live in Covenant union with Him in our trust in Jesus. It is a desire for relational oneness with each of His own. And, our Father is seeking child-like dependency

from each of His children: "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 18:3).

Dependency is based upon trust in the Person on Whom you depend. Pause here to think about this for a moment. If you don't have complete trust, then you're prone to apprehension and distrust. You have either complete trust, or distrust. Consider how that makes our Father feel in light of His wondrous love for you. Those of you who are parents can identify somewhat with this. Just think of how your heart would grieve if your children distrusted you. That would create a painful void in your heart.

Unfurling ever-increasing distrust in God is exactly what Satan has done over the generations. A survey of many Christians in this nation would probably reveal more confidence in their personal survival skills and self-sufficiency than in unrelenting dependence on God. Many count more on our military to keep them free than they rely on God to do whatever is necessary to cleanse and purify hearts in this nation. Perhaps you're as disquieted as we are by brazen bumper stickers that demand that our God "Bless America". Rather, for such a time as now does this scriptural warning from our Lord apply:

***"When I shut up the heavens
so that there is no rain,
or command locusts to devour the land
or send a plague among My people,
IF My people, who are
called by My name,
will humble themselves and pray and
seek My face and***

***turn from their wicked ways,
THEN will I hear from heaven
and will forgive their sin
and will heal their land"***
(2 Chronicles 7:13,14).

This cry for repentance was once the herald of the "Moral Majority" back in the 1970's until they gave up calling for repentance and trusted instead in political maneuvering.

You may wonder how Satan has succeeded in undermining confidence in our unchanging God and His Word throughout so many avenues of Christendom. Well, on the broader scale the devil has used public education and the National Education Association to displace the biblical responsibilities of parents, especially fathers. That is the stated goal of the Humanist Manifesto embraced way back in 1932 by those of the NEA mindset. (For more on this, see our Hebraic Article: He Has Showed You.)

The success of public education to capture children's minds enticed the Nicolaitan religious system to follow suit with youth programs and Sunday schools and "entertaining outreaches". Such activity-based programs have encouraged parents to "outsource" to others their responsibilities to "train up their children in the way they should go." (We address these issues in these website resources: **August 2002 Newsletter—Restoring Covenant-based Communities; Lifebyte 30. Your Home: Our Father's Primary Place For Combating Your Sin Nature; May-June 2004 Newsletter—Be Warned! Greasy Grace Fuels the Fires of Hell**)

Perhaps you outsourced your children to one of the denominational programs whose surveyed clergy discounted the Bible as God's unchanging, inerrant Word. What do you think the probability is for your sons and daughters to develop a lifelong confidence in our Father's faithfulness when their spiritual role models have their doubts? Today, less than 23% of churching children follow in the faith of their parents. And most of the other denominations not mentioned in the survey are similar in their fruit: generations who practice religion but have no Bible-based, obedient trust in God.

We've discussed in previous teachings that all of us were conceived with a sin nature. This evil force within each of us is similar in character and motive to that of the devil. Your sin nature desires to entice you to live contrary to God's Word. (See **Lifebyte 18. Certain Of What We Do Not See—The Powerful Influence Of Your Sin Nature.**)

God's design for parental discipline is to help our children resist their sin nature and turn to God's good ways. Then, when your son or daughter embraces the Father's Covenant in Jesus, the Holy Spirit strengthens them in this battle. A follower of Jesus has a war inside them over Who or what will rule their soul—the Holy Spirit or their sin nature!

Our victory in this battle is found when we remain repentant and abide in fellowship with our Father and His Son, Jesus. You can be sure that the repentant have confidence in both our Father and His Word. Repentance is key for us who follow Jesus because it keeps us on the

path of righteous living and in relational fellowship with our God.

From the time of the Apostle John right up to today are those who may call themselves "Christian" but live with unconfessed sin. As the faithful apostle reported, these people have no fellowship with the Father. By failing to uphold God's holy standard to repent as is repeated in both testaments of the Bible, the presumptuous discount the Word and believe the lie that they are still acceptable to God no matter how they choose to live. What a crock!!! But tragically, they can go on any Sunday and sit with others who also may be hiding unconfessed sin. They can feel comfortable and accepted in a building filled with the spiritually dark (see 2 Corinthians 6:14), yet never touch the heart of God.

Our faithful Father is faithful to His inerrant Word, even the parts that seem hard: "For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie" (2 Thessalonians 2:11). Like the Israelites of Jeremiah's time, whom our long-suffering Lord finally exiled from the land, deluded people today construct whatever religious expression suits them. With sin-darkened souls they can sing feel-good songs, believing the lie that their "praise" is acceptable worship to God. But that's not strange, especially since they don't trust that God's righteous requirements for worship are found in His holy Word. Therefore, they can worship their own "custom-designed" god however they choose without being concerned about the only true God of His Word. And this is the same dark deceit of Jeremiah's deluded compatriots.

How does this all apply to you?

Well, there's a very real tug-of-war going on inside you. On one side is your sin nature that's vulnerable to the devil, who's always waiting for an opportunity to entice you to evil. That goal is made that much easier if you distrust the Father and the reliability of His Word. You align with this evil force if you live with unconfessed sin. The fruit of your delusion will be this:

You will fail to experience and appreciate how truly faithful our Father is. And THAT is truly grievous...

On the other hand, if you live repentantly, that is, if you continue to respond to the Spirit's nudge and repent immediately when you do sin, then you are wonderfully privileged to experience our Father and His faithfulness. Your righteous standing is the glue in your Covenant relationship with God (see 1 John 1:9). To use an analogy, not only are Sue and I married, but we have the same identifying last name. Well, righteousness is the last name of the family of our God: *"This is the name by which He will be called: **The LORD Our Righteousness**"* (Jeremiah 23:6).

No doubt you'll have up days and down days. You're going to have times of feeling distanced from God, even though He hasn't forsaken you. Use these times to see if there is any unconfessed sin, AND to cry out like a small child who has lost his parent in a crowd. Remember, dependency and loving trust are what our Father seeks from you. He hasn't lost you. Far from it! He is attentive to see if you want Him—**DESPERATELY WANT HIM!!!**

A point you may be interested in:

When we share communion in our home fellowship family, we're renewing our Covenant with our Father. We review that His five stipulations for our Covenant in Jesus are still viable as a weekly reminder for each of us:

1. Are we still repentant?
2. Do we still trust Him?
3. Do we still love Him?
4. Are we still determined to live diligently for Him?
5. Is there anyone we haven't forgiven? And, we pray blessings on those who've hurt us in the past.

Family in Jesus, our Father is **ABSOLUTELY** faithful!

His Word is **ABSOLUTELY** trustworthy to guide your life into righteousness.

To lose confidence in either Him or in His Word is to expose yourself to the slippery progression of doubt, delusion, habitual sin, and ultimately eternal condemnation.

We encourage you to scrutinize whatever spiritual teachings you embrace. They may be dangerously undermining your confidence in God and His Word. Let Jesus speak to you:

"Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees [and clergy intermediaries and Nicolaitan teachers]" (Matthew 16:11; see also 2 Peter 2:1).

We hope this e-mail will be helpful if you're suffering doubt about our God in whatever circumstances you're facing. And, we continue to solicit your prayers as we press on in our video production. Thank you for thinking of us!

M i k e & S u e D o w g i e w i c z