

Can We See The Bible Alike?

Acts 8:26-30

Introduction

- Very common to hear someone say, “we just can’t see the Bible alike”...
 - An attempt to justify the multitude of creeds, etc that exists
 - To excuse the many religious institutions that we see in the world today.
- Lesson: Is it possible for you and I to reach the same understanding as we hear, read, study the word of God?

I. Does God Want Us To See The Bible Alike?

- We are instructed to understand the word of God. (Eph. 5:17; Eph. 3:3-5) God does not instruct us to do that which is not possible.
- We are instructed to be united, not divided. (Jn. 17:20-21; I Cor. 1:10; Eph. 4:1-6)
- We are expected to obey the word of God. (Matt. 7:21; Lk. 6:46; Jn. 12:48)
- The existence of the epistles shows us that God expects us to see the Bible alike. (II Thess. 3:14; Phil. 2:12)

II. Why Do People Fail To See God’s Word Alike?

- The fault lies in the hearer, not in the God’s word.
 - Those who close their eyes. (Matt. 13:13-15)
 - Those who pursue their perverse passions. (Rom. 1:28)
 - Those who prefer human wisdom to divine. (Acts 17:32; I Cor. 1:26)
 - Those who are not attuned to spiritual things. (Jn. 3:3-5)
- Some had rather follow human speculation rather than Divine Revelation:
 - Jn. 3:1-8.
 - When did Nicodemus come to Jesus? At night. (Jn. 3:2)
 - Why did Nicodemus come to Jesus at night?
 - Fear?
 - Work schedule? Etc.
 - We can understand what God has revealed.
 - Jn. 8:1-11.
 - What did Jesus say to the scribes and Pharisees? He that is without sin among you...(Jn. 8:7)
 - What did Jesus write on the ground?
 - God is love?
 - Thou shalt not commit adultery
 - He that believeth...
 - We are not told. We can “see alike” what God has revealed.
- II Cor. 12:1-10.
 - How does Paul describe his affliction? Thorn in the flesh. (II Cor. 12:7)
 - What was Paul’s thorn in the flesh?
 - Poor eyesight?
 - Speech defect?
 - Etc.?
 - We can agree on what the text actually says.

III. Applications...

- Denominational names. (Lutheran, Methodist, Baptist, Pentecostal, Presbyterian, etc.)
 - Some one says, “we just can’t see the Bible alike”.
 - Can we see these texts alike? (Acts 11:26; 26:28; I Pet. 4:16)

- Instrumental music in worship. (Piano, guitar, rock band, singing)
 - Some one says, “we just can’t see the Bible alike”.
 - Can these texts be seen the same? (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16)
- Day the Lord’s Supper is to be eaten. (Fri., Sat, Does not matter, 1st day of the week)
 - Some one says, “we just can’t see the Bible alike”.
 - Can we see the following text alike? (Acts 20:7)
- Church leadership. (Pope, bishop, pastor, council, conventions, etc.)
 - Again, someone says can’t see Bible alike.
 - Can we see these texts alike? (Acts 14:23; Phil. 1:1; Acts 20:17; I Pet. 5:1-3)
- Salvation. (Predestination, Faith only, sacraments, obedience to the gospel)
 - Can’t see Bible alike.
 - Let’s try these passages: (Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; I Pet. 3:21)