

5-15-22 Message
GREATEST MISUNDERSTANDINGS
ABOUT GOD AND HIS WAYS

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 55:9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

A Jehovah's witness came to my door and started out a conversation about the debate between an atheist and a creationist, and tried to use that as a stepping stone to get into the Bible.

I stopped him right there and said, I am a true Jehovah's witness because Jesus is Jehovah. He goes, no no. Then I shared some verses with him and he said, thats your interpretation. I said, no, see these pamphlets you handed to me, that is written by your JW interpreter of the Bible. I have a common faith with people of all affiliations and denominations in the most important truth of all,

What is the Gospel? How is a person saved?

Who is Christ?

And our common denominator is that we have the same Spirit and the same Christ.

Don't beat around the bush with these people. They always run when I hit them in these areas because they do not have an answer.

Then as he is about to turn tail and run I say to him, why are you here?

He said he is witnessing to me because he was commanded to.

I said, then what is your hope?

He said his hope is that he will come back to earth and be resurrected.

I said, you have no hope to go to heaven when you die.

He said no my hope is to come back to earth.

I said, what are you going to do when God destroys the earth?

II Peter 3:7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

He said, that's your interpretation. I said, no I am just reading it. Your interpreting it.

So then he says, I see I am getting no where with you.

I said, wait.

If you're right I am just going to die and cease to exist.

If the Bible is right you are going to hell when you die. I think my message is more pressing.

Now I will stay here at this door and try to persuade you to get saved, but you can't be saved till you get the right Jesus.

And you can't understand the Bible till you get the right spirit.

Now here we have a group of zealous people who are trying to understand God apart from the Spirit of God, and they in turn are leading a host of people astray.

I believe the most misunderstood person in the universe is God almighty. People have no idea who He is and how God operates.

Everyone has their own ideas about God. Jehovah Witnesses, Mormons, Moslems, Humanists, etc..

This morning I want to talk about some misunderstandings people have about God's ways and operations.

Intro: God's actions and character are never separated. God's ways of operation are based on His person. We as sinful fallen creatures have a great difficulty understanding God and how God operates. We must first know Him in person.

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 55:9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

I. THE FIRST GREATEST MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT GOD IS HOW WE GET TO KNOW AND UNDERSTAND GOD. HOW TO COME TO GOD.

THE REASON PEOPLE DO NOT UNDERSTAND GOD IS BECAUSE THEY DO NOT KNOW HIS PERSON. GOT TO GET THE RIGHT PERSON.

In essence many people have the wrong God.

As we talk to people about the person of God, they most often use expressions like, I think. I feel. I believe.

Even as I preach this morning some of you are going to think differently about the things I am going to say about God.

MISUNDERSTOOD ASPECTS OF GOD'S WAYS

I. THE ONLY WAY WE CAN KNOW GOD IS TO KNOW HIM IN THE PERSON OF

JESUS CHRIST.

John 1:1 1:14 Jesus is the word of God made flesh

1. THE PERSON TO KNOW IS JESUS CHRIST. YOU CANNOT KNOW GOD OR KNOW HIS THOUGHTS UNLESS YOU KNOW THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

John 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

John 5:40 And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.

Unless you receive Him you cannot know God.

When I got saved I realized I needed to come to a person and that person is Christ. I was introduced to this person who changes peoples lives, and He changed my life.

I DID NOT RECEIVE A PLAN.

I DID NOT BECOME PART OF A CLUB OR ORGANIZATION.

I DID NOT BUY A SPIRITUAL INSURANCE POLICY.

I DID NOT MAKE A DEAL WITH GOD.

I said, how could this person that all these people are talking about, JESUS, be still working in the lives of people and doing so much good in peoples lives. If He were dead this could not be happening. I saw enough and I received a great enough challenge to decide to commit my life to this person.

A COMMITMENT TO THAT PERSON.

Like marriage.

YOU LIVE TOGETHER.

Like joining the army.

YOU SERVE TOGETHER.

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

This is why I get right to the point with these people and say you need to acknowledge Jesus as Jehovah.

Romans 10:13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Acts 2:20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:

Acts 2:21 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Joel 2:32 And it shall come to pass, that **whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered:** for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.

The Hebrew word here is JEHOVAH OR YAHWEH. The name that the Lord gave Moses when he said who shall I tell the children of Israel hath sent me? He said tell them that the I AM hath sent you.

John 18:4 Jesus therefore, knowing all things that should come upon him, went forth, and said unto them, Whom seek ye?

John 18:5 They answered him, Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus saith unto them, I am he. And Judas also, which betrayed him, stood with them.

John 18:6 As soon then as he had said unto them, I am he, they went backward, and fell to the ground.

John 18:7 Then asked he them again, Whom seek ye? And they said, Jesus of Nazareth.

But the fellow would say that is your interpretation. Well, I guess it was their interpretation too, because when he said it "I AM" they fell to the ground because He used the sacred name given to Moses for Jehovah, Yahweh.

You cannot know God if you do not know Him in the person of Jesus Christ.

John 1:18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

No man has seen the Father. no man will ever see the Father.

He said, Jesus never accepted worship, we should only worship Jehovah.

Thomas fell down at his feet and said my Lord and my God.

Revelation 19:10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

Revelation 5:11 And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;

Revelation 5:12 Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

Revelation 5:13 And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.

Revelation 5:14 And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.

Revelation 22:8 And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things.

Revelation 22:9 Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.

Philippians 2:9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

Philippians 2:10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

Philippians 2:11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Isaiah 45:22 Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.

Isaiah 45:23 I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.

Isaiah 45:24 Surely, shall one say, in the LORD (JEHOVAH) have I righteousness and strength: even to him shall men come; and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed.

Jehovah witness started quoting from his Bible.. I said don't read that it makes me cringe. He said, well we used the King James for years. Yes, and there was more hope for you then.

He said, why did they not translate the name Jehovah in the old testament?

The reason they didn't was because they were consistent in both testaments and whenever you read Capital L O R D you know it was Jehovah.

In the New Testament there is no greek word Jehovah or Yahweh. The only equivalent is I AM, and that is why when Jesus said I AM in John 8:18 ff they fell backward. It may also be that He did not say it in Greek but actually spoke it in Hebrew, and that is why they immediately fell to their knees.

John 18:4 Jesus therefore, knowing all things that should come upon him, went forth, and said unto them, Whom seek ye?

John 18:5 They answered him, Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus saith unto them, I am he. And Judas also, which betrayed him, stood with them.

John 18:6 As soon then as he had said unto them, I am he, they went backward, and fell to the ground.

John 18:7 Then asked he them again, Whom seek ye? And they said, Jesus of Nazareth.

John 18:8 Jesus answered, I have told you that I am he: if therefore ye seek me, let these go their way:

John 18:9 That the saying might be fulfilled, which he spake, Of them which thou gavest me have I lost none.

In the new testament when Paul quoted an Old Testament verses and translated it into Greek he did not use the Hebrew word JEHOVAH. He used the Greek word KURIOS which is LORD. But the translators were consistent and translated the word LORD.

I would think Paul would know better how to translate the Old Testament than the Jehovah Witnesses. AND THE KJV is consistent with Paul's quotes and translations. You cannot argue it.

I John 4:2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God:

I John 4:3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

Here is an amazing thing. This Jehovah witness did not believe that Jesus was resurrected in body. He was resurrected only in Spirit.

I said, if that is the case, why was his body missing?
Why did Jesus say to his disciples,

Luke 24:38 And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts?

Luke 24:39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

Luke 24:40 And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet.

Luke 24:41 And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat?

Luke 24:42 And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb.

Luke 24:43 And he took it, and did eat before them.

There was a group of people going around saying in the early church that Jesus Christ did not come in the flesh. They believed he was indeed the Christ and divine. But could not believe that He took on flesh.

THE RIGHT JESUS WAS GOD MANIFEST IN THE FLESH AND RESURRECTED.
YOU CANNOT KNOW GOD IF YOU HAVE THE WRONG JESUS. WRONG PERSON.

Bottom line is this:

2. WHEN YOU KNOW JESUS AND LOVE JESUS AND ACCEPT JESUS FOR WHO HE SAYS HE IS, HE WILL SEND HIS HOLY SPIRIT INTO YOUR HEART SO YOU CAN HAVE THE MIND OF GOD.

I Corinthians 2:11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

I Corinthians 2:12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

I Corinthians 2:13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

I Corinthians 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

I Corinthians 2:15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

I Corinthians 2:16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

Romans 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

The Spirit of Christ is the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit is referred to as a person.

There are three persons referred to as God.

Father.

Jesus.

Holy Spirit.

To receive Jesus is to receive the Father.

To receive the Holy Spirit is to receive Jesus.

Jesus came and testified of the Father.

The Holy Spirit comes and testifies of the Son.

IT IS FOR THIS REASON WHEN YOU ARE BAPTIZED YOU ARE BAPTIZED IN THE NAME OF Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Matthew 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

NAME SINGULAR.

Jehovah witness said I don't understand that.

I said, do you have a son? He said yes..

What is his last name? It is the same as yours.
Your wife's last name is the same as yours.
You all have the same last name.

3 people share the same name. 3 persons one family.

LET US MAKE MAN IN OUR IMAGE AND OUR LIKENESS.

Now there is only one way to get to know God and that is through His son.

So you need to come to Him.
Invite Him into your heart. He sends the Holy Spirit.
Then as evidence that you really have believed and received Him you are
baptized in the NAME OF THE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY GHOST.

**3. *THOSE WHO WILL NOT RECEIVE JESUS INTO THEIR HEARTS WILL BE
BLINDED TO THE MIND AND THOUGHTS OF GOD.***

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 55:9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

So we have the cults. People who try to understand the Scripture but are blinded to the author of Scripture. When you do not know the author of the Bible you will misunderstand the Bible.

And this would explain why His thoughts would not be your thoughts.

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 55:9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Saul of Tarsus who later became Paul the Apostle thought he was doing the will of God when he was persecuting the church.

Harold Camping really thought he was doing the will of God with his false prophecy of predicting the return of Christ.

This Jehovah witness who came knocking on my door really thought he was doing the will of God, really thought he understood the Bible.

The Mormons really think they are doing the will of God.

4. *Knowing Jesus is the first step to knowing God. It is like a marriage. Salvation is like a marriage to God.*

II Corinthians 11:2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.
II Corinthians 11:3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

II Corinthians 11:4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

Three major truths to be a child of God.

- A. YOU NEED TO HAVE THE RIGHT PERSON JESUS.**
- B. YOU HAVE TO RECEIVE THE RIGHT SPIRIT WHICH PROCEEDS FROM JESUS.**
- C. YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE THE RIGHT GOSPEL MESSAGE (SCRIPTURE).**

Invitation:

II Peter 1:20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

II Peter 1:21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

I can read the great reformers of the past and agree with them and they with me.

MOODY.
SPURGEON.
MATHEW HENRY.
JOHN GILL, and a host of others.

Missionaries across the world see the same truths in this book that I see and preach.

A private interpretation is when a group of people adhere to the teaching of one man or group, and that group has no common ground outside of that group.

All those who claim the name of Christ and are saved will have the same mind concerning the foundational truths of THE PILLAR TRUTHS, THAT IF CORRUPTED YOU CANNOT MAKE HEAVEN. YOU CANNOT BE SAVED.

THE GOSPEL.

THE PERSON OF CHRIST.
THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Priest I talked to at work about why I left the Catholic Church.
The unchangeable church keeps changing.

Told if you eat meat on Friday and don't confess it on Saturday and die you committed a mortal sin and would go to hell.

Than Vatican II did away with that.

Saint Christopher.
Nun enumerated all the mortal sins. Vatican II changed a lot of those things.

Priest said, Oh these were just insignificant changes, not important.
I said, what is more important than how you go to heaven or go to hell?

There are some essential truths.

II Corinthians 11:2 For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.
II Corinthians 11:3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

II Corinthians 11:4 For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

INVITATION

Are you sure sure you are saved?
Is there a time when you asked Him into your heart and life?

If so, have you been baptized in the name of the Father Son and Holy Ghost?

SALVATION.
BAPTISM.
Are you coming to Church to learn more about Him?
This is how you get the mind of Christ.

PART II MESSAGE ***HOW TO UNDERSTAND GOD'S THOUGHTS AND WAYS***

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 55:9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Isaiah 55:10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

I. WE MUST COME TO THE PERSON OF JESUS CHRIST AND KNOW HIM.

II. THE SECOND GREATEST MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT GOD IS HOW WE PLEASE GOD.

Once we know His person we need to understand what pleases Him.

Until we know the person of Christ we cannot know and accept the next truth about God's ways and God's thoughts.

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 55:9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

NOTE RIGHT AFTER HE SAYS THIS HE TALKS ABOUT HIS WORD.

Isaiah 55:10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Until we come to know Christ we cannot know His ways.

Until we come to Christ we really will not understand the Scripture.

He is called the Word, the living Word. Apart from Him we cannot understand His word.

The greatest evidence that we have received Christ and know Him is that we have His spirit. When we receive Him we also will be given His spirit. The Holy Spirit of God.

The greatest evidence that we have His spirit is manifested in our submission to the Word of God and reception of the Word of God.

Babies desire milk.

New born Christians desire the Bible.

I Peter 2:2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

When we receive His spirit we get His mind so His thoughts can be understood.

1. JESUS EXPLAINED THE DILEMMA OF WHY PEOPLE HEAR BUT DO NOT HEAR.

John 8:39 They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham.

John 8:40 But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham.

John 8:41 Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.

John 8:42 Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me.

John 8:43 Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word.

John 8:44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

John 8:45 And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not.

Jesus said it plainly. Those who do not and will not come to Him are of their father the devil, and the devil does what?

II Corinthians 4:3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

II Corinthians 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Those who do not know Christ and will not believe on Him will have eyes but they cannot see.

They will have ears but they will not hear.

2. IF WE HAVE THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST WE SHOULD SUBMIT TO HIS WORD.

John 8:46 Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?

John 8:47 He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.

The greatest evidence that we are indeed born again of the spirit of God is that we love His Word and want to submit to His Word.

3. THERE ARE MANY TRUTHS IN THE BIBLE THAT IN OUR HUMAN MIND WE MAY NOT UNDERSTAND BUT IN OUR SPIRIT WE WILL ACCEPT AND BELIEVE.

Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Talking to a Jehovah witness said how can you expect me to believe something I don't understand?

Meaning the trinity.

I said, do you believe God created the world in 6 literal days?

Hebrews 11:3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

THIS IS FAITH, WE BELIEVE IT BECAUSE THE BIBLE SAYS IT.

This was the whole point of John 6 when he purposely shared things that those Jews could not understand.

THE GREATEST THING THAT GOD WANTS FROM US IS OUR FAITH. THIS IS HOW WE PLEASE HIM.

John 6:28 Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?

John 6:29 Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.

GOD WANTS OUR FAITH. AND JESUS IS CALLED THE LIVING WORD.

It is not our works that please God. What can we do to please God?
It is our faith, our trust and obedience to His word that pleases Him.

Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

**THE GREATEST MISUNDERSTANDINGS CONCERNING GOD..
PART III**

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 55:9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

- I. HOW WE KNOW GOD.
- II. WHAT PLEASES GOD.

III. ONE OF THE GREATEST MISUNDERSTANDINGS ABOUT GOD IS WHY HE SENDS PEOPLE TO HELL AND PERDITION.

Greatest misunderstanding about God is in this important matter of salvation or perdition.

Mark 8:36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

1. WE NEED TO REALIZE ALL MANKIND IS LOST AND UNDER CONDEMNATION!

Men can and do reason many things concerning these doctrines.
YET WE NEED TO SUBMIT OUR THOUGHTS TO WHAT GOD SAYS.

But he said, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.

Romans 9:16 So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

Romans 9:17 For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth.

Romans 9:18 Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth.

Romans 9:19 Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will?

Romans 9:20 Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus?

Romans 9:21 Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?

Romans 9:22 What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction:

Romans 9:23 And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory,

We as Christians criticize the humanist for deifying man and putting man above God. Yet most Born Again Christians do the very same thing by humanizing the gospel message.

God will not and can not and He is not going to compromise His eternal ways and nature to benefit man.

All are lost. Some people He allows to be hardened.

John 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

We cannot come to God except He draw us.

No human reasoning, no manipulation, no human plotting, no amount of man made religion or works.

He warns all.

All hear the same message.

All are warned.

Yet all do not come to be saved.

Now the world doesn't like that fact.

THIS PUTS MAN IN A COMPLETELY HUMBLING STATE. MAN IS NOT EXALTED IN THE LEAST. THE ONLY THING WE CAN DO IS HUMBLE OURSELVES AND COME TO HIM.

Paul says, who is God to find fault?

How can He find fault when He knows before a person is even born whether they would receive Him or reject Him???

QUESTION IS, WHO IS SUPREME? MAN OR GOD? THIS HAS BEEN THE ISSUE FROM THE BEGINNING OF TIME.

Whenever a preacher becomes too successful and too big for his britches God brings him down.

Imagine, Imagine being in the business of exalting God and in turn you becoming exalted.

1 Timothy 3:6 Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

MAN AND HIS WILL.

or

GOD AND HIS WILL.

Whose glory is more important, God's or Man's?

Bottom line is we are for the most part desirous of magnifying man more than God!

We go to men rather than God.

We are more impressed with men than God.

We look to men rather than God.

Our hope is in man more than God.

We exalt men more than God.

NOTE: That he allowed his own son to suffer a horrible death is proof that He is righteous and this was the awful price necessary to pay for mankind's sins.

IF HE WAS HUMBLLED, HOW MUCH MORE DOES HE REQUIRE US TO BE HUMBLLED!

Wait, preacher you say, The Bible says..

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

I Timothy 1:15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

YES BUT THERE HAS TO BE SOME PRINCIPLES THAT GOD WOULD NOT COMPROMISE.

Even to save man.

If it were not so there would be no hell. If it were not so, then all would be saved.

THE FACT IS CHRIST PROVIDED SALVATION FOR ALL. THAT IS HIS MERCY.

NOT ALL RECEIVE HIM AND THEREFORE NOT ALL GET SAVED. THAT IS HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS.

There is a hell because of man's pride.

There is a hell because men will not bend to God's ways and insist on their own ways.

Talk to people who say, I can't imagine a righteous God who would ever send anyone to hell. Yeah you can never imagine it, because:

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 55:9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The Lord is trying to salvage everyone He can, but for those who will not there is a hell.

I salvage pianos, some are not worth salvaging..

Fellow said Hell is God's furnace.
I said no Hell is God's garbage pit.

God will never and can not violate His righteous character in order to benefit man.

Some think that God is going to save everyone.
These are Universalists.

Matthew 7:13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in there at:

Most people will not come to God on His terms and because of that it is sad but true, that God is going to have to send them into the garbage pit of hell.

2. *God is the in salvage business and He is trying to take people who are spiritually good for nothing and make them good for something.*

In order to do that God first must separate you from your source of corruption.

That source is non other than Satan.

Satan is that leaven that spoils people.
Satan is the corrupter.
Satan is the poison in the pot.

You cannot serve God and serve Satan.
You cannot love God and the devil.
You cannot be with God and with Satan!!!

Illus. Good bread. Whole wheat. Muli Grain Bread.
She goes to a special market and gets it.
Goes a bit stale. But I like the bread, so when my wife says throw it away I say no, wait, I can cut off the bad part. God has got to separate you from the devil before you can be saved.

Illus. It took a work of God to do this. Jesus was the knife that God used, that knife came between mankind and the devil and He has the power to free us from His leaven.

But if we reject this work of Christ God has no choice but to throw us to the garbage pit of hell

Matthew 25:31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

Matthew 25:32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

Matthew 25:33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Matthew 25:34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

Matthew 25:35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

Matthew 25:36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

Matthew 25:37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

Matthew 25:38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

Matthew 25:39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

Matthew 25:40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Matthew 25:41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

Matthew 25:42 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink:

Matthew 25:43 I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

Matthew 25:44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?

Matthew 25:45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.

Matthew 25:46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Matthew 25:41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

Hell is prepared for the Devil and his angels.

God has provided a way to separate us from Satan..

On the cross He defeated the devil and took away the greatest weapon he has.

DEATH

Hebrews 2:14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

Some people love living in Satan's kingdom so much they refuse the gift of God and deem themselves worthless for eternity.

There is not going to be one person in hell that sincerely accepted Christ's work on the cross, and had Him in their heart and turned from the kingdom of Satan to the Kingdom of God.

What is in your heart will affect your actions. So it is that in this parable. During the darkest days in the history of mankind, when Satan himself will be reigning persecution and terrorizing the saints, just giving a preacher a cup of water, a visit in prison, offering some clothing, will be evidence of sincere faith in Christ.

But no matter what you think, those who love darkness rather than light, those who show themselves to be children of the wicked one, those who hate the good and love the evil, those who are ashamed of Christ and His people WILL WIND UP IN A DEVILS HELL.

You may say, I don' believe that.

Illus. Jehovah witness, could you imagine,
 can think of a loving God allowing a place called hell?

THAT IS BECAUSE:

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

Isaiah 55:9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

***GREAT MISUNDERSTANDINGS CONCERNING GOD
PART IV
Great Misunderstands of God.
HIS PRINCIPLES OF AUTHORITY.***

- I. HOW WE GET TO KNOW GOD.
- II. WHAT PLEASURES GOD.
- III. HOW WE GET SAVED AND WHY THERE IS A HELL. HEAVEN AND HELL.

- IV. GOD WILL NOT CIRCUMVENT HIS PRINCIPLES OF AUTHORITY IN ORDER THAT GOOD MIGHT COME. MISUNDERSTANDING CONCERNING HEADSHIP.**

Now this morning, I just felt led of the Lord to go ahead a preach on the controversial and unpopular subjects.

You see one of the most unpopular subjects today is the topic of hell.

But the next most unpopular subject if not even greater,
is the subject of God's established authority and natural design.
Some call it the doctrine of headship.

The head is the authority or ruler.

In college we had a department head.
There was one professor who was the head of the Music department.
There was one professor that was the head of the History Dept.
There was a head coach.
There was a head principal and assistant principal.
There was the head of financial dept
There was a head or chief janitor.

The person who was the head had a greater authority over him.
The president of Principle was over all the heads of the depts.

Now, who made it this way?

GOD. For the ultimate head of everyone is God.

GOD WILL NOT ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO REBEL.

God never blesses rebellion.

God will not have you to circumvent your authority or head in order that good may come of it.

How does this work?

- A. God is the head of all.
- B. Humanly speaking, God formed man in His image. He is and was the earthly head of all of God's creation.

Psalms 8:4 What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

Psalms 8:5 For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

Psalms 8:6 Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet:

- C. God made a woman who was to be under the headship of her husband.
- D. God made children who were to be under the headship of Mom and Dad.
- E. All of society works off of this principle of headship.

Now let's just make this whole thing practical.

God cannot totally bless you when you violate the pattern of headship your life.

APPLICATIONS

1. All of Men's problems stem from the fact that he is not acknowledging God's headship and authority in their lives.

All sin entered into this world because of our rebellion against our creator.

Salvation is in fact placing yourself back under the headship of Christ.

Sin entered this world when Eve took the helm of the family and decided to disobey her husband and eat of the forbidden fruit.

When Adam took of that fruit he rejected God's headship and failed to exercise his leadership in the home, and then the human race fell into sin.

When you receive Christ as your spiritual head, He teaches His servants to respect their earthly authorities and leadership.

When you get under the headship of Christ, Christ teaches you men how to respect the headship of you earthly employer, government, etc..

2. To Understand God's Ways is to understand Authority for God is the ultimate authority and all authority is set up by God..

Romans 13:1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

Romans 13:2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

Romans 13:3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:

Romans 13:4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.

3. When we think we can circumvent the way God ordained Authority and headships and be blessed we are wrong, dead wrong.

Some ways people try to circumvent this..

- A. Rejection of Christ's Headship.

We reject the authority of God and want nothing to do with the Church and His leadership.

Ephesians 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

Ephesians 5:24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

Illus. What is the job of the preacher? Is it not to preach and tell you the ways of God? Those who reject God reject His church.

Illus. People find all kind of fault in the church.
Remember people found fault in Christ, but there was none.

The church is not a perfect place, but even though you may get some buck shot in with your turkey you can always spit out the buckshot and still enjoy the turkey.

No perfect preacher and no perfect church, but God commands us to be under the authority of the church so that He could test us to see if we would be under His authority.

What makes you think that you would obey Christ if in his absence you cannot support that institution He loved the most and died for on the cross?

Another way that we see the rejection of this Scriptural Principle.

Women who usurp the spiritual leadership and authority in the Church by way of example reject Christ's headship.

Christ is the husband. Every Pastor is filling in for Christ while He is away. Therefore the Pastor must take on the husband figure.

Even if a woman is very knowledgable and could preach well.
Still she is not to usurp the spiritual leadership in the church.
By doing so she is dishonoring Christ.

I Timothy 2:11 Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection.

I Timothy 2:12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.

I Timothy 2:13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve.

I Timothy 2:14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

I Timothy 2:15 Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

B. Those who fail to follow parental authority wind up failing in this life.

Ephesians 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

Ephesians 6:2 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;

Ephesians 6:3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

Some commandments are given and hold no promise, but only a curse.

Illus. You do not get rewarded for keeping the speed limit.
 If we do not commit adultery we should not expect a reward.
 If we do not kill we only do what is expected.

There are commandments with promise.

Tithing is a commandment with promise.

Malachi 3:10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Obedying your parents is the first commandment ever given by God with a promise of a blessing.

Illus. Dad with Barber Business.
 Dad with College. music school.

C.Those who never learn to serve their parents well never become good employees.

Every child works for hardly any pay at all.
Children who take out the garbage.
Children who help mom and dad.
Children who do their chores.
Become better workers.

Someday they get a Job and the boss asks them to do a little extra thing that is beyond the job description because they served their parents well and learned to do so without complaint They quickly shift gears and apply that same servant like attitude for their employer and find that they are the ones who get promoted.

Those who rebelled against parents, when dad was cutting the lawn they were out playing baseball with their buddies.

When dad was working on the car they were talking on the phone with their friends.

When Mom was doing the dishes they were watching the soaps.

THESE ARE THE BEGINNING OF FAILURE IN THE WORK WORLD.

It is usually people who failed to serve their parents who think they need to be the bosses of this world.

They get their own company and find that none of their employees will listen to them and soon they find themselves bankrupt.

People who cannot work successfully for others try to work for themselves and fail.

Most of the problems people have in this life in later years are because they failed to respect their God ordained spiritual head.

A Mom, a Dad. Etc.

Invitation:

The greatest tragedy in this life is when people fail to make Jesus their spiritual head.

Philippians 2:9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

Philippians 2:10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

Philippians 2:11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Colossians 1:14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

Colossians 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

Colossians 1:16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

Colossians 1:17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Colossians 1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

Colossians 1:19 For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;

HAVE YOU ACKNOWLEDGED HIS HEADSHIP?

IS HE YOUR LORD. KING. GOD. SAVIOR.

What hH is you cannot change.

He is the Head of all, whether you acknowledge it or not does not change it. But by acknowledging his headship you receive His blessing.

Two decisions need to be made.

PART V
GREATEST MISUNDERSTANDINGS CONCERNING GOD
GOD WILL NOT COMPROMISE AND DO EVIL THAT GOOD MIGHT COME

- I. HOW WE COME TO GOD
- II. WHAT PLEASES GOD
- III. DIVINE SALVATION AND RETRIBUTION
- IV. DIVINE PRINCIPLES OF AUTHORITY

- 1. Christ is the head.
- 2. Parental Headship.
- 3. Headship in the church.
Pastoral leadership.

**V. *God will not compromise the way He works even that Good may come*
GOD WILL NOT COMPROMISE THESE PRINCIPLES.**

Numbers 23:19 God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

1. *Husband Wife Relationship and Authority.*

I Peter 3:1 Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;

You would think that if a husband is disobeying the word that the Bible would justify a wife who would correct him with the word of God.

Illus. Bible forbids the wife to preach to her husband.
Because it breaks the picture of headship.

2. *God did not ask Israel to circumvent Pharaohs Authority Even when leaving Egypt.*

Exodus 5:1 And afterward Moses and Aaron went in, and told Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness.

Exodus 5:2 And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.

Exodus 5:3 And they said, The God of the Hebrews hath met with us: let us go, we pray thee, three days' journey into the desert, and sacrifice unto the LORD our God; lest he fall upon us with pestilence, or with the sword.

Exodus 5:4 And the king of Egypt said unto them, Wherefore do ye, Moses and Aaron, let the people from their works? get you unto your burdens.

Exodus 5:5 And Pharaoh said, Behold, the people of the land now are many, and ye make them rest from their burdens.

Exodus 5:6 And Pharaoh commanded the same day the taskmasters of the people, and their officers, saying,

Exodus 5:7 Ye shall no more give the people straw to make brick, as heretofore: let them go and gather straw for themselves.

Exodus 5:8 And the tale of the bricks, which they did make heretofore, ye shall lay upon them; ye shall not diminish ought thereof: for they be idle; therefore they cry, saying, Let us go and sacrifice to our God.

Exodus 7:16 And thou shalt say unto him, The LORD God of the Hebrews hath sent me unto thee, saying, Let my people go, that they may serve me in the wilderness: and, behold, hitherto thou wouldest not hear.

Exodus 8:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, Go unto Pharaoh, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Let my people go, that they may serve me.

Exodus 8:20 And the LORD said unto Moses, Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh; lo, he cometh forth to the water; and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Let my people go, that they may serve me.

Exodus 9:1 Then the LORD said unto Moses, Go in unto Pharaoh, and tell him, Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, Let my people go, that they may serve me.

Exodus 9:13 And the LORD said unto Moses, Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, Let my people go, that they may serve me.

Exodus 10:3 And Moses and Aaron came in unto Pharaoh, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, How long wilt thou refuse to humble thyself before me? let my people go, that they may serve me.

Exodus 12:30 And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for there was not a house where there was not one dead.

Exodus 12:31 And he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, Rise up, and get you forth from among my people, both ye and the children of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as ye have said.

Exodus 12:32 Also take your flocks and your herds, as ye have said, and be gone; and bless me also.

Did God have to ask Pharaoh 10 times to let the people go!

Application: We so often tell our authorities what we are going to do. instead of asking them.

Church membership.

I am going to go. if God himself would not violate a heathen kings authority over his slaves, and in fact, when it cost the Egyptians their firstborn the Lord demanded of Israel their firstborn to make things right.

3. *We work just the opposite of God. We think the end justifies the means.*

The greatest error that we see amongst Christians is thinking that God is pleased as long as souls are getting saved. In other words... God will overlook misrepresenting Him, doing things that are not quite right, compromise, etc. as long as souls get saved.

A. This is the philosophy of Billy Graham.
People get saved, but he cooperates with ungodly clergy, and churches.
God will forgive it because the ends justifies the means.

B. Many of our independent Baptists have gone this route.

We disrespect God in our standards, of music and separation, and all the rest. but sours get saved so it is justified.

C. Doing God's work our own way is nothing more than iniquity.

Luke 13:22 And he went through the cities and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem.

Luke 13:23 Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them,

Luke 13:24 Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.

Luke 13:25 When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence ye are:

Luke 13:26 Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets.

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.

Luke 13:28 There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out.

Luke 13:29 And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God.

Luke 13:30 And, behold, there are last which shall be first, and there are first which shall be last.

Just verbal assent and religious service does not make you pleasing to God.

Matthew 7:20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

Matthew 7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

Matthew 7:22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

Matthew 7:23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Matthew 7:24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

Matthew 7:25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

Matthew 7:26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

Matthew 7:27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

Matthew 7:28 And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine:

Conclusion:

Many misunderstandings concerning God.

We don't understand who He is and how He operates.

Conclusion:

1. It is important that we totally yield our lives to him in perfect obedience to His will..
2. We need to lay aside our own thoughts and bias and submit to His word. Let us not even interpret the Bible in light of our thinking.. but submit our thinking to him.
3. Let us not think that God is pleased when we compromise to attain what we think is the supreme Good..

Is the supreme God Glorifying God..

Is the supreme good the salvation of men? We seek the salvation of men because this brings glory to God but when it would take dishonoring God to win someone we must leave their souls in God's hands.

4. God Himself set the example.
Wives. Husbands. Win them without violating headship.
Pharaoh. Israel. Let my people Go.

Do we now think that we can violate these principles and attribute our actions to obedience to God?

God is so misunderstood.
If we want god's blessings let us do things God's way. Always.