

Lost in INTERPRETATION

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Main Scripture: 1 Corinthians 2: 8

Supporting scriptures: 2 Timothy 3: 16-17; 1. Corinthians 2:11; John 8: 32; John 1:9-11; John 1: 29-51; Isaiah 9: 1-2 ; Hosea 6: 3; Matthew 12: 22 ; Matthew 13: 10 - 13 , 34-35; Romans 1:22-32; Job 36: 26; St. John 6: 52-59; Psalm 119: 9-16

The story of the Ethiopian Eunuch - Acts 8: 26-40

2 Thessalonians 2: 9-12

St. Luke 8: 18

Interpretation: to be able to correctly understand the meaning of something.

When you are translating from one language to another some words are not able to be interpreted correctly because the other language does not have that word. But if you are able to interpret correctly then you can take the message in context and interpret it correctly. Example being the Hebrew text to English. But God gave the writers wisdom to translate the scriptures and we can rest assured that what was given is translated correctly. It is important for us to embrace the mind of God to take on the correct way of looking at the scriptures.

Bible says that the scriptures are inspired by God. (2 Timothy 3: 16-17)

When this is communicated there is a specific means of understanding we need to grasp what God is saying so Paul here is addressing an issue in Corinth. He labels his audience as carnal, there were some divisions- some following Paul and some following Apollos and another that said that they want to follow Jesus. - so Paul says they are carnal and he can't explain certain things to them.

Paul is teaching us an important concept - if any man will have an understanding of the things of God we need the Spirit of God. If not we will be lost in interpretation, we will be married by the things of this world.

The same deception from the beginning - satan wanted to find Eve isolated and vulnerable where he can attack. To find you in hurt or frustration or annoyance or anger. Satan studies for timing and so he studied Eve when she was by herself and found a time to attack.

Whatever spiritual truth revealed to us Satan's task is to corrupt that and bring it to a carnal way of thinking.

So the first Jab was - "you shall not surely die God knows you will be as gods knowing good and evil" - he makes Eve doubt the word God has given.

So Eve gets to looking at the tree in a carnal way and sees that it is good for food. The scripture says she saw it as desirable the carnal lens magnified the beauty of the tree — it looks so beautiful to the eyes but destructive to the soul. "It's beautiful" "it's desirable to make me wise"

Carnal mind thinks- if I eat this I will be wise

This is the danger- we look, we think we know and we make decisions independent of God

How many of us look at our lives and think we know what is right?

This is dangerous thinking because our eyes and ears give us a certain amount of information and so we think we have gathered enough information to make a decision but the wisdom of this world is devilish (James 3:15) - Satans doctrine says that you can be a God to your own self and thus is able to corrupt our heart and we carry on this message to others as Eve did to Adam

It is therefore important to stand at the gateway of truth and see if the information will corrupt the doctrine of God. Asking God for direction.

No one comprehends the thoughts of God except the spirit of God (1. Corinthians 2:11)

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Jesus came according to the scriptures and everything he did was already written in the scriptures he was here to fulfill the scriptures but no one could understand the light (John 1:9-11)

John 1: 29-51

John grew up being separated from Jesus as he was growing up. He was separated as God will do to some of us so that we can not misinterpret heavenly revelation with our carnal minds.

John now sees that its Jesus that has the spirit descend on Jesus and now his disciples are all excited and Johns disciples want to follow Jesus (v35)

Nathaniel questioned the revelation because Jesus was from Nazareth. (Sometimes we question the revelation because we don't have all the facts) and so Phillip says to Nathaniel to come and see (see the acts) and you will know if something good can come out of a dark place like Nazareth.

When Nathaniel met Jesus he recognized that this man was not ordinary and then he opened up and dropped his false understanding and was willing to pick up the correct spiritual understanding.

He that comes to God must first believe that he is and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him

But there were others not like Nathaniel in John 7: 46 -51 Who got stuck on the carnal understanding and so there was a division the Pharisees thought they knew the scripture and knew everything about the scriptures (they said there is no prophet out of Galilee) and so instead of seeing the works of God like Nathaniel did, they shone and shut the door of revelation

Isaiah 9: 1-2

This scripture shows us that even though Galilee was a place of darkness, when the Messiah appears, the people who were locked out of the revelation - in Galilee the light appeared. The Pharisees were ignorant of the Scriptures professing to be wise they were fools (Romans 1:22-32)

"Behold God is great but we know him not" - Job 36: 26

It's important to understand how Jesus gives the interpretation

Matthew 12: 22

The people saw this miracle and say this lines up with the son of David the messiah

But the phrases would teach the people that when the messiah comes he would :

1. Cleanse a leaper
2. Open the eyes of a man born blind
3. raise someone from the dead - dead for three days
4. Heal one who is blind and dumb

(They thought that in order to cast out a devil they would have to get information from the devil to cast it out but this man was blind and dumb)

And the so the Pharisees looked on the light and said no this is a demon. They look at the truth and called it a lie (they turned the truth of God into a lie - Romans 1:25)

So the people began to hear them but in Matthew 13 they had a great multitude and he spake many things to them in parables

Why did he speak in parables? Was it he wanted to reveal spiritual truth and this was the greatest way?

Matthew 13: 10 - 13

Disciples asked the question and he answered in verse 11 - 13

13. *This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. **14**Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says:*

““You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive.”

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15 For this people's heart has grown dull,
 and with their ears, they can barely hear,
 and their eyes they have closed,
 lest they should see with their eyes
 and hear with their ears
 and understand with their heart
 and turn, and I would heal them.'

Jesus explains the reason he speaks in parables is that they have seen but refused to see

He told them another parable. "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened."

34 All these things Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed, he said nothing to them without a parable. 35 This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet:^a

"I will open my mouth in parables;
 I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world."

Parables kept them in spiritual blindness because they refused to acknowledge Christ and so he spoke to them in parables that they could not understand. Now we know why when they searched for Jesus to feed them and make him king he said labor, not for that which will perish

And then he said that they should eat his flesh and drink his blood and so they vomited up the truth and clung to the lies (St. John 6: 52-59)

We will always stumble and fall when we reject the truth. And when truth leaves the room confusion will come in and so that's why we have so many different churches but can God's body be divided.

Men were approaching the word of God with their own doctrine and so Paul said that everything needed to be done in decency and in order. Everyone has their own interpretation of what should be done. And so Paul said to sit and learn in silence because God is not the author of confusion and so now confusion is banging on the door of the church trying to bring in false doctrine and carnal ways and we would walk in error

How shall a young man cleanse his ways? By taking heed to the word of God - Psalm 119: 9-16

confusion will open the door to delusion - this is more dangerous

At least when you are confused you know you are confused and you need understanding

The story of the Ethiopian Eunuch - Acts 8: 26-40

Here is a man in the wilderness confused but he gets understanding from Phillip and the confusion is gone and he is then baptized. Now he can go rejoicing because clarity has come.

Many of us are filled with the spirit but we are not walking in the spirit and we need to "stir up the spirit of God within us"

Delusion is very deadly because the person believes they are walking in truth and they have no desire for anything else.

The Pharisees were so delusional that they believed they can keep their place by crucifying Christ.

2 Thessalonians 2: 9-12

The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, 10 and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. 11 Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, 12 in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

The spirit of delusion is coming on the earth now through false doctrine and signs and wonders so we can be lost in interpretation and we say yes that's the hand of God

Or we hear the man of God speak a word and we interpret that it was for someone else.

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Let's humble ourselves and ask God to open our eyes like David who prayed to God - open my eyes so I may understand the wonderful things of your Law

Peter even said Paul wrote things that were hard to undertone so that those who are unlearned twisted the scriptures.

The word of God is a two-edged sword so be careful how you hear.

Luke 8: 18

Take care then how you hear, for to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he thinks that he has will be taken away."

How we hear is how we live:

Heart types:

1. Receives the word gladly but has no depth so that the word can't grow
 1. Be like Mary and ponder the things in your heart
 2. Like Paul who did not confirm with flesh and blood but he spent time with Jesus
2. The word falls by the wayside
 1. Do we keep the word diligently
 2. People who start off well and end up in err
3. Word is choked by Riches
 1. Guard your heart against the lust of the eyes, flesh, and pride of life
4. Good soil
 1. The heart Jesus wants all of us to have Luke 8: 15
 2. Do we cling to the word and patiently produce a great harvest.
 3. Somethings we won't understand right away (Hosea 6) - if we follow on to know then we shall know the lord

Let us not seek to know God on our own means but seek to know God through his Spirit.

It is the Father's good pleasure to give you the Holy Spirit.

Jesus wants to fill you so you may know the mind of Christ.

John 8: 32-- continue in his word

Even if we don't know what's happening don't mock don't criticize but continues in the word so we don't get lost in interpretation.