Kings Norton Baptist Church

Sunday 14th July 2024 10 am

Start thinking straight!

Opening Scripture.	
Hymn	MP 109 Crown Him with many Crowns
Prayer	
Scripture	Isaiah 42:1-12 (page 727)
Children's talk	
Chorus	MP 319 I'd rather have Jesus thank silver or Gold
Notices	Next Sunday, photographer, Cameo Lunch
Prayer and Lord's prayer	
Readings	Proverbs 3:1-18 (page 637)
	1 Cor 3:18-23 (page 1146)
Hymn	MP 445 Lord the light of your love
Sermon	Start thinking straight!
Hymn	MP 463 May the mind of Christ my saviour
Closing Prayer	Read out MP 464 together to each other

Prayer

- I turned up at the dentist a couple of months ago and found they were not expecting me it was the wrong day! Ever done that? No?
- I was an hour late for a service in Hereford years ago. I had not checked just how far it was from Birmingham, I thought it was near Worcester. What a regret.

These everyday examples show how wrong thinking produced wrong actions. I could have acted properly, if I had got my thinking right.

It is particularly true for a Christian.

- The FIEC sent an email through to me a couple of weeks ago, it was entitled: General Election: How to "Think Christianly"
- \Rightarrow Yes to think 'Christianly'. All of us who are Christians should think 'Christianly'.

To be a Christian man or woman, boy or girl is to be a changed person, and that means a changed mind, we are to be *different* in our thinking. That is one of the signs of true conversion. To be a Christian - and not think like a Christian, not to think Biblically, - is a contradiction in terms. And yet it was a big problem then in the church at Corinth, as it is sadly now a big problem today, with the church in Birmingham.

In the church in Corinth Paul recognises that they <u>are</u> genuine Christians, as in 1:4 he **thanks God for** them **because of the grace given** them **in Christ Jesus.** So it is relevant for us as Christians. But although true believers they had allowed the new way of thinking, to be choked but the old ways of thinking.

Today's sermon title is 'start thinking straight', to get our thinking straight!

Wrong thinking, a wrong view of something, is behind most of our problems as Christians today, both individually, and as a church. How I think, affects how I live; - As a man thinks so he is goes the proverb.

Another proverb says: there are many ways that seem right to man – but in the end they lead to death, for they are derived from worldly wisdom.

In the news we see national church leaders make pronouncements on moral issues particularly marriage, gender, etc. It is very clear that their thinking is <u>not</u> from the Bible - <u>but</u> from the society around.

I know church leaders who 'um and ahh' when it comes to these things, matters about which the Bible speaks in a very straightforward manner.

When someone becomes a Christian Christ's Spirit comes to indwell that person. Christ's Spirit, God's Holy Spirit brings to us not the things of the world, but the things that are of God. That we might understand the things that are from God. When this happens we suddenly see things differently.

The person <u>without</u> the Spirit can only see things one way, his or her way. But for the one <u>with</u> the Spirit there's a change, he has the mind of Christ, the wisdom of Christ and so sees the truth of God, the truth of this world, the

truth about me and the truth about what God has done for me in Christ, all these things were previously hidden from me. The one without the Spirit can see none of this, their mind is on earthly things, it is all about this life.

But the man or woman with the spirit can say "I know what happens when I die, I am clear about what God is like, I understand sin, my sin, I have a right <u>self</u>-assessment, I understand God's unfolding plan to redeem lost people through the cross of Christ. I know that Christ will soon return."

The Christian man or woman, boy or girl has a different view of <u>everything</u>. We should be able to say, "as I now am - so I will think"!

The Christian view of origins, the age of the earth, of work, of rest, of retirement, of holiday is not the same as the world around. A Christian sees wealth, position, 'success' responsibility, authority, family, in a different way to those around. A non-Christian, one who does not have Christ's Spirit will never see things in a Godly way - for they are spiritually revealed.

And yet as a Christian, x2 I can foolishly suppress the light of the Spirit - and in weakness return to, succumb to the old ways and be led along by them. This is the issue this morning, I must <u>not</u> try to live the <u>Christian</u> life governed by the prevailing standards of the world, - it doesn't work.

For example if I think "I expect others to support me, I don't expect to suffer, my time is my own, my family comes first" ... I won't be able to live as Christ intends me to live. These views, and many others, while fitting snuggly with the world around, are contrary to what the Lord says.

Is that you? It is easy to be self-deceived, to slip into believing that the way most people think is how I should think. It may be 'normal', but it's wrong!

That is why Paul says: Do not deceive yourselves. Here's a 'do not'

deceived, is what Eve said of Satan in the garden of Eden. (the Greek OT, Gen 3:13) When Adam and Eve were both deceived sin, - entered the world and they started to believe a lie. They now thought something that was <u>not</u> true - as if it <u>was</u> true. Once **deceived**, - they became self-**deceived**.

That corruption of sin has come to us all through them. I now have a corrupt <u>heart</u> turning my desires away from my maker towards a substitute, an idol. I also have a corrupt <u>mind</u>, now instead of seeing the truth I believe a twisted distorted view, a delusion, a lie.

1. Do not be deceived. Do not now assume your view is right. Do not say "*this seems right to me so it must be right*". Do not be wise in your own eyes. Do not follow anything which is contrary to what God's word says. The local context

As Paul writes to the Christians at Corinth, fair time is given to addressing problems in the church. We have not got that far yet, that is to come.

By the end of our chapter 3 this morning Paul summarises what he has said to them in the first three chapters of the letter. Wrong thinking meant that they had forgotten that their ministers are but men, and instead given them deference due only to God.

 \Rightarrow One commentator said: Faithful ministers are a great blessing to their people; yet the folly and weakness of people can do mischief to what should be a blessing. A number in the church had a party spirit, fallen into factions, followed their natural instincts and sided with their favourite leader. They had set them up as their head, and gloried in them. The only way to avoid this evil is a change of thinking.

Unsurprisingly behind this is the basic sin of – pride. Chapter 4 throws more light on this. They were Greeks converted out of the ungodliness all around them at Corinth. How wonderful that was. To be lifted above, saved from, made clean, and now to share in the glories of heaven. Raised up with Christ, set free with every Spiritual blessing – but now they had become proud. 4:8 "Already you have all you want! Already you have become rich! You have become kings—and that without us!"

Pride lurks near the surface of every human heart - and our old way of thinking encourages it. The Greeks had in their culture a mindset that separated the spiritual from the physical. Therefore, if someone became a Christian they were tempted to rejoiced in their spiritual blessings – but fail to see that Jesus came to change the whole person; soul, body and mind.

\Rightarrow Our call to Holiness is a call to Holiness with my whole being. x2

Start thinking straight! – Let us learn this morning that the Lord has called you to *love Him with your mind*, x2. That will mean constant discipline. That means constant conditioning of your thoughts to fall in line with what

God has said in His word. That means to read and be affected by what you read. That means to listen to preaching and be affected but what you hear.

Is your thinking in-tune with the 'world' or with His 'word?' Don't know? – Quite! who can see his own blind spots! - it will show in your actions.

They just couldn't see it. Let us not be self-**deceived**. Paul puts his finger on their true sore, there's the problem, they were wise in their own eyes.

Prov 3:5 tells us to **lean not on your own understanding.** Our own minds, nor the principles of this world are to be trusted, however clever and persuasive the professors and experts may be - it is not wisdom. - Do not trust it. 18 **If any one of you thinks he is wise by the standards of this age,** Paul says we are to **become a fool, - he should become a ''fool'' so that he may become wise.**

In the church at Corinth the **standards of this age** showed in jealousy and quarrelling. Some followed Paul, some followed Paul, some followed Peter. They didn't see things the way the Lord does.

 \Rightarrow Their sin - grieved the Lord, - affected them, - and affected others. They had been taken out of the world to be the Lord's Holy separated people – but now the world needed to be taken out of them!

How relevant for us. A man or woman is saved in an instant, in a moment we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit – but weening us <u>off</u> the world is our ongoing battle. The renewing of our minds should be quickly evident, and yet the old ways of thinking - if not confronted and addressed will remain. It will linger, the old reasoning, the popular approach, the current way, the way our society now thinks about things, and deals with things, will prevail.

Peter having confessed that Christ was the promised Messiah was then rebuked by Jesus, He did not understand the way of suffering. Peter later denied the Lord, why? Because he did not know himself, he had a wrong view of himself. Later still the Lord had to change Peter's thinking to understand that the gift of saving Grace was for the non-Jews too.

John the Baptist thought wrongly about who Jesus was and sent his disciples to find out. Hadn't Jesus come to bring judgment? No, he'd come to bring salvation, - not to condemn, but to save. - Jesus had to correct him.

Who here this morning still does not see clearly who Jesus is? Is that you? It's important, more important than anything else in your life. Jesus said **if you do not believe I am who I am, you will die in your sin** Jo 8:48

How dreadful that is, the stakes are high, that is why Jesus the Holy One of God left the glories of heaven and came into this world to save sinners. Do you see that? Do you see His brightness, His splendour? His majesty, His eternal nature? Do you see His love for you?

When you see clearly who He is – then you will see clearly who you are.

And that's a shock. You will discover your fatal disease of sin. And yet at the same time you will hear of God's remedy, the cross of Christ. Here it is set before you. Here is the cure, the one cure, the only cure, made possible through <u>His</u> suffering - that <u>you</u> can be healed, and safe for eternity.

Christ Jesus will return soon, it could be today, - there are some here who are <u>not</u> ready for Him. I have a fair idea who you are. You are not ready for Him for you have no love for Him, no enthusiasm for Him, can you see that? Don't leave it until it is too late. **Do not deceive yourself** – you need saving, and you cannot save yourself. Come now x2. He beckons you.

Denounce the world, become a 'fool' in the sight of your friends, and humble yourself before the Lord of Glory. Trust in this invisible God, the true God of heaven and earth, and submit your life to Him.

Subject myself? Never!, how foolish! Yes, that's what others will think of you should you give up their way. But you must look to the Lord, make Him your Lord, do what <u>He</u> says, and show Him that you mean it.

The world will say you are a 'fool' to do that. Do not give in and pull back and take the cowardly way and fail to come to him. At the judgment you will be alone, naked before the God of wrath who will pronounce on you His judgment your due punishment. Not to act while you can, that is foolish!

The wise man or woman is concerned for his or her soul. Confess your sins and look up, to Christ – Christ who is sufficient to save you.

Still unmoved? Still think all is well? Beware, v19 Paul says the Lord **catches the wise in their craftiness.** Confirmed from *two* Scripture proofs, Job 5:13, Ps 94:11. The warning is that whatever wisdom men have of themselves - it is reckoned of <u>no account</u> in the sight of God. 20 **and again, ''The Lord knows that the thoughts of the wise are futile.** They are vain and powerless to save. Paul has laid out the cause behind the church problems at Corinth. They are a warning for us too. Wrong thinking means we don't see things properly - and therefore don't live properly. The result is to needlessly wrestle in our Christian lives, we hurt others, we hurt ourselves and we grieve our Lord.

Here are some examples:

Suffering. We all experience suffering, I know you think "but my suffering is harder, I find it too difficult, I don't like it." Quite, and it is made worse in that you didn't expect it. And you also want to know '*why*', - but your probably won't know 'why'! It could be your sin, and it is important to ask the question, some troubles and sicknesses are due to sin.

But in a general sense we have been told. The Lord said: "**in this world you will have trouble**". Troubles will come, they are part of His plan for you. There are lessons He wants to teach you. There is a characteristic to be instilled in you, and to be refined in you. But He says: **do not worry**, x2. He is with you through it. That is why Peter wrote to Christians saying **Do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering.** Indeed, expect it. Approach it as a soldier expects suffering and bears it, it is part of a soldiers life. Suffering is also part of a Christians life. Your commander is showing off your character, and revealing His Glory through you to everyone around.

The Bible is full of the Lord's people who laid bare their struggles. Think of all those psalms of David who called out in his suffering and knew the Lord's supernatural solace, help and comfort. That is yours too in Christ. Jesus has called you to share in his suffering that you may share in His life.

A failure to see this, or a failure to believe that God is sovereign over all things is the wrong thinking that causes the worry. You say He is, you sing the songs, but I wonder how affected you are by the TV you watch?, or your social media viewing? or what others in your family think? That is that *life is just random and chance, and I must do everything to avoid life difficulties*. In everything you can either fill your mind with the scriptures to equip you - or you can with the devils' help slip into worldly reasoning with all its fears and uncertainties so that you sin as you lie awake in bed and muse over your problems. For a Christian those fears are unreal and unfounded, - so trust Christ's good purposes for you.

Let me give another example, obedience to *authority*. All around us a lawless mindset says 'be independent, you decide, only do what see right to you'. Christians are different. We are to obey the authority of the land, do you? You should obey your church leaders, do you?

Another example is wrong thinking about the *church*. What a big problem this is among Christians today. And yet the Bible is full of teaching on the subject. I suspect the first problem of unwillingness to obey authority is behind the unwillingness to see the clear teaching - that the Lord looks at us as a body of people. We are a group, a whole, His people together, we belong to each other, we need each other, we are to work out our Christian lives together, and so we grow together. Christians who don't come to church don't grow. But Christians who do 'come to' church but do not engage as <u>part of the church</u> with all its inter-relational problems don't grow either, I can see it.

Praise God we are a real mix of people and ages, the church, when truly intergenerational, is a beautiful thing as people from all ages and stages interact, love one another, care for one another, and worship God together.

Some don't come, some don't take part, some like King Canute say "this far and no further" You lose out, we lose out, and the church limps along.

Another example of wrong thinking in the church is how we *relate to each other*. If someone upsets you, in word or deed, then don't go off and tell other people, or come and tell me, that is the way the world works. That is the quickest way for sin to come into the church – and you will be responsible for it. Do what Jesus said: go and tell them, just the two of you, let no-one else know about it. Then it is dealt with.

There's no time to think about how the world's way of thinking has affected how Christians see *worship*, or the way in which the *Lord saves*, etc. Let us in everything not be deceived - but start thinking straight! x2

As I finish let us train our minds to notice the needs of others, train my mind to always put myself last, train my mind to always give others the benefit of the doubt, to always assume the best motive, to forgive, not to keep a record of wrongs, etc, etc., here are marks of the new way of thinking - the new way of love so different from before.

21 So then, no more boasting about men! All things are yours, 22 whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all are yours, 23 and you are of Christ, and Christ is of God.

If we belong to Christ, and are true to him, all good belongs to us, and is sure to us. All is ours, time and eternity, earth and heaven, life and death. We will lack no good thing, Ps 84:11.

Let us start thinking straight! and not forget at the same time *that we are Christ's, we are His*, the subjects of his kingdom, his property. He is Lord over us, let us cheerfully submit to His command and yield my mind and will to His good pleasure. Then you will no longer conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-his good, pleasing and perfect will. Rom 12:1.2

END

Kings Norton Baptist Church

Start thinking straight!

Cantonese Sunday 14th July 202410 am

開經經。 聖詩 MP 109 為他加冕許多冠冕 禱告 經文以賽亞書 42:1-12 (第 727 頁) 兒童談話 合唱 MP 319 我寧願讓耶穌感謝銀牌或金牌 下调日通知, 攝影師, 客串午餐 禱告與主禱文 讀箴言 3:1-18 (第 637 頁) 哥林多前書 3:18-23 (第 1146 頁) 聖詩 MP 445 主啊, 祢的愛之光 講道 開始思考! 聖詩 MP 463 願基督的心我的救主 結束祈禱 互相朗讀 MP 464

禱告

幾個月前,我去看牙醫-發現他們並沒有在等我-那是錯誤的一天!曾經這樣做過嗎?不?

幾年前,我在赫里福德的一次禮拜中遲到了一個小時。我沒有查過它離伯明翰有多遠,我以為它 在伍斯特附近。真是遺憾啊。

這些日常例子顯示錯誤的思維如何導致錯誤的行動。如果我的想法正確的話、我本來可以採取正確的行 動。

對基督徒來說尤其如此。

FIEC 幾週前給我發了一封電子郵件,標題為:大選:如何"以基督教的方式思考"

□ 是的,以「基督教的方式」思考。我們所有基督徒都應該以「基督徒的方式」思考。

成為基督徒男人或女人,男孩或女孩,就是要成為一個改變的人,這意味著思想的改變,我們的思想要 有所不同。這是真正轉變的標誌之一。成為基督徒——

而不是像基督徒那樣思考,不按照聖經的方式思考——

是一種自相矛盾的說法。然而,這在當時的哥林多教會是一個大問題,可悲的是,現在這對伯明罕教會 來說也是一個大問題。

在哥林多教會,保羅承認他們是真正的基督徒,正如在1:4

中他為他們感謝神,因為在基督耶穌裡賜給他們的恩典。所以這對我們基督徒來說很重要。但是,儘管 他們是真正的信徒,卻允許新的思維方式被舊的思維方式所窒息。

今天講道的標題是"開始思考", 讓我們的思維清晰!

錯誤的思維,對某件事的錯誤看法,是我們今天作為基督徒個人和教會的大多數問題的根源。我如何思考,影響我如何生活;-諺語說,一個人這麼想,他就是這樣。

另一句諺語說:有許多方法,人看來是正確的,但最終卻導致死亡,因為它們都源自於世俗的智慧。 在新聞中,我們看到國家教會領袖就道德問題,特別是婚姻、性別等問題發表聲明。

我認識一些教會領袖,當談到這些事情時,他們會"嗯,啊",而聖經以非常直接的方式談到這些事情。 當一個人成為基督徒時,基督的靈就會住在那個人裡面。基督的靈,神的聖靈帶給我們的不是世上的事 世界,而是屬於神的事物。使我們能夠明白來自神的事。當這種情況發生時,我們突然以不同的方式看 待事物。

沒有聖靈的人只能以一種方式、祂或她的方式看待事物。但對於那些有聖靈的人來說,有一個改變,他 有基督的心意、基督的智慧,因此看到了神的真理、這個世界的真理、關於我的真理、神為我所做的一 切的真理在基督裡,所有這些事以前對我都是隱藏的。沒有聖靈的人看不見這一切,他們的心思都在地 上的事上,全都與今生有關。

但有靈的男人或女人可以說:「我知道我死後會發生什麼,我清楚神是什麼樣的,我了解罪,我的罪, 我有正確的自我評估,我了解神正在展開的救贖計劃因基督的十字架而迷失的人。我知道基督很快就會 再來。

基督徒男人或女人、男孩或女孩對一切都有不同的看法。我們應該能夠說, 「就像我現在一樣— 我也會這樣想」!

基督教對起源、地球年齡、工作、休息、退休、假期的看法與周圍的世界不同。基督徒看待財富、地位 、「成功」責任、權威、家庭的方式與周遭的人不同。一個非基督徒,一個沒有基督聖靈的人,永遠不 會以敬虔的方式看待事物-因為它們是在屬靈的層面上啟示出來的。

然而,身為基督徒,我可能會愚蠢地壓制聖靈之光,並在軟弱中回到、屈服於舊有的道路,並被它們所 引導。這是今天早上的問題,我不能試圖過著受世界流行標準支配的基督徒生活—這是行不通的。

例如,如果我認為「我期望別人支持我,我不期望受苦,我的時間是我自己的,我的家庭是第一位的」 …我將無法按照基督希望我生活的方式生活。這些觀點以及許多其他觀點雖然與周圍的世界非常吻合, 但卻與主所說的相反。

那是你嗎?人們很容易自欺欺人, 誤以為大多數人的思考方式就是我應該思考的方式。這或許是'正常', 但卻是錯的!

這就是為什麼保羅說:不要自欺。這裡有一個'不要'

"受騙了",這是夏娃在伊甸園裡對撒旦所說的話。 (希臘文舊約,創世記

3:13) 當亞當和夏娃都被罪所欺騙時,

來到這個世界,他們開始相信謊言。他們現在認為一些不真實的事情--

就好像它是真實的一樣。一旦被欺騙,一他們就變得自欺欺人。

罪的敗壞是透過他們降臨到我們身上的。我現在有一顆腐敗的心,將我的慾望從我的創造者身上轉向一 個替代品,一個偶像。我也有一個敗壞的心,現在我不再相信真理,而是相信扭曲的見地、妄想、謊言 1.

不要被欺騙。現在不要假設你的觀點是正確的。不要說「這對我來說似乎是對的,所以它一定是對的」 。不要自以為聰明。凡與神的話相違背的事,都不要去行。

當地狀況

正如保羅寫給哥林多基督徒的信中所說,教會有足夠的時間來解決問題。我們還沒走到那一步,那是未來的事。

今天早上,在第三章結束時,保羅總結了他在這封信的前三章中對他們所說的話。錯誤的想法意味著他 們忘記了他們的牧師只是人,而只尊重上帝。

一位評論家說:忠心的大臣是人民的一大福祉;然而,人們的愚蠢和軟弱可能會對本應是祝福的事情帶 來危害。教會中的一些人有黨派精神,陷入派系,遵循他們的自然本能,站在他們最喜歡的領袖一邊。 他們立他們為首,並以他們為榮。避免這種罪惡的唯一方法是改變思考。

不出所料,這背後隱藏著基本的罪惡——驕傲。 第4章對此進行了更多闡述。

他們是在哥林多從周遭的不敬虔中悔改歸正的希臘人。那是多麼美妙。被提升到高處,被拯救,被潔淨,現在分享天堂的榮耀。與基督一同長大,獲得自由並獲得每一個屬靈的祝福——

但現在他們變得驕傲了。 4:8

「你已經擁有你想要的一切了!你已經變得富有了!你們已經成為國王了——而且沒有我們!

驕傲潛伏在每個人心的表面上——

而我們古老的思考方式助長了這種驕傲。希臘人的文化中有一種將精神與物質分開的心態。因此,如果 有人成為基督徒,他們很可能會因自己的屬靈祝福而感到高興,但卻看不到耶穌來是為了改變整個人; 靈魂、身體和思想。

□ 我們對聖潔的呼喚是對我整個存在的聖潔的呼喚。 x2

開始思考吧! -

今天早上讓我們知道主呼召你用心去愛他, x2。這意味著持續的紀律。這意味著不斷調整你的思想, 使 其與神在祂的話語中所說的話保持一致。這意味著閱讀並受到所讀內容的影響。這意味著聆聽講道並受 到所聽到的影響。

你的想法與「世界」或祂的「話語」一致嗎? - 相當!誰能看到自己的盲點! -

它會體現在你的行動中。

他們只是看不到而已。我們不要自欺欺人。保羅將手指放在他們真正的痛處,問題就在這裡,他們自以 為聰明。

箴言 3:5

告訴我們不要依靠自己的聰明才智。我們自己的思想和這個世界的原則都是不可信的, 無論教授和專家 多麼聰明和有說服力——它不是智慧。 - 不要相信它。

18

如果你們當中有人自以為以這個時代的標準來看自己是聰明的,保羅說我們就要成為愚拙的人,一一他應該成為"愚拙的",這樣他才能成為聰明人。

在哥林多教會,這個時代的標準表現為嫉妒和爭吵。有些人跟隨保羅,有些人跟隨亞波羅,有些人跟隨 彼得。他們看待事物的方式與主不同。

□他們的罪-使主悲傷,-影響了他們,-

也影響了其他人。他們已經被帶出世界,成為主聖潔的分離子民-但現在世界需要從他們身上帶出!

對我們來說多麼重要。一個男人或女人在一瞬間就得救了,在我們接受聖靈恩賜的那一刻,但讓我們脫 離世界是我們持續不斷的戰鬥。我們思想的更新應該很快就會顯現出來,但舊的思維方式——

如果不面對和解決的話仍然會存在。它將持續存在,舊的推理、流行的方法、當前的方式、我們社會現在思考事物、處理事物的方式將盛行。

彼得承認基督是應許的彌賽亞,然後受到耶穌的責備,他不明白受苦的方式。彼得後來否認主,為什麼 呢?因為他不認識自己,所以他對自己有錯誤的看法。後來,主不得不改變彼得的想法,讓他明白拯救 恩典的恩賜也是給非猶太人的。

施洗約翰錯誤地認識了耶穌是誰,並派他的門徒去查明耶穌是誰。耶穌來不是要帶來審判嗎?不,他來 是為了帶來拯救,不是為了譴責,而是為了拯救。-耶穌必須糾正他。

今天早上在座的還有誰還不清楚耶穌是誰?那是你嗎?這很重要,比你生活中的任何其他事情都重要。 耶穌說,如果你不相信我是誰,你就會死在罪中約8:48

那是多麼可怕, 賭注很高, 這就是為什麼上帝的聖者耶穌離開天上的榮耀, 來到這個世界來拯救罪人。 你看到了嗎?你看到他的光輝、他的輝煌嗎?祂的威嚴, 祂永恆的本性?你看到他對你的愛嗎?

當你清楚地看到他是誰時——那麼你就會清楚地看到你是誰。

這真是令人震驚。你會發現你致命的罪孽。但同時你也會聽到神的補救措施,就是基督的十字架。這裡 它就擺在你面前了。這是治癒方法,唯一的治療方法,唯一的治療方法,透過他的痛苦成為可能-你可以被治愈,並且永遠安全。

基督耶穌很快就會回來,可能就是今天,一一這裡有些人還沒準備好迎接祂。我很清楚你是誰。你還沒 有為他做好準備,因為你對他沒有愛,對他沒有熱情,你看得到嗎?不要離開它,直到為時已晚。不要 欺騙自己-你需要拯救,但你無法拯救自己。 現在來x2。 他向你招手。

譴責世界,成為朋友眼中的"愚人",在榮耀的主面前謙卑自己。相信這位看不見的神,天地間的真神, 並將你的生命交託給他。

主題是我自己嗎?從來沒有!是的,如果你放棄了別人的路,別人也會這麼看你。但你必須仰望主,讓 祂成為你的主,照祂所說的去做,並向祂表明你是認真的。

世界會說你這樣做是個「傻瓜」。不要屈服和退縮,採取懦弱的方式而不能來到他身邊。在審判時,你 將獨自一人,赤身露體地站在憤怒的上帝面前,他將對你宣告他的判決,你應有的懲罰。能行動的時候 卻不行動,那是愚蠢的!

聰明的男人或女人關心他或她的靈魂。承認你的罪並仰望基督一他足以拯救你。

還是不為所動?還認為一切都很好嗎?要當心,第19

節保羅說, 主使有智慧的人中了自己的詭計。經兩個聖經證據證實, 約伯記 5:13, 詩篇

94:11。警告是, 無論人自己有什麼智慧, 在上帝眼中都是無足輕重的。 20

又說:「主知道智者的思念是虛妄的。他們是徒然的,也無力拯救。

保羅列出了哥林多教會問題背後的原因。他們對我們來說也是一個警告。錯誤的思維意味著我們沒有正確地看待事物,因此也沒有正確地生活。結果是我們在基督徒的生活中不必要地摔跤,我們傷害別人, 我們傷害自己,我們讓我們的主悲傷。

這裡有些例子:

痛苦。我們都會經歷痛苦,我知道你會想"但我的痛苦更難,我發現它太難了,我不喜歡它。"確實如此,而且由於你沒有預料到,情況會變得更糟。你也想知道'為什麼',但你的可能不知道'為什麼'!這可能是你的罪,提出這個問題很重要,有些麻煩和疾病是因為罪造成的。

但從一般意義上來說,我們已經被告知了。主說:「在這世上你們將有苦難」。麻煩將會來臨,它們是 祂為你計劃的一部分。他想教你一些教訓。有一種特質需要灌輸給你,並且需要在你身上得到完善。但 他說:別擔心,x2。他與你同在。這就是為什麼彼得寫信給基督徒說,不要對你們所遭受的痛苦考驗感 到驚訝。確實,期待吧。像士兵對待痛苦一樣對待它並承受它,這是士兵生活的一部分。苦難也是基督 徒生活的一部分。你的指揮官正在展示你的品格,並透過你向周圍的每個人展示祂的榮耀。

聖經充滿了主子民的掙扎。想想大衛的所有詩篇,他在苦難中呼喊,知道主超自然的安慰、幫助和安慰 。在基督裡這也是你的。

耶穌呼召你分擔祂的痛苦,好讓你分享祂的生命。

未能看到這一點,或未能相信上帝對萬物擁有主權,都是導致擔憂的錯誤想法。你說他是,你唱歌曲, 但我想知道你看的電視或社群媒體對你的影響有多大?或是你家裡的其他人怎麼想?那就是生活只是隨 機和偶然,我必須盡一切努力避免生活困難。在一切事情上,你要么用經文來充實你的頭腦來裝備你, 要么你可以在魔鬼的幫助下陷入世俗的推理,帶著所有的恐懼和不確定性,這樣當你清醒地躺在床上沉 思你的問題時,你就會犯罪。對基督徒來說,這些恐懼是不真實和毫無根據的,所以相信基督對你的美 好旨意。

我再舉一個例子,服從權威。在我們周圍,一種無法無天的心態說「要獨立,你決定,只做你認為正確 的事情」。基督徒則不同。我們要服從這片土地的權威,你呢?你應該服從你的教會領袖,不是嗎? 另一個例子是對教會錯誤的認識。這對今天的基督徒來說是多麼大的問題。然而聖經充滿了關於這個主 題的教導。我懷疑不願意服從權威的第一個問題是不願意看到明確的教導—

主將我們視為一群人。我們是一個團體,一個整體,是祂的子民,我們彼此屬於彼此,我們彼此需要, 我們要一起打造我們的基督徒生活,所以我們一起成長。不來的基督徒教會不會成長。但是,我可以看 到,那些「來到」教會但沒有作為教會的一部分參與教會所有相互關係問題的基督徒也不會成長。

讚美神,我們是人和時代的真正融合,教會,當真正是代際的時候,是一件美麗的事情,因為各個時代 和階段的人們互動,彼此相愛,彼此關心,一起敬拜神。

有些人不來,有些人不參加,有些人像克努特國王一樣說"到此為止,不再繼續",你輸了,我們輸了, 教會一瘸一拐地前行。

教會中錯誤思考的另一個例子是我們如何彼此相處。

如果有人在言語或行為上讓你不高興,那就不要跑去告訴其他人,或過來告訴我,這就是世界的運作方式。這是罪進入教會最快的方式——你要為此負責。按照耶穌所說的去做:去告訴他們,只有你們兩個人,不要讓其他人知道。然後就處理了。

我們沒有時間去思考世界的思維方式如何影響了基督徒如何看待敬拜,或主拯救的方式等等。 x2 當我結束時,讓我們訓練我們的思想去注意他人的需要,訓練我的思想總是把自己放在最後,訓練我的 思想總是給別人無罪的對待,總是假設最好的動機,原諒,而不是保留錯誤的記錄等等,這些都是新思 維方式的標誌—新的愛方式與以前如此不同。

21 所以,你們不要再誇耀人了!一切都是你們的, 22

或保羅,或亞波羅,或磯法,或世界,或生,或死,或現在,或將來,全都是你們的, 23 而你們是屬基督的,基督是屬神的。

如果我們屬於基督,並且忠於他,那麼一切良善都屬於我們,對我們來說是確定的。一切都是我們的,時間與永恆,大地與天堂,生與死。我們什麼都不缺,詩 84:11。

讓我們開始思考吧!同時不要忘記我們是基督的,我們是祂的,是祂國度的臣民,祂的財產。祂是我們的主,讓我們愉快地服從祂的命令,讓我的思想和意志屈服於祂的美意。這樣你就不再遵循這個世界的

模式, 而是因為心意的更新而改變。然後你就能檢驗並確認神的旨意是什麼——祂良善、可喜悅、完美 的旨意。羅馬書 12:1,2

_____結尾