

What think Ye of the Bible?  
Part 14. LOVE and TRUTH.

We will examine Ephesians 2:1-3 in this article, but first I need to say a few things about the LOVE OF GOD.

In the previous segment we discussed the FALL (sin) of Adam, which resulted in his immediate spiritual death. Adam's faculties became corrupted, and instead of seeking God, man began to hide and try to avoid God. The consequence of the FALL was that the "sin nature" was passed on to all of humanity. (Romans 5:12). Ever since this tragic event in the Garden of Eden, it has been evident that all of humanity has been on an antithetical collision course with God. Man has invented all kinds of false religious systems trying to escape the reality of the ONLY ONE TRUE GOD, and Satan is the master counterfeiter working in the background deceiving the minds of men.

While God judged the world as a result of the FALL, in accordance to His Holy, Just, and Righteous Character, He never stopped loving man, whom He created in His Image. God, knowing what would happen in advance (God is Omniscient - all knowing), designed a PLAN OF REDEMPTION for fallen man from before He created the Universe. This Plan (The Gospel) consisted of God the Son taking on humanity when Jesus was conceived, constituting Himself as the Christ (Messiah), and allowing Himself to be crucified, shedding His blood for the remission (forgiveness) of sins. Jesus Christ became the perfect, SINLESS sacrifice, because He perfectly obeyed the entire LAW of GOD. After He died, he was buried, and three days later rose from the dead as a signification of God the Father's acceptance of His Son's substitutionary sacrifice, having born the penalty of man's sins on Calvary's cross.

This WAS LOVE! This IS LOVE!  
Love by God's GRACE. He did it all. No human effort required, AT ALL!

Ephesians 2:8-9 KJV

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

In the Biblical Gospel all human effort is excluded. Salvation is solely of the Lord.

The Apostle Paul told the Elders in the Ephesian Church that he preached to them "Repentance toward God, and Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ." (Acts 20:21).

Dear Reader of this article. Please do not miss this. 1 John 4:9 KJV

"In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him."

God does NOT desire anyone to go to hell. People go to hell because they reject God's offer of free and clear salvation by repentance and trusting in Christ's finished work of REDEMPTION on the cross. I will write much more about the Gospel in future articles.

Let me issue a warning, however. Many so called "Christians" redefine Biblical terms like Gospel, Redemption, Salvation to fit their peculiar man made theology. Liberal Theology, the LDS people, Jehova Witnesses use these same Bible words, but buried in their array of mixed theology are a multitude of heretical concepts.

God is "jealous" regarding HIS GOSPEL. Man is warned in no uncertain terms not to add, subtract or twist His Holy Scripture. The Apostle Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit warned some members in the church at Galatia. Galatians 1:8 KJV

"But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed."

Did you get that, Friend? He said LET THEM BE ACCURSED! Friedrich Schleiermacher and all those who followed his false theology ARE CURSED! They thought ( or think - present tense) that the Sacrificial Atonement of Christ did not make any sense. They called God a liar! I can tell you this right now, based on my study of the Bible for the last 42 years, that Schleiermacher at this very moment is REGRETTING what He thought and taught. But, it is too late for him.

Please note! There is LOVE in truth telling. SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE. (Ephesians 4:15). That is what I am doing right now. Yet, I know that truth offends. To some people I have become a fly in their ointment. The Apostle Paul told the TRUTH, and many rejected the truth. They did not want to hear the truth. So Paul said under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Galatians 4:16 KJV

"Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?"

LOVE and TRUTH are intricately linked. Yet, we know that many people would rather hear SMOOTH things as the people in Isaiah's time.

Isaiah 30:10 KJV

"Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits:"

In most contemporary churches people are being fed SMOOTH things. Let me give you a personal example. After I got saved and became a born again believer in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, I had a conversation with my Mother about the things of the Bible. My mother had been a member of the Latvian Baptist Church in Applebachsville, PA. and the corresponding Latvian Baptist Church in Philadelphia, PA. I mentioned to her several Bible verses that dealt with HELL. When she heard that, she shrunk back, aghast, vehemently

denying that there is such a place as HELL, even though I showed her what the Bible said.

Somewhere along the line, somebody taught her SMOOTH THINGS, as in there really is no HELL! Needless to say, I was fearful of my mother's spiritual condition.

Well, here it is again midnight, and I am laboring writing articles of Truth so that others might read, heed and THINK.

I am not living the usual retired life. I am not sitting in a rocking chair, or watching ball games. I still have much more to learn about God's Special Revelation, the Bible. I am almost 83 years old, and as long as the Lord gives me breath, I will proclaim His TRUTH in whatever forum I am afforded.

The things in this article, so far, took longer than I anticipated , and I will have to postpone my comments about Ephesians 2:1-3 until next time.

I really did want to make those comments about the LOVE OF GOD regarding the GOSPEL and the relationship between LOVE and TRUTH before I touch on those verses in Ephesians Chapter 2.

Let me close with this verse from Proverbs.

Proverbs 27:6 KJV

"Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful."

I know that GOD'S truth proclaimed will never return unto Him void. He will use the proclamation of His Word in the manner He sees fit. Isaiah 55:11 KJV

"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."

My prayer: Lord, I thank you that you have given me this burden to share your truth. There might be a time in the future when I will not be able to freely proclaim your truth. May you be glorified in all that I do. Please touch minds, hearts and souls.

In Jesus Name. Amen.

With Warm Regards,  
Horst Adler

"For I am not ashamed of the  
Gospel of Christ." (Ro.1:16)

