

RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD

By Pastor Larry Smith

The WORD of God

(The Authority of The WORD)

- John 17:17
 - I. The WORD is truth
- John 4:23-24
 - I. Must worship in Spirit and in Truth
 - II. Must have both to be a True Worshipper
- John 1:1,14
 - I. Jesus is The Living WORD
- John 12:48
 - I. The WORD will judge us in The Last Day
- Revelation 20:12-15
 - I. The Two books that will judge us in The Last Day
 - 1. The Book of Life
 - 2. The 66 books of The Bible
 - II. Our works will be judged by The WORD
- II Timothy 3:12-16
 - I. Verse 14 > Things that thou hast learned...
 - 1. What Things?...
 - 2. Things that were taught by Paul
 - II. We must obey what the apostles taught.
 - III. Verse 16> WORD is inspired of God... and
 - IV. Profitable for Doctrine, Reproof, Correction and Instruction
- II Peter 1:20-21
 - I. Of No Private Interpretation
 - II. Men wrote as they were moved by The Holy Ghost.
- II Peter 3:15-18
 - I. Possible to wrestle with scriptures to your own destruction
 - II. In error of the wicked if you fall from your own steadfastness (i.e. fall from what The Apostles taught)
- Revelation 22:18-20
 - I. Cannot add nor take away from The WORD
- II Timothy 2:15
 - I. The WORD must be rightly divided
 - 1. The Four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) – Biography of the life of Jesus
 - 2. Acts – Actions of the Apostles. The only book in The New Testament with the verbatim preaching of The Apostles to the lost telling them how to be saved.
 - 3. Epistles (Romans through Jude) – Letters to the Church
 - 4. Revelation (Final Book) – Book of prophecy written in symbolic form.

(The Importance of The WORD)

Questions to inspire thought and purpose

1. Some say, "It doesn't matter what you believe as long as you are sincere." Can a man be sincerely wrong? *What does The WORD say about this?*
 2. Is Doctrine important *according* to The WORD?
 3. Are there false prophets today?
 4. Who are false prophets *according* to The WORD?
 5. Is The "*WORD – Doctrine – Gospel*" necessary for salvation?
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- II Timothy 4:1-4
 - I. Preach The WORD
 - II. Time will come when men will not endure sound doctrine
 - III. They will turn from the truth... *What Truth?* The one taught by The Apostles
 - I Timothy 1:3 → No other doctrine... *from what?* From the one The Apostles taught (Paul was writing to Timothy)
 - I Timothy 4:13-16 → Doctrine will save you and those that hear you
 - II Timothy 2:24-26
 - I. Possible to oppose your own self
 - II. Repentance to the acknowledging of The Truth
 - III. If we don't know The Truth, we are in the snare of the devil
 - II Timothy 3:1-7
 - I. Having a form of godliness but denying The Power... *What Power?*
 - II. (Ye shall receive Power after that The Holy Ghost is come upon you... Acts 1:8)
 - III. Ever learning yet never able to come to the knowledge of The Truth
 - II Timothy 3:10 → My doctrine... *Whose doctrine?* Paul's doctrine
 - James 1:21-23 → Must be a doer of The WORD for it is able to save your soul
 - Matthew 7:13-24
 - I. Beware of False Prophets
 - II. He that heareth the sayings of Jesus and doeth them builds upon The Rock.
 - III. *What is The Rock then?* The WORD
 - Matthew 16:18-19
 - I. Build The Church upon The Rock
 - II. The revelation of who He is
 - III. Whatever Peter binds on earth is bound in heaven
 - I Peter 1:22-25
 - I. Purified souls in obeying The Truth
 - II. Being Born again by The WORD of God
 - III. Incorruptible seed, it endureth forever
 - IV. Which by The Gospel is preached unto you.
 - a) This proves Gospel and WORD are one
 - b) Is speaking of The Gospel that Peter preached

- I Peter 2:6-8
 - I. Rock of stumbling – to them which stumble at The WORD
 - II. Being disobedient to The WORD
 - III. Rock of Offense - When you are offended at The WORD that The Apostles preached, you are offended at Jesus, your foundation.
 - IV. The Gospel is our foundation we must build upon
- Ephesians 2:18-22
 - I. Foundation of The Apostles and Prophets
 - II. *Why them?* Because they are the ones that preached The WORD
 - III. We must obey what they preached in order to build on Jesus
- John 17:17-20 → Jesus prayed for them that would believe on Him according to The Apostles' Words
- Galatians 1:6-12
 - I. We must obey what The Apostles preached or we are accursed.
 - II. Some will pervert it (change it up)... They are the ones to fear
 - III. That is how you can tell a false prophet
- I Peter 4:17-18
 - I. If righteous scarcely be saved, where are the sinners going to appear?
 - II. What is going to be the end of them that obey not the gospel of God?
 - III. Notice how he mentions not obeying The Gospel and being a sinner together.
- II Thessalonians 1:7-10
 - I. Answer to *I Peter 4:17* as to what will happen to those who obey not The Gospel
 - II. Notice he ties obeying The Gospel he speaks about in with The Coming of The LORD that proves The Gospel won't change until The Second Coming of Jesus.
 - III. Verse 10... Because our testimony was believed, meaning they believed what Paul preached
- II John verses 9-11 → Must abide in doctrine of Christ in order to have God
- I John 4:6
 - I. The Apostles are of God... He that is of God heareth them.
 - II. This is how we know truth from error
 - III. II Peter 3:2 proves the words "we" and "us" refers to The Apostles (when they were writing)
- Jude verse 3
 - I. Common salvation = They all had the same message
 - II. Once delivered = What The Apostles preached
- Matthew 23:15
 - I. Proselyte = One converted to a belief.
 - II. Once a person is supposedly saved by the wrong belief, you can't get them to realize they are lost, so they can be saved according to the truth.
 - III. Therefore he is a two-fold the child of hell (Matthew 15:14)
- Romans 1:16 → The Gospel = The Power of God unto salvation to those who believe it
- Romans 1:20 → The Godhead is without excuse
- Romans 6:17-18 → Were sinners – saved and freed from sin when they obeyed The Gospel

- Romans 16:17-18,25
 - I. Mark them which teach something other than what you have learned
 - II. The Apostles taught them what they knew (verse 25-26 proves this)
 - III. Paul said, “Stablish you according to My Gospel”

- II Corinthians 4:1-5
 - I. Not handling The WORD of God deceitfully
 - II. If The Gospel Paul preached is hid to you, you are lost

- II Corinthians 11:10-15
 - I. False prophets have become as ministers of light
 - II. *How can we tell a false prophet?* By seeing if they preach the same thing The Apostles did.

- Ephesians 4:14-15
 - I. Don’t be carried away by every wind of doctrine
 - II. *Whose can we believe?* The Apostles

- Colossians 1:22-23 →Must continue in The Faith and Gospel of which Paul was a minister

- Colossians 2:8-9 beware of philosophy and tradition of men (i.e. “It doesn’t matter what you believe as long as you are sincere”
 - I. In Jesus is The Fullness

- II Thessalonians 2:9-15
 - I. Must have a love for The Truth, or God will send a delusion and you will believe a lie and be damned
 - II. Called you by our Gospel. *Whose Gospel?* Paul’s Gospel
 - III. Hold the traditions you have been taught, whether by word or epistle.
 - IV. *What tradition?* The ones that Paul and The Apostle preached
 - V. We must obey what The Apostles preached

The Gospel (What is Believing?)

- John 3:1-21
 - I. Verses 3-8: A person must be born again of Water & of The Spirit in order to be saved. Some teach that this water is natural birth, and others teach it means water baptism, but the scriptures will teach us which is correct as we continue.
 - II. Verse 8: There will be a distinct *sound* when you are born of The Spirit
 - III. Verse 16: If we believe on Jesus we can be saved. But the question is, “What is believing” according to The WORD of God.

- John 7:38-39
 - I. Must believe on Jesus as The Scriptures say
 - II. Should receive The Holy Ghost when we believe according to The Scriptures

- Romans 10:8-18
 - I. Must hear The WORD preached by a man sent of God and believe what he preaches in order to be saved

- Romans 1:16
 - I. Gospel is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believes it... Believes What? *The Gospel!*

- John 17:20
 - I. Jesus prayed for those that would believe on Him by The Words of The Apostles

- Mark 1:15
 - I. Believe What? The Gospels... Not just believe Jesus existed

- II Corinthians 4:1-5
 - I. If The Gospel is hid to you, you are lost.
 - II. What Gospel? The one Paul preached, because he said our gospel
 - III. Verse 4: Believe not. Believe not what? The Gospel

- Ephesians 1:13
 - I. Church at Ephesus was “saved” after they had heard The WORD of Truth, The Gospel and had believed it!

- I Thessalonians 2:9-16
 - I. Must preach The Gospel so we won’t be chargeable unto men
 - II. Verse 13: They received and believed The WORD of God
 - III. Verse 16: They forbade Paul to speak to the Gentiles so they could be saved. Why? Because they had to hear The Gospel The Apostles preached in order to be saved.

- II Thessalonians 1:7-10
 - I. The LORD will appear
 - II. Verse 10: Paul said “because our testimony was believed,” let us know that he was speaking of The Gospel he preached

Let's cover The Great Commission in Matthew, Mark and Luke

- ❑ Matthew 28:18-20
 - I. All power is given me, Jesus said
 - II. Name is singular – not *names*
 - III. Teach them to observe *all* things he has commanded
- ❑ Mark 16:15-20
 - I. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, *Not he that believeth and is saved* should be baptized
 - II. Briefly explains signs and how they apply
- ❑ Luke 24:44-53
 - I. He opened their understanding that they could understand The Scriptures
 - II. Remissions of sins should be preached in HIS name beginning at Jerusalem
 - III. Will have to go to The Book of Acts to see how it was preached.
- ❑ Acts 1:4-8,15
 - I. Receive power after The Holy Ghost is come upon you
 - II. Verse 15: tells the number of people waiting for The Promise of The Holy Ghost\
- ❑ Acts2:1-21
 - I. Received The Holy Ghost... Spoke in tongues as The Spirit gave utterance
 - II. Not just the 12 because they are speaking 17 different languages
 - III. What was that? Peter said that spoken by Joel
 - IV. Verses 17-21: are a quotation of Joel's prophecy
- ❑ Acts 2:37-42
 - I. Commanded them to be baptized in Jesus Name for the remission of sins (remember Luke 24:47)
 - II. The Promise is to everyone God calls... Why? Must be born of The Spirit
 - III. They gladly received His WORD were baptized
 - IV. They *continued* in *The Apostles Doctrine*
- ❑ I Peter 3:20-21
 - I. Baptism in Jesus Name is The Birth of The Water... which removes sin from conscience
- ❑ Acts 22:16
 - I. The conversion of Paul... he was saved by the same thing Peter preached
- ❑ Acts 4:10-12
 - I. Must be in Jesus Name
- ❑ Colossians 3:17
 - I. Do all in Jesus Name... This includes baptism
- ❑ Acts 8:5-24
 - I. Samaria: All these things were present... Healing, joy, demons cast out, yet did not have The Holy Ghost
 - II. Baptized how? In The Name of Jesus Christ
 - III. They received The Holy Ghost. Simon even offered them money for that power, so there must have been something outward and miraculous that happened.
- ❑ Acts 8:35-40
 - I. It does not indicate what Phillip preached, but he must have preached baptism or the Eunuch would not have asked to be baptized.

- ❑ Acts 9:17-18
 - I. Further tells us about the conversion of Paul
 - II. He received The Holy Ghost as well as being baptized to wash away his sins

- ❑ Acts 10:1-6,33,44-48
 - I. Verses 1-6: devout man that feared God, gave alms, prayed always and yet he was not saved
 - II. Get Peter, he will tell you what you ought to do... Why? Because we have to hear it from a man sent of God
 - III. We want to hear all things commanded you of God
 - IV. Verses 44-48: Received The Holy Ghost, spoke in tongues and were commanded to be baptized in The Name of The LORD.

- ❑ Acts 16:30-34
 - I. Told the jailer to believe on The LORD
 - II. What is believing?... Believing The Gospel preached by a man sent of God

- ❑ Acts 18:24-28
 - I. Apollos knew only the baptism of John, but he accepted the rest of The Truth when it was presented unto him.

- ❑ Acts 19:1-6
 - I. They had believed on The LORD and had been baptized in water
 - II. Paul baptized them in Jesus Name and they received The Holy Ghost and spoke with tongues
 - III. Fulfillment of water & Spirit birth