

John



- Andrew J. Rusnacko, Pastor -

November 2024 #796

Biblical Authority.

"The term *biblical authority* refers to the extent to which **commandments** and **doctrines** within the **Old** and **New Testament Scriptures** are **authoritative over humans'** <u>belief</u> and <u>conduct</u> ... " "This means that the Bible speaks with authority and *commands* obedience. It allows for no alternative abaiase, opinions or doctrines. It alaims to be absolute truth and damands

It allows for *no* alternative choices, opinions or doctrines. It claims to be absolute truth and demands faith and obedience. It is infallible and contains no errors, contradictions or mistakes;

therefore it requires and demands your complete faith and willing submission."

"God's ultimate authority today is *not* through any man, church or organization, but in a Book -God's inspired, preserved and written Word. Man has God's authority only when he follows the Bible. This Bible is to be read as no other book.

There needs to be a different attitude when the Bible is read. It should be read as *absolute truth* and without any question or disbelief. It should be read with an attitude of respect and reverence, obedience to the *commands* of God.

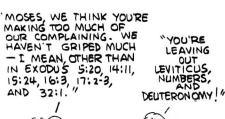
It should be read with the same attitude as if standing before God Himself." (... part of current Sunday School notes ...)



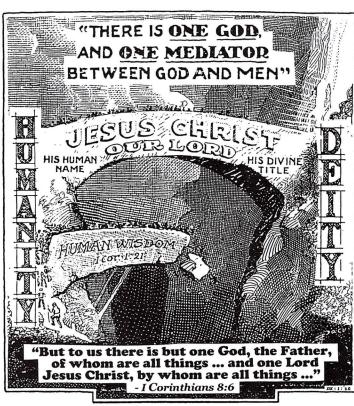
" ... and the writing was the writing of God ... " - Exodus 32:16
" ... and, What thou seest, write in a book ... ", - Revelation 1:11

Testimonies "The church celebrates the conversion of sinners. (What Christians usually don't know.) What a joyous occasion it is when unbelievers repent of their evil ways and turn to follow Christ. We have a name for these stories of coming to faith. We call them testimonies. For those who love God, the narrative of redemption never grows old. It is always uplifting to hear how the Spirit has regenerated a lost soul. In truth, the Spirit's work does not stop with the moment of conversion. Testimonies don't stop at salvation. Scripture doesn't teach that we hit our spiritual pinnacle when we are freshly born again. Instead, the Bible presents our Christian walk in terms of a *lifelong call* to holiness (Colossians 3:1-11). We become 'a new creation' when God saves us, but His work in us will continue for the rest of our days - decades for many of us. We are given holy status by our conversion,

but we are made progressively holy as God carries out our sanctification. This reality reframes our truncated ('shortened; abbreviated') understanding of the Christian life." - Jonathan Edwards, 'always in God's hands', p 184







CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday Services, 10:30, 11:00 am & 7:00 pm Wednesdays - Bible Studies -7:00 pm Friday Night Church - 1st and 3rd Friday of each Month - 7:00 pm

QUOTES:

"There is no idol like self." "Money often costs too much." "It's better to be alone than in bad company." "SINS FORGIVEN ARE SINS FORGOTTEN." "Last one in the attack is the first one in the retreat." "Eternity never gets older." "Tolerance and Apathy are the last stages of a dying nation." "GOD never needs to learn anything." "The church parking lot always has a spot for your car."

"FAITH means obeying God in spite of feelings, circumstances or consequences." HOW ? WHY ?

"Most Americans have no idea how, or why, the 'traditional' ('Christian', Biblical') values of this country, held since its beginning, suddenly within the space of 30 years became de-legitimized in the eyes of policymakers - the media, the young, and the law - to the point where people who still believe in them are held up to ridicule, heaped with contempt, and are even accused of being un-American. How in a single generation, did the culture change from a character-directed focus revolving around restraint, industriousness, and selfsacrifice, to a peer-oriented, self-obsessed society preoccupied with eternal youth, sexual gymnastics, and immediate gratification? " copied (see Psalm 33:12 & Proverbs 14:34)

BAPTISM - A 'Condition' "One of the outstanding Bible beliefs of Baptists has always been that they make salvation a condition for baptism, rather than baptism a condition for salvation."

"If you cannot reason nor persuade a man into the truth, never attempt to force a man into it. If love will not compel him to come, leave him to God, the Judge of all." - John Wesley

"CIVILIZATION is always in danger when those who have never learned to obey are given the authority to command." - copied

> "That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour:" - IThessalonians 4:4

"That I may publish with the voice of Thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works."

- Psalm 26:7

EVIDENCE & SKEPTICS

"In the story of the Rich Man and Lazarus, Luke 16, Jesus warned that no amount of evidence will convince a committed skeptic. The Word of God itself is the ultimate evidence, and men are required to believe it. A committed skeptic would not be convinced if he saw Noah's ark with his own eyes and if Noah himself rose from the dead to tell the story. 'Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: for I have have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment. Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.' (Luke 16:27-31)

For the unbiased, God gives enough evidence to prove that the Bible is divinely inspired, but, enough is left unproven and enough questions remain to give the willful unbeliever rope to hang himself."

As the renowned Harvard law professor Simon Greenleaf stated: 'Christianity does not profess to convince the perverse and head-strong, to bring irresistible evidence to the daring and profane, to vanquish the proud scorner, and afford evidences from which the careless and perverse cannot possibly escape.

All that Christianity professes, is to propose such evidences as may satisfy the meek, the tractable, the candid, the serious inquirer'." - Copied

> (Greenleaf, 'The Testimony of the Evangelists Examined by the Rules of Evidence')



"THANKSGIVING is a powerful attitude and antidote.' "THANKSGIVING is the expression of gladness because God is good to us." **** THIS & THAT

From HERE & THERE 'S<u>on of Man</u>' This was Jesus favorite name for Himself.' - copied

Condolences To the family of Dr. D. A. Waite who passed away on May 4 at the age of 95 years old. He was a longtime researcher, highly respected Christian

author. He did extensive study and research on the Bible issue and was a strong promoter of the

King James Bible. M<u>arijuana Fact</u> "The number one drug linked to teen suicide in the state of Colorado is marijuana." - copied - copied

'Higbees' (note of local interest) The old 'Higbees Department Store' in downtown Cleveland located on the ground level of the Termnal Tower building, was originally named Hower & Higbee', owned by John Hower & Edwin Higbee. The name was changed to just 'Higbee's' when John Hower was killed in a horse and buggy accident n 1897."- *copied*, "Department

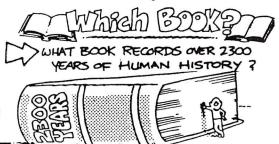
in 1897."- *copied*, "Departm Stores of Cleveland" p 87

JONATHAN EDWARDS

"Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758) was a key figure in the First Great Awakening in America. The revival in the northeastern part of the United States started in his church in Northampton, Massachusetts, in 1734. He preached the new birth and held to the infallible inspiration of Scripture. He believed in a God who is both holy and compassionate, a Judge and a Saviour. He preached salvation through faith in the vicarious atonement of Jesus Christ. Edwards' famous sermon, "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" warned people to flee God's wrath.'

God's Sovereign **Provision & Protection** LONG VOYAGE TO AMERICA 'During one of the terrible storms. the main beam of the mast cracked; if not repaired, it threatened to send the Mayflower to the bottom of the Atlantic. But again the providential hand of God was at work A preacher by the name of William Brewster had a burden to print Bibles and brought his printing press on board. They were able to use a large iron screw from the printing press to repair the beam." - copied

"As the mountains are round about Jerusalem. so the LORD is round about his people. - Psalm 125:2



BIBLE BAPTIST TEMPLE, 1565 Chardon Road, Euclid, Ohio 216-531-1273



Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Services 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Services 7:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Studies 7:00 p.m.







'Salty' or 'SAVORless' Salt "Salt adds zest to the flavor of food.

In like manner people of holy conduct will add flavor to society. Their presence will encourage, inspire, and direct people to real life and hope. (but) "if the salt have lost his savour, where-with shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but

to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. (Matthew 5:13). The failure of the salt ... is the loss of the salt's saltiness. The words *lost its savour*' are translated from the Greek word 'moros' from which we get our English word 'moron'. The word means 'dull, sluggish'. Applied to the mind it means 'stupid or silly'. Applied here it means 'savor' ...

a failure in character. the salt has become dull, that is, insipid, tasteless, flat. The word meaning indicates that the cause

of the loss on the saints is that Christians can lose their moral and spiritual savor by playing the fool and disobeying the commands of God and leaving God out of their lives ... - John G. Butler, "JESUS CHRIST His Sermon on the Mount", p 124-126

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"And every oblation of thy meat-offering shalt thou season with salt; neither shalt thou suffer the salt of the covenant of thy God to be lacking from the meat-offering: with all thine offerings thou shalt offer salt." - Leviticus 2:13

"All the heave-offerings of the holy things ... it is a covenant of salt for ever before the LORD unto thee ... - Numbers 18:19 b