

Does Your Thinking Agree with Yahweh God?

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A story was related to myself by a colleague. When he was a small boy before TV was established within the home, he liked to listen to the radio. In those days the selectivity was poor and sometimes it was difficult to tune into the radio stations. However his father use to come in and was able to help and adjust the radio onto that particular station and consequently it came through loud and clear. This story made me think of the imperfection in us, and how similar it was to the poor selectivity leading to the difficult tuning of the radio.

Hence we ask the question:-

Does our thinking agree with Yahweh God?

We all need guidance because otherwise we must base our thinking on our past experiences, emotions, sentiment and lastly guess work. Clearly we need guidance and the best place for it is from within The Bible.

Rom. 1v19 For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them.

Here Paul is saying that the Jews should already know about God through his miracles of the past.

However he doesn't let the Greeks off. Paul then goes onto to say:

Look around you - look at the wonderful creation around you. Clearly this shows that there is a God.

Rom. 1v20 Ever since the creation of the world his invisible nature, namely, his eternal power and deity, has been clearly perceived in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse;

We look around us and see the wonderful creation - stars to microbes!

While we know so much we have only just scratched the surface.

Look at the variety, from the giraffe to the jellyfish!

However looking at all these wonderful things of nature, what would we do to maintain their existence or help them if anything went wrong with them? We would go to someone who is an expert or knowledgeable on the particular species.

Take the example of an expensive hi-fi. (= *High Fidelity audio unit of a previous era*).

If it went wrong, would you take it to the electricity man down the road whose job is read the electricity meter in people's houses?

Of course not!

You go to someone who knows what they are doing.

But this is exactly what people do with their lives. They write off to some 'Agony Aunt' for advice. We all know what example many of those 'Agony Aunts' set and what sort of private life they lead! And the type of mess they made with it! So on Earth how could these people be qualified to help someone?

What is our attitude to other people's thinking?

1 John 2v15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If any one loves the world, love for the Father is not in him.

What does he mean?

The world is mankind.

God feels that the world is generally in opposition to Him. Hence love of God is not in him who loves the things of the world.

1 John 2v16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world.

The word 'lust' comes from a Greek word that means "desire". The eye directly communicates to the brain, and the Bible warns us to be careful because it will effect your emotions and attitudes.

What does 'the pride of life' or 'showy life' mean?

In the world people are judged on what they own, their car or home. But Yahweh God doesn't. God judges peoples' heart condition. He knows precisely what makes each one of us tick!

1 John 2v17 And the world passes away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

Hence it is a good reason to aim for Yahweh God's standards because we know that this world is going to pass away.

We want to aim to Abide with God, because He has mapped out a wonderful future for those who desire Him.

This epistle was written because the Ephesians were very rich through commercial activities and the false god Artimous was given worship for this. It was this that alienated the Ephesians from The Almighty God (*Yahweh*).

Eph. 4v18 They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of their heart,

Their hearts are hard and have no place for Almighty God.

Eph. 4v22 Put off your old nature which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful lusts, Clearly Paul is saying:

You know what this life is about and what you should now do.

Eph. 4v23-24 And be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and put on the new nature, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

On one hand we know that we must stay away from the earthly world, but on the other hand we must have love for people in The World. Clearly we must hate this present system of things, but love the people and then go out to actively help them understand The Truth being The Word of God via Jesus.

Matt. 5v43 You have heard that it was said: You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy.

Jesus is saying that God had not told them to hate their enemies in the Jewish law - that was something that man had added to The Law (*of Moses*).

The True Christian is part of a small congregation who does the will of God, but God allows the sun to rise and set on everyone on this planet (*verse 45*). They are all allowed to eat and drink but do not acknowledge or worship Almighty God. He is allowing the weeds to grow along with the wheat before the final harvest. We have no special privileges regarding what natural events befall us, just because we worship our Creator Almighty God over and above others, only except that we know that we do God's Will - with the confidence that brings.

However God is giving these other people a chance to mend their ways; while filling the Earth.

Matt. 5v44 But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in the heavens.

Jesus is telling us God's Law in its full. We are to love everyone.

This is much more difficult - to love someone who does not love us!

Do not judge people from their status or symbols or actions. Because these may change.

An example of this would be an evangelist handing some literature to a person. The recipient said they would read it. However what would that evangelist think if while walking away he saw through the window the recipient opened a stove and threw it inside? Should that evangelist think I am wasting my time and never return? Perhaps an answer would be that the recipient was putting the literature in a cold stove that was not being used. In so doing, the person was hiding it from their spouse while they have time to digest it in their own time and then wish someone to return to explain it; like Peter and the Ethiopian Eunuch in Acts.

Remember it is wrong to judge people regarding their spiritual life - that is something that only The Almighty God is able and justifiably qualified to do.

Unfortunately many young people judge their parents and then spitefully say against their parents (and inductively directly to Almighty God): "We did not ask to be born!!!!"

Eph. 6v1-3 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honour your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), that it may be well with you and that you may live long on the Earth.

This is the first commandment with a promise compare to Ex. 20 to honour your father and mother.

Mark Twain commented about parents when looking back upon his life.

When he was 16 he looked at his father and thought how ignorant he was!

However when he reached 25, he was equally amazed how much his father had learnt in 9 years!

It is this experience and knowledge that should be used to help our children. Perhaps by guiding them around the pitfalls and mistakes that we may have made when we were their age.

We must try and get God's view of life into our children.

What is God's view of work?

John 5v1-18

Synopsis of the early part is that there was a pool called Bethzatha (*near Sheep Gate*) to which the sick and lame went to, so that they should be healed when the 'waters moved'. We do not know how the waters moved and most likely it was a local myth (like many places of pilgrimage today), however a lame person had been waiting for 38 years but had not been able to push forward because of the other people (*due to his infirmity*).

Jesus cured this man and then the Pharisees attacked this man because he carried his sick bed on the Sabbath.

This man was working!! There was no pleasure for The Pharisees in seeing a man cured!!

Verse 17 But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working still, and I am working."

Here Jesus is saying: I am following my Father's example.

Do many people follow this example today?

How many people say: "I do not mind work - I could watch it all day!"

Unfortunately many people are not satisfied with their work today. However there is dignity in work and self-satisfaction with a job well done that can only occur when someone actually does something.

Some people will always find any excuse:-

Prov. 22v13 The sluggard says: There is a lion in the street! I shall be slain outside if I go out to work!

Prov. 26v14 As a door turns on its hinges, so does the sluggard on his bed.

Clearly this describes someone who just does not want to get out of bed!

Like door going back and forwards on its hinges.

Prov. 26v15 The sluggard buries his hand in the dish; it wears him out to bring it back to his mouth.

However this is God's attitude to work:-

Ecc. 3v12-13 I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; also that it is God's gift to man that every one should eat and drink and take pleasure in his toil.

This is to be extended to Holy Work. The work of spreading the Christian message to those who are in the dark.

It is like readjusting the radio that I brought up at the beginning of this passage. We were created to do God's Will.

Hence we will be happiest and most satisfied to work out God's Desire of us in our lifestyle.

It is like hitching up a race horse to pull a wagon, or a cart horse to win the Grand National Horse race!

We are happiest when doing what we are designed for.

Rom. 12v1-12 A long passage explaining how we should live our Life in the Body of Christ.

The word in the Greek for 'transformed' is based upon metamorphosis that means a total change. Just like a caterpillar changing into a beautiful butterfly.

Hence that is what we are suppose to do is first get knowledge and then change our lifestyle, to base it upon this newly acquired knowledge.

The potter before he can use a piece of clay to make a wonderful pot he must put that clay through a series of processes first.

The clay at first is dirty, so it has to be washed to get the rubbish out. It must then be weathered and trampled on by the potter's feet; and the fingers are required to knead it. Only then is it fit to go onto the wheel - to be moulded into a fine vase. To turn it into something beautiful all the rough edges must be removed.

So like us.

To be made into something that God Desires - to inhabit that new world, then we need to go through a similar refining process as that clay described above.

Are we willing to be moulded by God?

Are we prepared to be tuned in like that radio into God's frequency and so study the scriptures and learning them so that our thinking agrees with God's.