

P.Cs Perspective.
(September – October 2008)

As we see ourselves drawing closer to that time of our “Blessed Hope”, and few serious theologians would deny that this is so, I find myself even more enthralled at the accuracy of scripture. As a student of the Word for many years now, I have been constantly amazed by the wonders of the Word of God as one seeks to understand its mysteries, and when, having received revelation, again breathless at the manner and accuracy with which it depicts the state of man and his world. This could not be more so than our contemporary experience.

For centuries past, the Bible, The Word of God has been held in the highest esteem, and although manipulated and abused in many cases, the inerrancy of scripture has never really been challenged, and certainly not by members of the Clergy. For several decades now, certainly since the mid 1960s, we have seen constant challenges to the traditional teachings of scripture. From the rise of the Feminist movement to the Gay revolution we have experienced manipulation of interpretation and even blatant denial or total disregard for the inerrancy of the Bible. Claims that the scriptures are sexist, homophobic, inaccurate, manipulative, outdated and irrelevant have been constantly presented to the public. Unfortunately, often these views have been presented by people making the claim to be Christian and in doing to make the subversive suggestion that the God they claim to serve was and in fact, is not God enough to give direction that would and should cover requirements for life for every generation and cultural condition.

Scripture itself warns us of just this state, so why should we be surprised? Those of us that do stand on the truth that the Bible is the inspired Word of God, particularly when we proclaim it so publically, will not be well received in the future.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

¹⁶ ^uAll Scripture is given by inspiration of God, ^vand is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for ³instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ ^wthat the man of God may be complete, ^xthoroughly equipped for every good work.

^u [2 Pet. 1:20]

2 Peter 1:20

²⁰ knowing this first, that ^dno prophecy of Scripture is of any private ¹interpretation, ²¹ for ^eprophecy never came by the will of man, ^fbut ²holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

But, you might say, where are these warnings you speak of? Where in scripture does it speak of these things, these deceptions, these false teachings, manipulations of the Word of God and false doctrines? I am so pleased you asked. The following are just a few; the list is by no means complete.

2 Timothy 3:1-7

3 But know this, that ^ain the last days ¹perilous times will come: ² For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³ unloving, ²unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, ⁴ ^btraitors,

^v Rom. 4:23; 15:4

³ training, discipline

^w 1 Tim. 6:11

^x 2 Tim. 2:21; Heb. 13:21

^d [Rom. 12:6]

¹ Or origin

^e Jer. 23:26; [2 Tim. 3:16]

^f 2 Sam. 23:2; Luke 1:70; Acts 1:16; 3:18; 1 Pet. 1:11

² NU men spoke from God

¹ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (2 Pe 1:20-21). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

^a 1 Tim. 4:1; 2 Pet. 3:3; 1 John 2:18; Jude 17, 18

¹ times of stress

² irreconcilable

^b 2 Pet. 2:10

headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power. (NLT They will act religious but they will reject the power that could make them Godly) And ^efrom such people turn away! ⁶ For ^fof this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, ⁷ always learning and never able ^gto come to the knowledge of the truth. ²

2 Peter 2:12-14

Depravity of False Teachers

¹² But these, ⁱlike natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and will utterly perish in their own corruption, ¹³ ^jand will receive the wages of unrighteousness, as those who count it pleasure ^kto ⁴carouse in the daytime, ^lThey are spots and blemishes, ⁵carousing in their own deceptions while ^mthey feast with you, ¹⁴ having eyes full of ⁶adultery and that cannot cease from sin, enticing unstable souls. ⁿThey have a heart trained in covetous practices, and are accursed children.

^c Titus 1:16

^d 1 Tim. 5:8

^e Matt. 23:3; 2 Thess. 3:6; 1 Tim. 6:5

^f Matt. 23:14; Titus 1:11

^g 1 Tim. 2:4

² *The New King James Version*. 1982 (2 Ti 3:1-7). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

ⁱ Jude 10

^j Phil. 3:19

^k Rom. 13:13

⁴ revel

^l Jude 12

⁵ reveling

^m 1 Cor. 11:20, 21

⁶ Lit. *an adulteress*

ⁿ Jude 11

1 Timothy 4:1

Now the Spirit ¹expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed ^ato deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, ² ^bspeaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience ^cseared with a hot iron, ³

2 Timothy 4:3

³ ^fFor the time will come when they will not endure ^gsound doctrine, ^hbut according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; ⁴ and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and ⁱbe turned aside to fables. ⁴

2 Peter 3:1-4

3 *Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which ^aI stir up your pure minds by way of reminder), ² that you may be mindful of the words ^bwhich were spoken before by the holy prophets, ^cand of the commandment of ¹us, the apostles of the Lord and Savior, ³*

¹ explicitly

^a 2 Tim. 3:13; Rev. 16:14

^b Matt. 7:15

^c Eph. 4:19

³ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (1 Ti 4:1-2). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

^f 2 Tim. 3:1

^g 1 Tim. 1:10; 2 Tim. 1:13

^h Is. 30:9–11; Jer. 5:30, 31; 2 Tim. 3:6

ⁱ 1 Tim. 1:4

⁴ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (2 Ti 4:3-4). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

^a 2 Pet. 1:13

^b 2 Pet. 1:21

^c Jude 17

¹ NU, M *the apostles of your Lord and Savior or your apostles of the Lord and Savior*

knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, ^dwalking according to their own lusts, ⁴ and saying, “Where is the promise of His coming?” ⁵

Titus 1:15-16

¹⁵ ^m*To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. ¹⁶ They profess to “know God, but ^oin works they deny Him, being ⁴abominable, disobedient, ^pand disqualified for every good work.*

Jude 17-18

¹⁷ ^v*But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: ¹⁸ how they told you that ^wthere would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. ¹⁹ These are ⁹sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.*

There are many more examples in scripture, to which I could refer you, however, the very words of Christ Jesus our Lord, in His Olivet Discourse of Matthew Chapter 24 speak so clearly of the dangers we face. He warns us of these times in no uncertain terms. Ignore His warnings at your own peril.

You may well say “Why do you use so much reference to scripture to support your point of view?” The answer is simple, I believe the Word of God with all my heart and He says it so much better than I can ever hope to.

^d 2 Pet. 2:10

⁵ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (2 Pe 3:1-4). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

^m Luke 11:41; Rom. 14:14, 20; 1 Cor. 6:12

ⁿ Matt. 7:20–23; 25:12; 1 John 2:4

^o [2 Tim. 3:5, 7]

⁴ detestable

^p Rom. 1:28

⁶ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Tit 1:15-16). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

^v 2 Pet. 3:2

^w Acts 20:29; [1 Tim. 4:1]; 2 Tim. 3:1; 4:3; 2 Pet. 3:3

⁹ soulish or worldly

⁷ *The New King James Version*. 1982 (Jud 17-19). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

God bless you with the understanding and the revelation of the truth of His precious Word.

Please feel free to contact me personally at any time with any comment you feel you wish to make.

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