

Bible Truth, or Man's Doctrine?

Jonah 3:1-2, "And the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the second time, saying, Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee."

Here we see God dealing with a reluctant prophet who didn't want to preach God's Word to the people of Nineveh. After some trials, Jonah has decided to obey the Lord, although his heart wasn't in it. He is admonished to preach God's message, not his own.

Today, I wonder, are there many preaching the message that God bids us to preach? Not for a minute can we say that everyone, everywhere, is doing God's will, no, not even what is called the church. I don't see how anyone could honestly say that all is going according to the will of God. 1 Corinthians 14: 33. For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

First, God didn't ordain all these different denominations. They differ not only in names, but also in doctrines. About anything that you can think of is taught in some places and they claim to be led by

the Lord. How can a person, or church, teach something that goes against what Jesus said and think that they are doing God's will? Surely in their heart they know better, but continue to do it anyway.

Some appear to be puffed up thinking that they know more than anyone else. Sometimes the more education that a person has makes them more prideful. I have known of several who look down on others who didn't have the degrees that they had. One person was even heard to say that he thought more of a certain man after he found out that he had a college degree. Does that fit well with what the bible teaches? I don't think so, for Jesus warns against looking down on anybody.

I have never understood, and never really tried to, how a man can take a verse that makes a plain statement, and mock it, saying that it doesn't mean what it says. I am not that brave, or foolish, to try to change what God has said. Indeed a man would have to be out of his mind to think for a moment that he can change what God has commanded, whether it be about baptism, the Lord's Supper, or anything that God has given a commandment about.

If it is God's Word then it will be in harmony with the bible not

in opposition to it. That is the way to tell whether you are listening to the truth, or to a lie. Man's doctrine, which is the devil's doctrine, will tell you that sin is alright and that God don't mind if you do it. That kind of doctrine will mock the plan of salvation as given in the bible and tell you that God said it but didn't really mean it. What nonsense, but many are not only listening to it but following it wholeheartedly. Some say that this is what granddaddy believed, or what some favorite preacher said. Some don't like, or agree with, me, but if God didn't say it, I don't accept it. By the same token, when someone tells me that I don't have to do what God has said to do, I don't listen to that either.

Friend, our souls, lives, and salvation is too important to play with. God, in his wisdom, didn't leave it up to man to make a way for us to be saved. It was so important that he, and only he, was able to make a way to redeem man from his sin. He provided his Son, Jesus, to be our redeemer, giving his life for our sins. Now the only way that we can be saved is to stop resisting, and trying to change his commands, and simply to believe and obey what He said. Close your ears to the false teachings of man.

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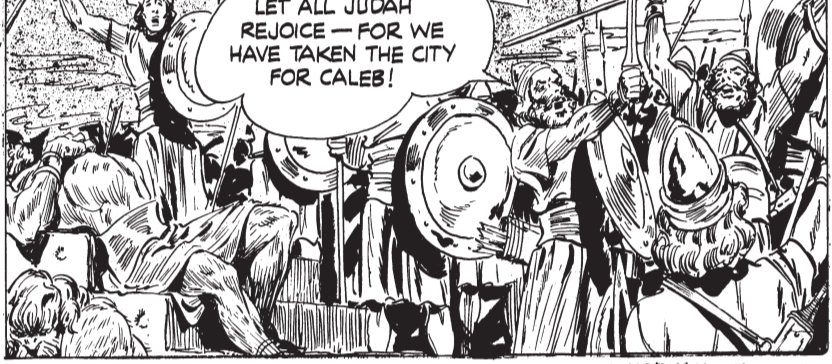
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This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Joshua, intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

OTHNIEL'S TRIUMPH
OTHNIEL AND HIS MEN HAVE CONQUERED THE LAST OF THE GIANTS IN THEIR CITY - NOW OTHNIEL IS FREE TO DEMAND THE REWARD CALEB HAS OFFERED...



AND LET CALEB REMEMBER HIS PROMISE - THE HAND OF ACHSAH TO THE VICTOR!



ACHSAH PROVES A GOOD WIFE TO OTHNIEL...
MY FATHER, THOU HAST GIVEN LANDS TO OTHNIEL WITHOUT WATER - THEREFORE NOW GIVE HIM ALSO LANDS WITH WATER!
IT SHALL BE DONE!



OTHNIEL HAS RECEIVED GREAT REWARDS - FINE LANDS AND A GOOD WIFE - BECAUSE HE DID NOT SHIRK HIS DUTY NOR DID HE ALLOW HIS FAITH TO GROW DIM IN THE FACE OF FIERCE ADVERSARIES, ALL OF WHICH HAS BEEN RECORDED IN THE BOOK OF JOSHUA: CHAP 15: 13-19.



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