

Words of Truth

You Can Be Sure

By: Brian A. Yeager

I had a discussion with a man who formed a false doctrine on the covering of a woman. He falsely assumed an artificial covering was discussed in I Corinthians 11:3-15. Furthermore, he used multiple dictionaries to add the idea that a woman may never cut or trim her hair. In our discussion, he was appalled that I would not consider that I could be wrong. Over and over again, we discussed that the text plainly says hair is the specific covering [veil] of that context (I Corinthians 11:14-15). I pointed out to him that he was adding to God's word by saying "cutting of hair" was forbidden. There is nothing in Greek or English, in that context, that teaches such a thing. This man took a stand that essentially concludes one cannot ever be sure of what the truth is on any biblical matter. He believed we must look at things we know to be the truth "afresh", as though we did not know what the text says.

Over the years I have met many who walk in uncertainty. Sadly, there are people that are ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth (II Timothy 3:7). It is not the will of God that we be unsure of the truth (Luke 12:29 and Ephesians 4:14). To be clear, man (myself included) can be wrong IF we draw our thinking from sources other than the properly handled truth (Proverbs 12:15, Proverbs 14:12, Romans 10:1-3, I Corinthians 4:6, II Corinthians 10:18, and II Timothy 2:14-18). When you are not SURE of what God says, you should not hold to a conclusion. That being said, you can be sure of the truth as it is revealed in the word of God.

God Says You Can Know The Truth And Be Sure Of It

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free... For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me... But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things... Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man... Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall... These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God... And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life" (John 8:32, John 17:8, Romans 2:2, Colossians 4:6, II Peter 1:10, I John 5:13, and I John 5:20). Man rejects these Scriptures because they have an impure motive.

Man Likes To "Study This Some More" For A Reason

Some like to continue studying a subject out of the Scriptures so that they can continue to excuse themselves from taking a stand on the matter. This is a ploy of the unity in diversity mindset. People like

this falsely conclude they can worship with the erring because they are “still studying the issue”. This is a mindset contrary to the Scriptures. We must walk by the same rule, mind the same thing, and have no divisions among brethren (I Corinthians 1:10, Philippians 2:2, and Philippians 3:16).

Others like to continue “studying” a subject out of the Scriptures so they can have more time to try and teach their false doctrine. These folks figure the more time they have to study with someone the more opportunities they have to twist the word of God (II Peter 3:15-17). Wolves like to hide their true identity and intentions (Matthew 7:15). They often approach the naïve with fair speeches (Romans 16:17-18). The idea that someone is searching for the truth afresh sounds honest. Notice this example, which shows the mindset I am attempting to expose here: *“And they watched him, and sent forth spies, which should feign themselves just men, that they might take hold of his words, that so they might deliver him unto the power and authority of the governor. And they asked him, saying, Master, we know that thou sayest and teachest rightly, neither acceptest thou the person of any, but teachest the way of God truly”* (Luke 20:20-21). The man I have mentioned at the onset of this article attempted this approach with me. He ignorantly thought I would fall for his flattering words. Brethren, these are false brethren. One of the ways to see that, besides examining their fruits (Matthew 7:16-20), is that they are severely inconsistent.

The Erring Are Inconsistent On This Matter

The man that wanted me to study the covering of I Corinthians 11:3-15 “afresh” did not feel the same way about other biblical truths. This man would not look at baptism, instrumental music, and other things “afresh”. Why not? He understands that man can be sure of the truth. He has come to conclusions on his view of the covering as well as many other things. Thus, his inconsistency shows his dishonesty (Proverbs 24:1-2 and Proverbs 26:24-26). The confidence we show in most areas shows we can be confident in all areas of the truth.

Just Like Baptism, You Can Stand Firm On All Things

We are all growing in the truth (II Peter 1:3-10 and II Peter 3:18). We are all expected to be able teachers, as we grow in knowledge (Hebrews 5:12-6:2). That is not to say we are all able to teach on all things (James 3:1). Yet, each one who has obeyed the Gospel should be able to show the necessity of water baptism (Mark 16:15-16, John 3:1-5, Acts 2:38, Acts 8:26-38, and I Peter 3:21). Every Christian should be able to show someone that they are part of the one church that Christ purchased with His blood (Matthew 16:13-18, Acts 2:47, Acts 20:28, Romans 16:16, Ephesians 1:22-23, and Ephesians 4:4-6). When someone asks, even a babe in Christ, to study “afresh” why baptism is required for salvation or that there is only one church, a faithful Christian will not entertain the idea of falsehood on these matters. Such is true on every ounce of truth as you grow to know and understand those issues.

Conclusion

The man who took the false doctrine on the covering and attempted to dupe me into thinking he was looking at it afresh, moved on to another brother right after he rejected my invitation to meet with him in person. He tried the same tactics with this other brother as he did with me. Isn't it sad that one who proclaims they want to learn obviously is a liar in that they uphold their doctrine while pretending to “look at it afresh”? Brethren, let's be sure to **BE SURE!** God expects us to stand unwaveringly for the truth (I Corinthians 15:58 and Hebrews 10:23).