



“And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also.” 1 John 4: 21

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**Sunday – March 4, 2018**

## Heart to Heart...

*“As also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.”* (II Peter 3:16) Peter is referencing the Scriptures Paul wrote. The untaught and unstable distort Scriptures and along with that comes the warning to their own destruction! What words written with such a powerful judgment. Nothing has changed today. So many ‘untaught’ (no insight to the truth) and ‘unstable’ (not anchored but up and down) do a great disservice to God’s word and it will cost them dearly. Too many take Scripture and twist it to their thinking, dislocating it from the truth and create their own belief system. Why do you think we have all these religious groups?

Here’s a great illustration. *“Why are fire trucks red?”* The reply: *“Fire trucks have four wheels and eight firefighters so four plus eight equals twelve. There are twelve inches in a foot. A foot is a ruler. Queen Elizabeth is a ruler and the Queen Elizabeth is one of the largest ships ever to sail the seven seas. Seas have fish. Fish have fins. The Finns fought the Russians. The Russians are red. Fire trucks are always ‘rushin.’ Therefore fire trucks are red!”* This logic, sadly to say, is how many approach Scripture jumping all over twisting, turning Scripture to make sense in their belief.

In the magazine Christianity Today, it was shared about a fellow named Herb Overton from Olathe, Kansas. He was arrested for the possession of marijuana and he based his defense on Genesis 1:29: *“and God said, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of the earth.”* Judge Earl Jones doubted Overton’s hermeneutics (the proper way to interpret Scripture) and stated: *“As a mere mortal, I find you guilty of possession of marijuana. If you want to appeal to a higher authority that’s fine with me!”* He was sentenced.

People use Scripture in such ways to fit their own personal desires. But it’s to their own destruction! Verse yanking is going to cost many their souls. That’s why Paul told the preacher Timothy to *“...accurately handling the word of truth.”* It happens in the church often also. People present their ideas pulling from here and there without any thought of context. Sometimes doctrines are arrived at because someone distorts what is being spoken. Philip the evangelist approached the Eunuch and asked him if he understood what he was reading. The Eunuch replied, *“How could I unless someone guides me?”* (Acts 8:30-31) Sometimes we need

guidance, someone to help us understand Scripture. That takes one who handles accurately the word of truth with a humble and honest heart. This is why our Bible classes are so important with men who don't distort the truth.

Read with a desire for the truth. Read with honesty looking at the context. Believe what you read from Scripture and accept it. Don't go on wild chases!! God will guide, if your heart is right. Think about it!!!

Brent