



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

Sunday – March 25, 2018

Heart to Heart...

We have in our hands God’s word. It’s GOD’S WORD! Not man’s word, not man’s ideas of what he thinks of God, not some man’s interpretation of God or man’s writings. (Many of the modern versions of Scripture are man’s interpretations and not accurate according to the Hebrew and Greek.) God spoke His words and through the Holy Spirit had man pen them down. Over 1600 years of writings from men who lived at different times and yet not one discrepancy or mistake. Only God could have spoken this and connected it together without a misstep. Man does not have that capability. Compare that to the Book of Mormon claiming to have another New Testament of Jesus Christ and it has over 3900 mistakes!!! That’s a book of man!

God speaks to us through His word to believe, trusting in what is read. It’s not a novel or a love letter. It is powerful and Divinely spoken. We read places like: “*And God said...and it was so!*” Powerful is His word. We need to heed and obey His word. Too many read God’s word and readily run to man’s thoughts to put with it. The result? The powerful, Divinely spoken truth from God is mixed with weak and sinful thoughts of man and God’s word becomes man’s word; diluted and made ineffective. I want you to know that I’m not saying we can’t read others material, but too many times man’s material means more than God’s word. That’s where the problems enter. No wonder people struggle with issues of life mixing both.

When Jesus was confronted by the devil, Jesus spoke plainly: “***Man shall not live by bread alone, but on every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.***” (Matthew 4:4) We need to carefully think about His words. We need to believe His words. Jesus spent His thirty-three years on this earth with one single focus; listening to His Father’s word to do His will. Jesus didn’t mix psychology with God’s word. Jesus didn’t mix philosophy with God’s word. Jesus didn’t listen to man’s thoughts and reasonings throwing in a little of God’s word to make it sound right. Preachers can be the worst about this. They read an article or find a subject of interest and take God’s word to plug in that article to make a sermon out of it. That’s backward. To take man’s writings or thoughts and plug God’s word into it is an abuse. You must take God’s word first and allow Him to become the leader in the truth to develop thoughts and not man’s word and try to make God fit what is written! Jesus was never persuaded by man’s words but only the words of His Father.

I want to encourage us to read God's word, a Divinely inspired word that's powerful and true. Don't try to understand everything. Take His word and apply what you read to your life. Treat your mate as God asks of you. Love the brotherhood as God asks. Worship as God calls us to worship, to please Him. We have His word available in our homes. What keeps us from reading and taking in His word within our hearts? No matter what anyone's philosophy of life or reasonings, God still is speaking His will and truth in His word. Do we hear Him? Think about it!!!

Brent