"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 3, 2024

Heart to Heart...

People have many ideas what they believe God is and is not. It amazes me how many speak boldly of their perception of God. "God is a God of love!" And He is (I John 4:7-8)! But they continue, "He wouldn't send good people to hell. That's not love!" Ideas like this float around the hearts of some who profess to believe, but the interesting part, have those who believe such taken time to read carefully from His word? Let's look at a few things His Scriptures teach about Him.

- 1. "For there is no partiality with God." (Romans 2:11) God offers His salvation through the gospel to all mankind. He doesn't favor one person over another, those highly educated or little education. God doesn't lean in favor of those with a high social standing or family status in life. God sent His Son on a death mission to save all who will heed His teachings. He shows no partiality!
- 2. "God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent; Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?" (Numbers 23:19) There are a couple of other places where it speaks that "God is not a man (flesh and blood)" but this will do. Too many speak as if God was like us. He is not. Some call Him, the big man upstairs." What a slap in His face. He is holy and can be trusted in every situation. God has never lied or let down anyone who humbles themselves before Him. "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts." (Isaiah 55:8-9) God is not like man!
- 3. "Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am being tempted by God'; for God cannot be tempted by evil and He Himself does not tempt anyone." (James 1:13) Isn't that good to know? God cannot be tempted, and He doesn't tempt people into wrong. This could also fall under God is not a man. We are weak and easily tempted in situations but not God. He is true, upright and can never be blamed when we go off course. When we sin, it was us and no one else. Just read the rest in James 1:14-15.

These are just a few things about God we need to take in and trust. We need to respect His holiness and honor Him as our Savior and Creator. It will be God and God alone that will determine the fate of every person on this earth. That should create a greater respect from us and make our worship and living take on a deeper meaning. Think about it!!!

Brent