

THE BOOK OF COLOSSIANS

COLOSSIANS 2:16-23

INTRODUCTION: [READ COLOSSIANS 2:16-23]

1. The Colossian brethren were being warned about those who bind matters of opinion on others. (Col. 2.16,18)
2. We can have different opinions and respectfully debate them. But we cannot insist on others adhering to them.

I. WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT OPINIONS?

- A. **ROMANS 14.1:** “Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things.” ESV: “opinions”
 1. “Doubtful things” (dialogismos): To thoroughly reason.
 2. The word is used positively and negatively. (Matt. 16.7)
 3. **COLOSSIANS 2.23:** “the appearance of wisdom.”
- B. Three observations about opinions.
 1. Different opinions don’t matter to God. (Rom. 14.2,3)
 2. Opinions are personal. (Rom. 14.4-6)
 3. Opinions should never cause division. (Rom. 14.18)

II. DO NOT BE BULLIED BY OPINIONS

- A. Some were using logic to manipulate the brethren into adhering to their opinions.
 1. Certain individuals were binding religious practices by presenting them as commands. (Col. 2.4,8,17,18,22,23)
 2. We are to reason and make logical conclusions about the Bible, but some were using human reasoning. (Col. 2.23)
- B. Four problems that opinions can cause when they are bound on others as commandments.
 1. The commandments of men can cause us to be deceived thinking we are obeying God. (Col. 2.4)
 2. The commandments of men can cause of to be disenfranchised. (Col. 2.8)
 3. The commandments of men can cause us to be divided if we have a different opinion. (Col. 2.16)
 4. The commandments of men can cause us to be disqualified, viewed as unfaithful. (Col. 2.18)

CONCLUSION: It’s okay to have opinions, but we cannot use opinions as the standard by which we are judged.

NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST
2424 McCARRAN ST.
NORTH LAS VEGAS, NV 89031
(702) 642-3141

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WWW.NLVCHURCHOFCHRIST.COM

NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

2424 McCarran St. ☐ North Las Vegas, NV ☐ 89030
Phone: (702) 642-3141 Email: Pruitt@nlvchurchofchrist.com
Be sure to watch us live at www.nlvchurchofchrist.com
Facebook: Chris Pruitt

“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”
-Mark 16.15

June 19, 2022

MEETING TIMES:

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM

GOD’S POWER TO SAVE

We have heard the divine command: “Go into all the world and preach the gospel” (Mark 16.15). However, we sometimes forget that the power of salvation lies not with us but with the gospel itself. Through inspiration, Paul wrote, “for I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation...” (Rom. 1.16).

Christians must come to the realization that it is Christ and His word which must govern our families, not us. It is Christ who must be present in our neighborhoods, not us. It is the piercing look of Christ that penetrates the heart, not ours (Luke 22.61). It is the word spoke by Christ that influences, not mine (Acts 2.37). It is not my life that transforms the world, but the life of Christ that is manifest in me (Gal. 2.20).

The word of God is “living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword” (Heb. 4.12). It is only through this spiritual weapon that we can be successful in “casting down arguments” and bring “every thought into captivity to the obedience Christ” (2 Cor. 5.10).

Read it. Study it. Live by it. Know it well. It will be the most effective tool we have to bring the lost souls to Christ (1 Tim. 4.16).

CLP

WHEN JESUS PRAYED IN GETHSEMANE

LUKE 22:41

INTRODUCTION:

1. Prayer is precious offering comfort and peace of mind during the most difficult days of life.
2. In Luke 22:39-46, Jesus prays in the most difficult time of life.

I. PLACE

- A. Where did Jesus go to pray?
 1. **LUKE 22:39:** *“Coming out...”*
 2. **LUKE 22:39:** *“He went to the Mount of Olives”*
 3. **LUKE 22:39:** *“as He was accustomed.”*
- B. Do you have a special place where you pray? (Matt. 6.6)

II. PRIVACY

- A. Who was Jesus with when He prayed?
 1. **LUKE 22:39:** *“The disciples followed Him.”*
 2. **LUKE 22:41:** *“And He was withdrawn from them.”*
- B. Do you take time to pray to God alone?
 1. The disciples often prayed publicly. (Acts 2:42; 4:23)
 2. There are great benefits to praying alone. (Matt. 6:6-8)

III. POSTURE

- A. Jesus had three postures when He prayed.
 1. **LUKE 22:41:** *“He knelt down, and prayed”*
 2. **MARK 14:35:** *“fell on the ground and prayed”*
 3. **MATTHEW 26:39:** *“fell on His face, and prayed”*
- B. Your posture does not matter as long as you express reverence and humility. (Eph. 3:14; 1 Tim. 2:8)

IV. PASSION

- A. Jesus was passionate when He prayed.
 1. **LUKE 22:44:** *“And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly”* (cf. Matt. 26:42; Mark 14:36)
 2. **LUKE 22:44:** *“great drops of blood...”*
- B. Do you pray with passion? (James 5:16)
 1. Hannah prayed with passion. (1 Sam. 1:8,10,12-15,18)
 2. Prayer can help us be at peace. (Phil. 4:7)

CONCLUSION: To pray privately in a specific place with passion is to pray like Jesus.

HIS POWER IS IN THE STARS

It is hard to fathom the depth of the ocean, the mechanics at work to manipulate gravity allowing a plane to get off the ground, the inner workings of the brain that even the best doctors and scientists have yet to fully understand. But it is impossible to understand the power and wisdom of God. The apostle Paul wrote, *“how unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out”* (Rom. 11:33). He then asked, *“who has known the mind of the Lord”* (Rom. 11:34).

In our finite minds, we cannot comprehend the magnitude of His power and wisdom. But we can get a sense of it simply by looking at the stars. In Isaiah 40, the prophet gives comfort to the nation of Israel declaring that their deliverance is close at hand. In this prophecy is also a prediction of our spiritual deliverance through the coming of Christ. To show that God is powerful enough to do all that He promised, the prophet describes the magnitude of His power. He refers to His creation (Isa. 40:12). He refers to God’s wisdom (Isa. 40:13,14). He refers to God strength over man (Isa. 40:15-17). He references His power over the false gods of foreign nations (Isa. 40:18-20). He refers to His dominance over the religious leaders. (Isa. 40:21-25).

Notice specifically what the prophet Isaiah wrote in verse 26. He said, *“Lift up your eyes on high, And see who has created these things, Who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name, By the greatness of His might And the strength of His power; Not one is missing”* (Isa. 40:26). How powerful is God? Simply look up at the stars. Just the massive size of a blue giant making our sun look like a dot in comparison boggles the mind. Yet, Isaiah tells us to think about who it is who created these things. Again, our mind is stretched to the limits and beyond as we try to wrap our head around the innumerable quantity of stars that occupy the heavens. Yet Isaiah says that God *“calls them all by name...not one is missing.”*

We cannot fully comprehend the power of God. But we can look at the stars and stand in awe of their vastness. Then we realize that God, by His great power, brought all of those stars into existence simply by speaking the word (Gen. 1:16; Ps. 33:8,9). This God who brought the stars into existence is the same God who hears your prayers and is involved in your life. There is only one word that captures the power of God as seen in the stars: **“Wow!”** CLP