Sunday Evening 7/23 / 2023 "A Christian Knows the Living and True God"

But the LORD is the true God; He is the living God and the everlasting King. At His wrath the earth will tremble, And the nations will not be able to endure His indignation. Jeremiah 10:10 (NKJV)

⁹ For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,

1 Thessalonians 1:9 (NKJV)

The ungodly world we live in wants to redefine and rename things to make sin seem palatable, and even preferable. At the same time, they would also redefine things to make godliness seem immoral and wrong.

One of the many ways they have attempted to do this is the redefinition of what it means to be "Christian." Now, "Christian" is a biblical word. It is taken from the word "Christ."

Eventually, we will consider the meaning and importance of the word and name "Christian" but in this sermon I want to start where Scripture starts -

With God! 1 In the beginning God... Genesis 1:1 A

- A true Christian believes in a REAL, LIVING God But the LORD is the true God; He is the living God... Jeremiah 10:10 A
 - 1. Our God is the TRUE GOD, meaning He is REAL -
 - A. When something or in God's case, Some One is REAL, that real Being cannot be whatever anyone would want that Being to be!
 - B. In our politically correct world, we are almost FORCED by a corrupt, atheistic culture to acquiesce to the idea that every concept of God is equal. When we do this, we are too easily giving in to an atheistic / anti-God mindset.

Why? Because if God is REAL, He cannot be whatever so many conflicting concepts say, for instance, the Mormon concept of God started as a man. The spaghetti monster concept of God is a joke! A bad joke!

The Muslim / Jehovah Witness concepts of God, being ONE, conflicts with the Christian concept of Three-in-One the Trinity.

2. You might ask, "how do you know which concept is correct?" Well, you might not know, but if God is REAL, there is a CORRECT CONCEPT and there are wrong concepts.

If Kansas City is a real place, there are only so many ways to get there, by car, by airplane ... Not by clicking your heels together and saying, 'there's no place like home, there's no place like home..."

The politically correct, forced acceptance of many gods & goddesses, all being equal, assumes atheism, it assumes God, gods and goddesses are all fantasies, it assumes idolatry!

A. The Bible tells us the is only ONE God, Who exists eternally in Three Persons – 4 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! Deuteronomy 6:4 (NKJV)

... baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Matthew 28:19 (NKJV)

- B. The Bible tells us Jesus is the ONLY WAY to the One true and Living God Because Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. John 14:6 (NKJV)
 - C. The Bible describes this eternal God according to His many wonderful attributes The Westminster Shorter Catechism gives us a sample of some of these –

Ouestion 4 What is God?

God is a Spirit, (John 4:24) infinite, (Job 11:7–9) eternal, (Psalm 90:2) and unchangeable, (James 1:17) in his being, (Exodus 3:14) wisdom, (Psalm 147:5) power, (Revelation 4:8) holiness, (Revelation 15:4) justice, goodness, and truth. (Exodus 34:6–7)

II. A True Christian has a Biblical understanding of the Living God -

¹⁰ But the LORD *is* the true God; He *is* the living God and the everlasting King. At His wrath the earth will tremble, And the nations will not be able to endure His indignation. Jeremiah 10:10 (NKJV)

⁹ For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, 1 Thessalonians 1:9 (NKJV)

- 1. God Who speaks from the Scripture is the "true God" meaning all other versions are false!
- 2. He is the living God, meaning He is alive and REAL!

3. He is definitely NOT something men invented to control women ...

The ungodly who call Biblical Christianity "Patriarchy" do not believe Scripture, the Bible to be God-breathed

The believe Scripture to be purely the invention of MEN, and only MEN ...

The people who are denying Scripture, claim to be "Christians" yet they don't believe the Bible is from God, nor is God the true or living God ...

- 4. The claim God / goddess are made-up ideas –
- A. They see the Bible as promoting a man-made agenda!
- B. They believe they also have a right to use God / goddess concepts to PROMOTE their own ideas. Even the word "Christian" they see as something they could use!
- 5. For us God is living & true, REAL Jeremiah 10:10
- 6. He is the everlasting King, meaning God rules, He ruled in 30 something AD when Jesus Christ rose from the dead, He still rules today. He is sovereign He is the living God and the everlasting King. Jeremiah 10:10 (NKJV)
- 7. He is a God Who will punish sin and sinners –

At His wrath the earth will tremble, And the nations will not be able to endure His indignation. Jeremiah 10:10 (NKJV)

Today, too often, a view of God that includes His wrath against sin and sinners is ridiculed, it is even call not "Christian."

- 8. Concepts of God that go against the Bible, for instance any teaching that denies God's wrath,
- A. It is true God is love -

B. However, it is also true that God is a consuming fire –

When a person picks and chooses, saying he believes God is Love, but not a consuming fire, he is making an idol. "I like to think of God as my Big Daddy in the sky..." What we LIKE has nothing to do with Who and What God is.

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. Matthew 28:18–20 (NKJV)

⁸ He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. 1 John 4:8 (NKJV)

²⁹ For our God *is* a consuming fire. Hebrews 12:29 (NKJV)

²⁴ For the LORD your God *is* a consuming fire, a jealous God. Deuteronomy 4:24 (NKJV)

III. A true Christian sees God as his / her creator (the Creator of everything)—
1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1 (NKJV)

²⁶ Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." ²⁷ So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸ Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." Genesis 1:26–28 (NKJV)

We are living in a day when the Theory of Evolution should be laughed at!

- 1. The fact that DNA has been discovered actually destroys the Theory of Evolution because DNA is information. Duplicate copies of this information are coiled up in each of the one hundred trillion cells in your body. If all the DNA in your body was placed end-to-end it would stretch from here to the moon more than 500 times. That is a lot of information.
- In Darwin's day, people who did not believe in God believed in spontaneous generation.
 They thought flies spontaneously generated from manure and that mice spontaneously generated from hay piles. Yet, this has never been observed.
- 3. Even in Darwin's day life was seen as too complex to have evolved, for instance, Darwin himself said, "To suppose that the eye with all its inimitable contrivances for adjusting the focus to different distances, for admitting different amounts of light, and for the correction of spherical and chromatic aberration, could have been formed by natural selection, seems, I freely confess, absurd in the highest degree." Charles Darwin
- 4. Christians who know God created everything see His purpose and design in creation.
- A. They know the Heavens declare God's glory Psalm 19:1
- B. They see His invisible attributes in the things made Romans 1:19-20
- C. They know they created according to His design, male and female, they are designed with an ability to procreate **Genesis 1:28**
- D. They are created in His image and are supposed to live for His glory Genesis 1:27; 1 Corinthians 10:31
- 5. The is dramatically different from the atheist whose life has no intrinsic meaning.
- 6. The Christian identity therefore is God-given.

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