

FEELINGS VS. REVELATION

Text: Proverbs 28:26; 16:25

INTRO: In no other realm of life has man so thoroughly trusted in his own feelings as in the realm of spiritual matters, & yet in no realm of life is such foolishness so dangerous. Immortal souls are at stake.

In the realm of medicine, business or travel, few if any would be so foolish as to put complete confidence in their own inner urgings. Why not use the same common sense when it comes to the matter of utmost importance.

I. FEELINGS ARE OF MAN, REVELATION IS FROM GOD.

- A. Naaman thought, but God's prophet revealed, 2 Kings 5:11
- B. Joseph's father thought Joseph was dead--mourned for him for years--but he had been misled. When the truth was revealed to him, at first he did not believe it, Gen 45:26.
- C. Jesus told the apostles: "Whoever kills you will think he does God service." (John 16:2).
- D. The things God wants us to know are not things that the mind of man could conceive or the heart of man concoct They must be revealed to us as they are in the N.T.
Jer. 10:23. READ I COR 2:9-13; EPH 3:3-4

II. FEELINGS ARE SUBJECTIVE, REVELATION IS OBJECTIVE.

- A. Feelings change. LK 12:17-18. Thought within self. "What shall I do?" And he said, "This will I do..."
- B. Revelation remains the same.
 - 1. Old man in debate used Mark 16:16.
 - 2. D. Watts used Eph 4:5 in Assembly of God debate

III FEELINGS ARE UNRELIABLE, REVELATION DEPENDABLE

- A. Your thoughts might lead you wrong, Isa 55:8-9
- B. The Bible properly handled will never lead you astray.
2 Tim. 2:15; Psa 119:105; Matt. 4:4

IV. FEELINGS MAKE SCRIPTURE UNWANTED; REVELATION MAKES FEELINGS IMMATERIAL.

- A. The Jews thought they had eternal life without Christ so they rejected Him, John 5:39.
- B. Once God has revealed His mind in Scripture, what men think about a certain is of no real value, 2 Kings 5:11, baptism, divorce, etc.

V. FEELINGS VARY WITH THE PERSON, CIRCUMSTANCES, CONVICTIONS, ETC., BUT REVELATION IS CONSTANT.

- A. Religious people differ on the "mode" of baptism. God's revelation always says the same thing, Col 2:12; Rom 6:4-5
- B. Men differ over when & how often to take the L.S. The Bible always says: Acts 20:7.

VI. FEELINGS MAKE MAN A FINAL AUTHORITY TO HIM- SELF; REVELATION RECOGNIZES GOD AS THE ONE LAWGIVER ABLE TO SAVE AND TO DESTROY.

Your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. (1 Cor. 2:25).

John 12:48

VII. FEELINGS LACK DIVINE SUPPORT; REVELATION HAS THE STAMP OF GOD'S APPROVAL.

- A. No where does God instruct a man to walk by feelings.
- B. We are to walk by faith in God's word, 2 Cor 5:7.
 - 1. Teachers must teach the gospel, MT 28:18-20
 - 2. All creatures must believe the gospel, MK 16:16
 - 3. All must obey the gospel, MK 16:16; 2 Thes 1:7-9
 - 4 All will be judged by the teachings of Jesus, JN 12:48

God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel. (Rom 2:16).

CONCLUSION: Don't rely on your own feelings to guide you aright. Study the Bible, believe it, obey it, and you will be on safe ground, for you will be living by the standard by which you will eventually be judged. Any other course is foolish and dangerous.

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