

Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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Teach Me Thy Way

(Jerry Fite)

David prays, “*Teach me thy way, O Jehovah; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name*” (Psalm 86:11). Following God’s way without distractions is not the way life happens. David desires God to teach him His way because his heart is tempted to go different directions. The proud of this world are around us and rise up to destroy the righteous (Psalm 86:14, 7). The way sometimes gets a little cloudy with the clamoring of the proud, but “*the meek will He guide in justice; and the meek will He teach His way*” (Psalm 25:9).

We must make sure our heart is united in God’s way amidst the beliefs and ways of the world, or those not thinking with God.

One way that is contrary to God’s way involves the exclusive nature of God’s salvation in Christ. Jesus says, “*I am the way, and the truth, and the life: no one cometh unto the Father but by me*” (John 14:6). Thomas was puzzled with Jesus telling them that where He was going, they knew the way. If we do not know where you are going Lord, how can we know the way? Good

question, but a time when we need God’s help in teaching us His way. His way, is Jesus! Going to heaven where the Father is demands we come to Christ.

Religious leaders today, such as the popular evangelist Joel Osteen, cannot bring himself to say definitely that Jews and other religious people who do not believe in or follow Jesus will be lost. It seems kind, open minded and even spiritually superior to those who believe in God’s way.

But God has made His way clear. We will die in our sins if we do not believe in the Deity of Jesus – He is the “*I Am*” (John 8:24, 58). There is no other name, wherein we “*must be saved*” than in the authoritative name of Jesus Christ (Acts 4:12). Religious people who do not believe Jesus is the Messiah, and do not come to the Father through the authority of Christ will not be saved

God, in our “politically correct” world, teach us to be as inclusive as You: salvation is for all (Romans 1:16-17); and as exclusive as You: salvation is found today only in Jesus – the way (John 14:6).

When people are experiencing painful physical circumstances, some, like Eliphaz considering Job’s plight, may think God is punishing the person as a sinner (Job 4:7-8). But we know God was allowing the Devil to inflict body-covering- boils upon a righteous Job (Job 1-2). Physical maladies, like blindness in one’s offspring, are not due to sin in the parent or the child (Jn. 9:3). The Galileans who Pilate killed with their sacrifices were not greater sinners than other Galileans. Taking Jesus’ warning personally, we must also heed, “*Nay, except ye repent, ye shall also perish*” (Luke 13:3). God, teach us that your way for the righteous is not void of maladies and life-threatening circumstances,

Many today believe that regardless of your church affiliation, or how you worship God, the fact you are going to church somewhere is all that matters. Yet Jesus warned of those who “*honoreth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain to they worship me, Teaching as their doctrines the precepts of men*” (Matthew 15:8-9). God, teach us to unite our worship with your doctrine, not the doctrines of man. Help us learn that doctrine matters when worshipping!