

# **LET THE BIBLE SPEAK SERIES**

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## **Remember The Words of The Lord Jesus**

Acts 20:35

These words come from Paul, as he closes his meeting with the Ephesian Elders. He leaves with them an admonition to remember "the words of the Lord Jesus." While these treasured words are not recorded elsewhere, they remind us of the necessity of turning from our own wants to the needs of our fellow man. "It is more blessed to give than receive." Who can deny it? This admonition also reminds us of the importance of remembering what Jesus had to say. His word is the final authority in matters of faith and practice. In Luke 24:8 we are told that the disciples "remembered his words."

### **I. The Blessing of Memory**

We are endowed with that faculty of mind known as memory. There could be no history without it, no transactions of business. Mothers would not know one child from another. Husbands and wives would be strangers. (according to modern situations that might suit some of them) God created man with a mind, memory, and created within him a spirit. "There is a spirit in man and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding." God not only created us for physical existence, but for mental, moral, and spiritual as well. In dealing with man, God does so through these faculties. The only spiritual influences that God exercises upon or within us is through these faculties, by testimony of his word addressed to our minds.

### **II. The Function of the Holy Spirit.**

The apostles of Christ had a source of recollection that men today do not have. In dealing with them, God charged their memory with an infallible recollection. John 16:4 "When the time shall come you may remember that I told you these things." The apostles were enabled to remember the words that Christ had spoken to them when the occasion required it. They were to be teachers for the world for all time. It was important that there be no error, no mistake in their teaching. Today we do not have a direct source of recollection, but we have the result of it in the words of the apostles. When Jesus was present with the apostles he was the source of their instruction and knowledge.

When he went away, he sent the comforter. First, the comforter would bring to their remembrance all things that Christ had spoken unto them. That was the reminding office of the Spirit. Second, the comforter would guide them into all truth.

The revealing office of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit would reveal to the apostles the truths that Christ himself had not taught them. "I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth is come, he will guide you into all truth." Hence, the Comforter promised to the apostles was the Holy Spirit in the measure of inspiration. "Take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye

premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Spirit." Mark 13:11

Today we have the Wonderful Words of Christ through this inspiration. We are told to "remember the words of Christ."

### III. The Words Of Christ On Creation.

The words of Christ will settle any question within the realm of religious controversy or discussion. What about Creation? The age old theory of evolution has been dressed up in a new theological suit in order to gain acceptance in religion. It is called "theistic evolution." The old theory denies the divine power of direct creation affirmed in the Genesis record: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

In the beginning of heaven, God  
In the beginning of the earth, God  
In the beginning of time, God  
In the beginning of man, God

It is being taught that everything came into existence by chance through the process of evolution from a single cell, a non-sex single cell, which was the result of spontaneous generation. The evolutionist begins with a single cell of an unknown and unexplained origin, which after millions of years accidentally divided itself into a dual cell, male and female and from that developed all phases and forms and grades of life that now exist. Once they theorized that man came from monkey. Now they say man did not come from the monkey but both man and monkey came from the same life stem or cell.

What's the difference? If monkey, then my father, if same thing the monkey came from then, my brother. I would just as soon have him as my father as my brother. The theory of theistic evolution teaches that God employed evolution as his method of creation.

Hence one may believe both evolution and the bible. It is on this point that the words of Christ come into perspective. He was in the beginning with God, and he was the agent of all creation. It was to Him God said "Let us make man in our image." Gen. 1:26

Mt. 19:4 "Have ye not read that he which made them at the beginning, made them male and female?" This is not a reference to Gen. 1:1 but a reference to the creation of Gen.

1:26, 27. "Let us make man in our image...in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." Note: "at" the beginning. He created them male and female. He created man and woman. He created them at the beginning. The words of Christ settle the creation question. No one can believe the theory of evolution of man and at the same time believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

### IV. The Words of Christ On His Mission

Why did Christ come into this world? John 17:1-11 "Father the hour is come; glorify thy son that thy Son also may glorify thee;...I have glorified thee on the earth; I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do...I am no more in the world...I come to thee."

When Christ left this world and returned to the Father there was nothing more in the

world for him to do. He had finished the work God had given him. There is a theology known as "the postponement of the kingdom theory." It teaches that Jesus intended to establish his kingdom, but the Jews rejected him, thus thwarting his plans, and because of this, he postponed his kingdom, and introduced the intermediate age---the church age---by establishing the church until he can return some day and establish the kingdom. The words of Christ will settle this issue: "I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do," and "I am no more in the world." "No more" means never again. 2Cor. 5:17 says Christ will be "no more in the flesh." If Christ will be "no more in the world" and "no more in the flesh", how could he again dwell on the earth in bodily form? Reigning and ruling on a throne? The words of Christ settle the matter. He will not come back to this earth and establish a kingdom. Jesus finished his work on earth. He completed every phase of his earthly mission. All was accomplished. Jesus said "the hour is come" The time had come to terminate his mission in the world. To terminate the old covenant, the abolition of the Mosaic law. To erect the spiritual kingdom that he had announced from the banks of Jordan to the cross. The words of Christ settle all these things.

#### VI The Words of Christ On Marriage, Divorce, and Remarriage

These are issues that certainly demand our attention. Were we to simply listen to society today, we would walk away, not only confused, but greatly misled. There was a time when marriage was viewed as a serious lifetime commitment. Today the very opposite is for example the case of a famous singer who, under the influence of alcohol, married in Las Vegas and in a matter of hours sought an annulment. There was a time when divorce was shunned and renounced. Today one half of all marriages end in divorce. Some estimate that it will reach two out of three. There are over one million divorces a year in America. What is the cause for such behavior?

In a recent Sociology Book edited by Judson Landis one writer said:  
"The demand that marriage should entail sexual monogamy may have made sense in an era when contraception was largely impossible and questions of lineage were of considerable moment."(Are these the only two reasons one should not be promiscuous)

Keith Melvill, another Sociologist wrote "A case of adultery is no longer to be judged on its moralistic or legalistic grounds, but in terms of its contribution to intimate relationships."

Dora Russell, former wife of Bertrand Russell (Who wrote a book "Why I'm Not a Christian) wrote: "I believe in having two or three companionate marriages before one settles down...I would not insist on absolute faithfulness after marriage...It would not be wrong for a man to have six wives, provided he and they found mutual happiness, nor for a woman to have six husbands and a child by each if she and they found such life satisfactory."

If there ever was an area where the "words of Christ" need to be heard, it seems to be

here. Note what Jesus said: Read Matthew 19:3-9

V.4-5 God made them "male" and "female" He did not make two men or two women. A "man" shall leave father and mother and cleave to his "wife."

That settles it, same sex marriages are not approved by Christ.

V. 8 "From the beginning" God's original design in marriage was for one man and one woman to live together 'till separated by death.

V. 9 "except for fornication" The Lord gives but one reason for divorce. These are the words of Jesus.

Divorce on any other grounds is not approved by the Lord. Those who seek and get divorces for other reasons cannot remarry without committing adultery. And so long as they remain in that relationship they will be guilty of that sin. The Words of Jesus settle the matter.

#### V. The Words of Christ On Heaven

John 14:1-4 "Let not your hearts be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in me, In my Father's house are many mansions if it were not so I would have told you..."

There is so much about heaven we would like to know, that we don't know.

Where is heaven? What will it be like there? Jesus said "Where I am there shall ye be also..." That is enough for us to know. Heaven is where Jesus is now, and that is where we shall be. What will it be? Paul said "For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself." Phil. 3:20-21 If we are fortunate enough to reach the redeemed side of eternity, our spirits will be clothed upon with a body like His. John said "we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is."

"We speak of the realms of the blest, that country so bright and fair  
And oft are its glories confessed, But what must it be to be there?"

It is almost in the reach of some of us. It may seem remote and far away from some of you. But whether far or near, we ought to fix firmly in our minds the "wonderful words of Jesus on the subject of heaven. May God help us to learn his words, believe his words, obey his words, live his words, and have his words in our hearts when death shall come to call us home. Jno. 12:48 "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him; the words I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day."