"RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH"

Part 2

INTRODUCTION

A. 2nd Timothy 2:15

One may stand before God approved, rather than ashamed, only by handling the Word accurately.

B. 1st Timothy 1:8

Since "the law is good if one uses it lawfully" it would be dangerous otherwise. When used other than as intended, even God's word becomes bad.

C. 2nd Peter 3:16

The apostle acknowledged that those who twist the scriptures do so to their own destruction.

D. Matthew 4:1-11

The devil is well versed in scripture and employs it fraudulently.

V. OLD TESTAMENT

A. Hebrews 8:7-13; 10:9

The Old Covenant is so described for a reason; it is obsolete and has been replaced.

B. Galatians 3:19, 16, 23-25

The Law of Moses was a temporary measure by God, designed to last until Christ.

C. Colossians 2:14; Hebrews 9:16-17

That way ceased to be valid when Christ died on the cross.

D. Romans 7:1-4

Anyone attempting to live simultaneously under both the Old and New Testaments is a spiritual adulterer.

E. Romans 15:4; 1st Corinthians 10:11

Nevertheless, the Old Law remains useful for learning.

VI. SPIRITUAL GIFTS

A. 1st Corinthians 12:28-13:13

- 1. Paul promised to "show... a more excellent way" than the spiritual gifts he listed (12:31). Love is superior over such things (13:1-7).
- 2. Love will never fail, but spiritual gifts would fail, cease, and vanish away (13:8).
- 3. Spiritual gifts brought only a part and would be done away with when that which was complete had arrived (13:9-12).

B. Mark 16:20; Acts 2:22; 14:3; Hebrews 2:1-4

The explicitly stated purpose of miracles, signs, and wonders was to confirm that the word spoken came from God.

1. John 20:30-31

Miracles were **recorded** in scripture for the same reason they were performed in the first place. Faith can be gained from reading about them.

2. Luke 16:30-31

Those who reject God's written word would not be saved even if they witnessed a miracle.

C. Acts 8:14-17

- 1. Philip was a man full of the Holy Spirit (Acts 6:3, 5), who exercised his spiritual gifts to convince and convert the Samaritans (Acts 8:5-13).
- 2. Nevertheless, for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, the apostles had to lay their hands on them (Acts 8:14-17).
- 3. Therefore, the gifts could not be relayed from person to person, except by the apostles.

D. 2nd Corinthians 11:14-15; 2nd Thessalonians 2:9-10

Anyone now claiming spiritual gifts or private revelations of any kind is deceived by Satan.

E. Ephesians 5:18-20; Colossians 3:16-17

In order to "be filled with the Spirit" now, one must "let the word of Christ dwell in" him.

- 1. Is it possible to use scripture improperly (2nd Peter 3:16; Matthew 4:1-11)?
- **2.** Must every verse be understood literally (Galatians 4:24; Revelation 1:1)?
- **3.** Is the gospel a mystery now (Colossians 1:26; Ephesians 3:5)?
- **4.** Do we wait for the kingdom to come or has it already been established (Mark 9:1; Colossians 1:13)?
- **5.** Are the last days present or yet to come (Hebrews 1:1-2; Acts 2:17)?
- **6.** Is it correct to join passages of differing contexts?
- 7. Can two passages of scripture ever contradict one another (Matthew 4:5-7; Psalm 119:160)?
- **8.** What is the status of the Old Covenant now (Hebrews 8:7-13; 10:8-9)?
- **9.** What was the purpose of the Old Law (Galatians 3:19, 16, 23-25)?
- **10.** Is there any value to the Old Testament now (Romans 15:4; 1st Corinthians 10:11)?
- **11.** Would spiritual gifts always be available (1st Corinthians 12:28-13:13)?
- **12.** What purpose was served by miracles (Mark 16:20; Hebrews 2:1-4; John 20:30-31)?
- 13. Could miracles persuade those who refuse to believe scripture (Luke 16:30-31)?
- **14.** Who had the ability to impart spiritual gifts (Acts 8:14-17)?
- **15.** How does Satan work against us (2nd Corinthians 11:14-15; 2nd Thessalonians 2:9-10)?