

CAN WE UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE ALIKE?

All of my life I have heard gospel preachers discuss this subject, and for thirty-four years as a gospel preacher I have been discussing it myself. We have done so to show the error of the denominationalists who affirm we cannot see the Bible alike. Through the years we have shown that men can see the Bible alike if they will rightly divide it (II Tim. 2:15), laying aside their prejudices and the creeds of men.

God intended for us to understand the Bible - and to understand it alike. "*Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.*" (Eph. 5:17). Jesus said, "*Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven*"(Matt. 7:21).

Men see alike in matters that pertain to this life. A will that is made by a man is understood alike by all who read it. At his death, part of the family does not have a right to interpret it one way and the others another way. They are not at liberty to interpret it as they please. If they are to inherit, they must abide by the will as it is written -- this we all understand. All building contractors read blueprints alike; and all pharmacists see prescriptions alike.

Friend and brother, God demands unity of faith and practice! Paul said to the Corinthians, "*Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment*" (I Cor. 1:10). Jesus said in John 7: 17, "*If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself*". From these two passages we can see that God intended for us to see the Bible alike, and he intended us to all engage in the same practices. Now, why do men not see the Bible alike?

1. Some do not rightly divide the word (II Tim. 2:15).
2. Some do not love the truth (II Thess. 2:10).
3. Some love the praise, honor and glory of men more than Christ and the truth
(John 12: 42 -43).
4. Some follow men instead of the truth (I Cor. 4:6; Matt. 15:14).
5. Some allow Satan to blind their minds (II Cor. 4: 1 - 4).
6. Some are wise in their own conceits -- the Lord's way is too simple.

Yes, I still affirm that if we understand the Bible, we understand it alike. When there is division, someone has misunderstood the Bible.

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