

“THE VEIL IS UPON THEIR HEART”

II Cor. 3:15

Sermon by Donald Townsley

INTRODUCTION:

- 1. Read II Cor. 3: 12 – 16**
- 2. These Jews, in Paul’s day, still had a veil upon their heart because they could not see Christ, the end of the Law. Rom. 10: 4**
- 3. When one would accept Christ, the “Veil” would be removed. II Cor. 3:16**
- 4. Whatever then may stand between a person and knowledge of truth can rightly be represented as a veil.**

I. THE VEIL OF “PREJUDICE” IS UPON THE HEARTS OF MANY PEOPLE TODAY.

- 1. Prejudice – *an opinion, usually unfavorable, formed before a careful examination; preconceived judgment.***
- 2. A prejudiced person is one who has a closed mind and will not hear all the evidence. Matt. 7:6**
- 3. One cannot learn God’s will with a prejudiced mind. I Thess. 5:21; John 7:17**
 - (1) Warnings against a prejudiced mind – Ezek. 14:4; II Thess. 2: 9 – 12**
 - (2) The Jews of Christ’s day were prejudiced. Matt. 13:15; John 5: 39 – 47**
- 4. The New Testament is the divine measure given to man, to measure and judge all things pertaining to the soul. John 7:24; Rev. 11: 1**
- 5. Many today will not see because of the veil of prejudice.**
- 6. Some examples of prejudice:**
 - (1) *“The religion that was good enough for my parents is good enough for me.”* Matt. 10: 34 – 37; Gal. 1: 13 – 14**
 - (2) *“One church is as good as another.”* Matt. 16:18; Acts 20: 28**
 - (3) *“We are all going to the same place, in different ways.”* Matt. 7: 13 – 14; John 14:6; 10:9**

II. THE VEIL OF “HUMAN REASON” IS UPON THE HEARTS OF MANY.

1. The Gentiles had the veil of human reasoning upon their hearts. Rom. 1: 21; I Cor. 1: 21 – 31

2. Paul warned the Romans about human wisdom. Rom. 12: 16, 3

3. Many men have been destroyed their faith with human reasoning.

(1) They have tried to find an answer for every little thing they did not understand in the Bible record.

(2) They have reasoned from the lesser to the greater.

(3) Because they could not understand the lesser, they have denied the greater.

(4) Jesus taught that we are to reason from the greater to the lesser. Matt. 12:38 – 41

a. There is no detail left out in the record of our Lord’s resurrection.

b. If a man believes the greater, why have any doubts about the lesser.

c. John 20: 30 – 31

4. The veil of human reasoning when it comes to worship and the work of the church.

(1) Instrumental music. Eph. 5:19

(2) Missionary society. Phil. 1:1

(3) Sponsoring church arrangement and benevolent organizations.

(4) Fellowship halls.

III. THE VEIL OF “LUST” IS UPON THE HEARTS OF MANY. James 1: 13 – 15

1. Self-interest and indulgence keeps many from seeing the truth.

2. There are many disturbing elements that stand between any man and the truth.

(1) Nothing darkens the eyes of understanding more than sin.

(2) A man living with a companion that he does not have a right to, and claims he can see no wrong in his actions. Matt. 19:9

**(3) People who like to dance and claim they can see no wrong in it. Gal. 5:19
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(4) Women who wear shorts and says she sees no wrong in it.

(5) People who like to gamble a little, bet on horses, buy chances on things, play cards for prizes, and they say they can see no harm in it.

(6) People who cannot see the wrong in the things mentioned above have a veil of lust upon their hearts. II Cor. 4:4; John 3:19

CONCLUSION:

1. The veil which blinds us to the truth will not always bandage our eyes.

2. One day God will strip away the veils, and then it will be too late!