



ACCM

Bible Study: Tuesday, March 24, 2020.

Topic: And God Said Part VI

I wanted to start a new topic today which is restitution. I have almost finished the study when I realized that I promised that we were going to round up this topic today. So today we are going to be looking at the word of God in a modern world.

TEXT: I Sam. 3:1, 10-18

THE WORD OF GOD IN THE MODERN WORLD

When we look at the world today, it almost looks as if God has gone quiet. With the recent plague, many people are asking 'what has God got to say about it'. But why are we now asking God to say something about the plague when we have made all attempts to delete Him from our day to day operations on earth. We have introduced all manner of blasphemy into our lives and we have made concerted efforts to justify them and revel in them. Whoever mentions God is seen as a complete nincompoop and he is thoroughly hated. To declare yourself an atheist is on the rise and celebratory. In this seeming spiritual dryness, where do we think the word of God will emanate from? Even many who proclaim the word of God have become scammers and as such the world have stopped believing in us. In all these, it appears the word of God has gone irrelevant and none-existent.

In the past, the world has experienced times when the word of God was scarce. It might just be that we are in such a time again. The Bible talked about a period in Israel when the word of God was scarce and there were no many revelations. (I Sam 3:1). Another period when the word of God was scarce was just before the birth of Jesus Christ. Everyone seem to have gone about their duties with little attention to the word of God in the face of the pain they were going through. There was political despair for the Jews as the power of Jerusalem faded. The political

hopelessness gave room for other types of challenges from economic to health. This was the time that Herod ruled as king and Pontius Pilate who was installed by the Roman authority was the military governor who takes care of matters that had to do with taxes, legal and general control on behalf of Rome.

The atmosphere was politically challenging and spiritually coarse that God needed to send a forerunner to herald the coming of Jesus. So before Jesus appeared in the scene, the word and issues about God will begin to resurface and John the Baptist did a fantastic job. He needed that approach to shock the world back to God.

DISCUSSION:

1. How did God speak in the past? Exodus 19:9-10, 14-19, I Kings 19:11-13, Acts 13:1-3, 1:23-26, Judges 6:36-40.
2. Is God still speaking to His people or to anyone for that matter and is the word of God useful or relevant in modern times?
Give me examples of when God spoke to you or spoke to someone you know and what.
3. Why does the word of God appear subdued in our time?
John 20:24-29, Heb. 11:6, Gen 6:5-6, Isaiah 59:1-4, Jer. 5:31, Ezekiel 13:9, Amos 8:11, Matt 24:11-12
4. Does the following scripture still hold its value in this century? II Tim 3:16-17.
Can we still use the word of God to run our homes? Husband, wife, children and others. Eph 5:22-28, Eph 6:1-4, Prov 22:15.
5. Mention some issues in the Bible that appear to contradict today's modern living if any.
6. Where the laws of modern living written and unwritten clash with the scripture, how do we navigate the divide? Rom 3:1-4, Acts 5:27-29.

7. What is your advice to pastors, Christian leaders and people out there in the field who become frustrated as people draw away from God on daily basis or become more and more disobedient to the word of God?

CONCLUSION. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable. **I Cor 15:19.** What does this scripture mean? If as believers, our focus is only on what we can reap from this world, then we are not different from the non-believers. We therefore do not need any of these sacrifices which we endure daily to satisfy our creator. Like Paul said in **I Cor 15:32**, if, in the manner of men, I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantage is it to me? If the dead do not rise, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die!" One major reason why we labor and lean to our Lord and savior Jesus Christ is to create a place for ourselves in heaven according to John 3:3 and to do the work of a laborer to get many along with us there so we may have the stars on our crown on that day. If we are to achieve this we must be careful how we yield to the dictates of this world because though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. (**II Cor 10:3**). We must submit to our Lord so that we secure our place on that final day. The life we live here is so brief and it is but a vapor that vanishes away and very quickly too. **James 4:14.** Let us therefore be obedient. It may not be pleasant now but I believe that if God says it and we believe it we will end up well with us.