

aug 11

deception and falling away

"let no one deceive you by any means; for that day will not come unless the falling away comes first." 2 thess 2:3

i can't remember exactly which gallup poll i referenced but i was shocked at some of the results. just 20% now believe the bible is the literal word of God which is a decrease of thirty percent since 2011. people are being conditioned to view the bible negatively, and merely as man-made rules. at the same time, the religions of humanism, lgbtq ideology, and progressive "christianity" (the cult of liberalism) are gaining converts. the fact that God's word has virtually been eradicated from the public square is stunning.

the inerrancy of scripture is foundational to christianity. here we have more evidence that deception and falling away from the truth often begins with doubting the inspiration and perfection of the bible.

a new poll shows more than a quarter (29%) of americans now think the Bible is merely a collection of "fables, legends, history, and moral precepts recorded by man." the bible is full of accurate history which has been proven over and over - but scripture is divine, not just historic. the bible was written by men: 66 different books compiled by many writers over a time span of 1,500 years on three different Continents - whose author was and is the Holy Spirit.

“knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.” 2 pet 1:20-21 if one believes there is a sovereign, all-powerful God who created and sustains all things, don't you think He could handle communicating His message through imperfect human beings? although there may be different translations conveying different meanings and possible errors, the original text, written in the original language is the inerrant, inspired word of God. if there be any errors, it is man's meddling that made the mess.

confusion over the inspiration of scripture is easily understood in a culture that promotes “self” and places emotion over evidence - feelings over fact. a God whose word is "fluid" allows many to create another, acceptable gospel. (we are warned about another gospel by paul) too many are caught up pursuing the things of this world such as entertainment, comfort, and leisure. you know, they're having fun living their "best life" now, while we true believers believe the best is yet to come.

to them, God's Word, a relationship with Jesus, the gospel, repentance, and spiritual things just aren't "as" important. life is busy. religion is something they add to their lives if they have time to squeeze it in. they'll pray - if they have time. they'll forgive - if it doesn't constrain them too much.

just two decades ago, 60% of people said religion was

important, but now in 2022, just 44% say it's important in their lives. (and what do they consider important?) 30% of protestants believe the bible is the literal word of God (which is awful!) while a measly 15% of roman catholics say the same.

almost half chose a somewhat neutral view. 49% said neither the strictly literal view of scripture nor the fables and legends option were accurate. they said the bible is "inspired by God, not all to be taken literally." sorry friends, you cannot have it both ways. our assurance, eternal salvation and security depend on the inerrancy of Scripture. this affects how we live our lives.

what happens when we deny God's authoritative word, creation, His design for marriage and family, reject the truth, and cast aside the bible - anything goes. if we're willing to admit it, it is easy to see how far we've declined as a church and a nation. well did our Lord prophesy, "wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it." matt 7:13-14 will hell out-populate heaven? it sounds like it just might.

we seem to be caught in the current trend of denying the existence of truth as an objective, absolute reality. just look at the current debate these days over what a woman is, which is yet another cancerous symptom of a rebellious, secular progressive society that prefers to think man can be god. there is no accountability. a person can live by his or her own

truth. what could go wrong?

stay in the word. believe in the word. let it's truths guide your life and it will inevitably guide you to Jesus. keep building on Jesus Christ, "the way, the truth, and the life." john 14:6 secure your foundation and don't be deceived. "for no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ." 1 cor 3:11 God's word is final authority and can be fully trusted!

"for i delivered to you first of all that which i also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures." 1 cor 15:3-4 "if you will not believe, surely you shall not be established." isa 7:9

now are the days when we must "buy the truth, and do not sell it, also wisdom and instruction and understanding." prov 23:23 maranatha!