



12-21-18

Reflection
Pt. 3, Spiritual Truth

Our theme for this last month of 2018 is “Reflection”, and we are using the word in the sense of remembering, contemplation, and thoughtful consideration. Our theme verse is Proverbs 22:28: *Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set...* and we are using it in the sense of this spiritual principle: Don’t vary from, corrupt, or neglect the “landmark” standards of God’s TRUTH. Unfortunately that is the very thing our nation is doing!

Truly, the greatest danger facing our nation, The United States of America, is the danger of forgetting God! A VERY solemn scripture, and one that would not be welcomed by those who worship political correctness and the sovereignty of man (Humanism), is Psalm 9:17, *The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.* Yes, this is a pretty heavy way to start out a devotional, but sometimes we just need a wake-up call. Sometimes we just need to be jolted out of our spiritual lethargy, and even our spiritual blindness, and we need to stare reality in the face.

The sad state of reality is that our nation (which has been blessed by God perhaps like no other) is quickly becoming either a pagan nation, or an altogether godless nation... and proudly so! In our liberal, mindless rush to make everyone and everything equal, accepted, and even celebrated, we have ignored a simple reality: **when two belief systems contradict, then either one is true and one is false, or both are false. But, both cannot be True, without clarification!** What America has forgotten in its headlong rush to grant participation trophies to every belief-set, is that simple logic demands that there can only be ONE Truth, and that if we have not found The Truth, then we are embracing a deadly lie.

Now, Pluralism or Multiculturalism is great when it comes to foods, music, and ethnic identity! In his book, *Deliver Us from Evil*¹, evangelist and apologist Ravi Zacharias wrote,

I well remember speaking at a convocation on ethnic America in the early years of that decade (referring to the 1980s) and being both humored and informed by the comments of the opening speaker. He was much beloved by the multicultural audience, who responded to his introductory comments with roars of laughter when he quipped, 'Where else but in Los Angeles can you find a fast food outlet where a Korean is selling kosher tacos?'

I enjoy all kinds of ethnic foods, and even the music of other cultures! But, even though our wonderful Constitution and Bill of Rights affords each citizen the freedom to worship or not worship, the freedom to believe this or believe that, and the soul liberty to practice this religious tenant or that religious tenant... it doesn't mean that everyone has the Truth. Dr. Zachairas went on in the very next sentence to identify the real problem...

Indeed, pluralism is a reality, not just in food, but in our thinking.

Our nation's corporate "pluralistic thinking" has led us into the ditch! In our rush to make everyone and everything "OK", we have ignored reality. The reality is that while every citizen in this nation has a right to their own spiritual beliefs and practices, and that no one brand of spirituality should be foisted upon us by government mandate, that same afforded political freedom doesn't make every belief-set true!

I am thankful that I can enjoy kosher tacos made by a man of Korean descent. I even marvel in that fact that our melting-pot-of-a-nation makes such a thing possible! But when our left-minded society insists that pluralism also makes the Korean man's Buddhism or Shamanism equally true with Biblical Christianity, or Islam, or Catholicism, or Humanism... they have lost touch with reality. We must always stand for freedom of religion and soul liberty, but we must not ignore the basic law of logic and reality: if two ideas contradict, they both can't be true.

It behooves each of us to find THE Truth. Jesus claimed, *I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me* (John 14:6). Jesus' statement would not be well received in today's society because it was very exclusive, and as such, very logical. You see, He was making a Truth Claim. So, what are we going to do with Jesus' Truth Claim? We only have three choices.

First, we can view Jesus as a lunatic, with a God complex. This is actually what His close family thought early in His ministry. Mark 3:21 reads, *And when his friends heard of it, they went out to lay hold on him: for they said, He is beside himself.* That phrase "beside himself" politely connotes this thought: He is out of his mind!

Or second, we can view Jesus as a con man; a masterful liar, who knew exactly what He was doing, so that he might gain a following.

¹ Zacharias, Ravi. 1997. *Deliver Us From Evil — Restoring the Soul in a Disintegrating Culture*. Word Publishing/HarperCollins Christian Publishing. Grand Rapids, MI

Or third, we can accept Jesus as Who He claimed to be: the Eternal God-Man, the Messiah, The Son of God in Flesh, THE CREATOR... the LORD of the Universe.

A lunatic, a liar, or The LORD: what will you do with Jesus? Every human being has the God-given free will to decide his/her answer. And we live in a country that still allows us the political freedom to make that choice. But we must also be real and understand that the political liberty to choose doesn't make every idea true.

If we want to believe a lie, then God gives us that free-will right. Friends... choose carefully!

God bless and consider!