

philosopher systematizer wise

curious

grounded

truth-curator

historian

knowledgeable

investigator

EPHESIANS 4:7-14

⁷ BUT GRACE WAS GIVEN TO EACH ONE OF US ACCORDING TO THE MEASURE OF CHRIST'S GIFT. 8 THEREFORE IT SAYS, "WHEN HE ASCENDED ON HIGH HE LED A HOST OF CAPTIVES, AND HE GAVE GIFTS TO MEN." 9 (IN SAYING, "HE ASCENDED," WHAT DOES IT MEAN BUT THAT HE HAD ALSO DESCENDED INTO THE LOWER REGIONS, THE EARTH? 10 HE WHO DESCENDED IS THE ONE WHO ALSO ASCENDED FAR ABOVE ALL THE HEAVENS, THAT HE MIGHT FILL ALL THINGS.) 11 AND HE GAVE THE APOSTLES, THE PROPHETS, THE EVANGELISTS, THE SHEPHERDS AND TEACHERS, 12 TO EQUIP THE SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY, FOR BUILDING UP THE BODY OF CHRIST.

EPHESIANS 4:7-14

13 UNTIL WE ALL ATTAIN TO THE UNITY OF THE FAITH AND OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SON OF GOD, TO MATURE MANHOOD, TO THE MEASURE OF THE STATURE OF THE FULLNESS OF CHRIST, 14 SO THAT WE MAY NO LONGER BE CHILDREN, TOSSED TO AND FRO BY THE WAVES AND CARRIED ABOUT BY EVERY WIND OF DOCTRINE, BY HUMAN CUNNING, BY CRAFTINESS IN DECEITFUL SCHEMES.

WHAT THE TEACHING FUNCTION IS NOT

- THE POSSESSOR OF A LOT OF KNOWLEDGE
- FILLED WITH KNOWLEDGE AND INSTRUCTING OTHERS WHILE NOT PRACTICING WHAT THEY ARE TELLING OTHERS TO DO (MATTHEW 23:2FF)
- TWO UNHEALTHY TENDENCIES IN OUR CULTURE:
 - OUR FASCINATION WITH THE PROLIFERATION OF INFORMATION
 - OUR FOOLISHNESS IN EQUATING KNOWLEDGE WITH TRANSFORMATION (JOHN 3:1-10; 2 TIMOTHY 4:3-4)



- TEACHING AS REMINDING (1 CORINTHIANS 4:16-17)
- TEACHING BY EXAMPLE (1 TIMOTHY 4:11-16)
- TEACHING AS CHALLENGE (MARK 10:17-31)
- TEACHER BEWARE (JAMES 3:1)

1 CORINTHIANS 4:16-17

¹⁶ I URGE YOU, THEN, BE IMITATORS OF ME. ¹⁷ THAT IS WHY I SENT YOU TIMOTHY, MY BELOVED AND FAITHFUL CHILD IN THE LORD, TO REMIND YOU OF MY WAYS IN CHRIST, AS I TEACH THEM EVERYWHERE IN EVERY CHURCH.

1 TIMOTHY 4:11-16

11 COMMAND AND TEACH THESE THINGS. 12 LET NO ONE DESPISE YOU FOR YOUR YOUTH, BUT SET THE BELIEVERS AN EXAMPLE IN SPEECH, IN CONDUCT, IN LOVE, IN FAITH, IN PURITY. 13 UNTIL I COME, DEVOTE YOURSELF TO THE PUBLIC READING OF SCRIPTURE, TO EXHORTATION, TO TEACHING. 14 DO NOT NEGLECT THE GIFT YOU HAVE, WHICH WAS GIVEN YOU BY PROPHECY WHEN THE COUNCIL OF ELDERS LAID THEIR HANDS ON YOU

1 TIMOTHY 4:11-16

¹⁵ PRACTICE THESE THINGS, IMMERSE YOURSELF IN THEM, SO THAT ALL MAY SEE YOUR PROGRESS. ¹⁶ KEEP A CLOSE WATCH ON YOURSELF AND ON THE TEACHING. PERSIST IN THIS, FOR BY SO DOING YOU WILL SAVE BOTH YOURSELF AND YOUR HEARERS.

¹⁷ AND AS HE WAS SETTING OUT ON HIS JOURNEY, A MAN RAN UP AND KNELT BEFORE HIM AND ASKED HIM, "GOOD TEACHER, WHAT MUST I DO TO INHERIT ETERNAL LIFE?" 18 AND JESUS SAID TO HIM, "WHY DO YOU CALL ME GOOD? NO ONE IS GOOD EXCEPT GOD ALONE. 19 YOU KNOW THE COMMANDMENTS: 'DO NOT MURDER, DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, DO NOT STEAL, DO NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS, DO NOT DEFRAUD, HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER." ²⁰ AND HE SAID TO HIM, "TEACHER, ALL THESE I HAVE KEPT FROM MY YOUTH."

21 AND JESUS, LOOKING AT HIM, LOVED HIM, AND SAID TO HIM, "YOU LACK ONE THING: GO, SELL ALL THAT YOU HAVE AND GIVE TO THE POOR, AND YOU WILL HAVE TREASURE IN HEAVEN; AND COME, FOLLOW ME." 22 DISHEARTENED BY THE SAYING, HE WENT AWAY SORROWFUL, FOR HE HAD GREAT POSSESSIONS.

²³ AND JESUS LOOKED AROUND AND SAID TO HIS DISCIPLES, "HOW DIFFICULT IT WILL BE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE WEALTH TO ENTER THE KINGDOM OF GOD!"

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²⁴ AND THE DISCIPLES WERE AMAZED AT HIS WORDS. BUT JESUS SAID TO THEM AGAIN, "CHILDREN, HOW DIFFICULT IT IS TO ENTER THE KINGDOM OF GOD! 25 IT IS EASIER FOR A CAMEL TO GO THROUGH THE EYE OF A NEEDLE THAN FOR A RICH PERSON TO ENTER THE KINGDOM OF GOD." 26 AND THEY WERE EXCEEDINGLY ASTONISHED, AND SAID TO HIM, "THEN WHO CAN BE SAVED?" 27 JESUS LOOKED AT THEM AND SAID, "WITH MAN IT IS IMPOSSIBLE, BUT NOT WITH GOD. FOR ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE WITH GOD." 28 PETER BEGAN TO SAY TO HIM, "SEE, WE HAVE LEFT EVERYTHING AND FOLLOWED YOU."

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Teaching As Challenge

²⁹ JESUS SAID, "TRULY, I SAY TO YOU, THERE IS NO ONE WHO HAS LEFT HOUSE OR BROTHERS OR SISTERS OR MOTHER OR FATHER OR CHILDREN OR LANDS, FOR MY SAKE AND FOR THE GOSPEL, ³⁰ WHO WILL NOT RECEIVE A HUNDREDFOLD NOW IN THIS TIME, HOUSES AND BROTHERS AND SISTERS AND MOTHERS AND CHILDREN AND LANDS, WITH PERSECUTIONS, AND IN THE AGE TO COME ETERNAL LIFE. ³¹ BUT MANY WHO ARE FIRST WILL BE LAST, AND THE LAST FIRST."

JAMES 3:1

¹ NOT MANY OF YOU SHOULD BECOME TEACHERS, MY BROTHERS, FOR YOU KNOW THAT WE WHO TEACH WILL BE JUDGED WITH GREATER STRICTNESS

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Teacher Beware

JAMES 1:19-25

¹⁹ KNOW THIS, MY BELOVED BROTHERS: LET EVERY PERSON BE QUICK TO HEAR, SLOW TO SPEAK, SLOW TO ANGER; ²⁰ FOR THE ANGER OF MAN DOES NOT PRODUCE THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD. ²¹ THEREFORE PUT AWAY ALL FILTHINESS AND RAMPANT WICKEDNESS AND RECEIVE WITH MEEKNESS THE IMPLANTED WORD, WHICH IS ABLE TO SAVE YOUR SOULS.

JAMES 1:19-25

22 BUT BE DOERS OF THE WORD, AND NOT HEARERS ONLY, DECEIVING YOURSELVES. 23 FOR IF ANYONE IS A HEARER OF THE WORD AND NOT A DOER, HE IS LIKE A MAN WHO LOOKS INTENTLY AT HIS NATURAL FACE IN A MIRROR. 24 FOR HE LOOKS AT HIMSELF AND GOES AWAY AND AT ONCE FORGETS WHAT HE WAS LIKE. 25 BUT THE ONE WHO LOOKS INTO THE PERFECT LAW, THE LAW OF LIBERTY, AND PERSEVERES, BEING NO HEARER WHO FORGETS BUT A DOER WHO ACTS, HE WILL BE BLESSED IN HIS DOING.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE HEARER OF GOD'S WORD

• AM I READING THE WORD OF GOD OR ALLOWING IT TO READ ME (JAMES 1:23)?

• AM I SOAKING IN GOD'S WORD (WHATEVER THE FORM OF TRANSMISSION) AND LIVING IT OUT (JAS. 1:22; LUKE 6:46)

• IF BIBLE READING ISN'T A REGULAR PRACTICE FOR YOU, WHAT ACTION STEPS CAN YOU TAKE TO MEET WITH GOD IN HIS WORD THIS WEEK?

