Lesson #01

What Makes Right?

TEXT: Ephesians 6:1

INTRODUCTION:

- A. WE SHOULD BE MOTIVATED BY OUR **DESIRE TO BE RIGHT**.
 - 1. Righteousness characterizes the rule of Jesus (Hebrews 1:8-9).
 - 2. It is the identifying mark of his followers (2 Timothy 2:19).
- B. HOW DO WE DETERMINE WHAT IS RIGHT AND WRONG?
 - 1. We must find a **STANDARD**.
 - 2. Our standard must be in accord with that of the Judge.
 - 3. One reason for division is we can't agree on a standard.

I. STANDARDS THAT MISS THE MARK – WHAT DOES NOT MAKE RIGHT.

- A. HUMAN REASONING(Proverbs 14:12; Jeremiah 10:23).
- B. HUMAN CONSCIENCE (Acts 23:1; 1 Timothy. 1:12-13 → Romans 14:23).
- C. CUSTOM OR TRADITION(Matthew 15:1-3; Colossians 2:8).
- D. CIVIL AUTHORITY (Acts 3:17; 1 Corinthians 2:8; but see 1 Peter 2:13-17).
- E. MAJORITY (Matthew 7:13-14).
- F. FAMILY TIES(**Matthew 10:34-37**).
- G. THE CHURCH IT CAN BE LED ASTRAY(Acts 20:28-30; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3).

II. THE STANDARD THAT GOD GAVE – WHAT DOES DETERMINE RIGHT?

- A. GOD'S WORD IS TRUTH(**John 17:17**).
- B. GOD'S TESTIMONY IN THE WORD IS RIGHTEOUSNESS(Psalms 119:138).
- C. NOTICE THE ADVANTAGE DAVID HAD BECAUSE OF GOD'S WORD:
 - 1. Hope(vs. 81).
 - 2. Security(vs. 89).
 - 3. Wisdom(vs. 97).
 - 4. Guidance(vs. 105).
- D. GOD'S WILL REVEALED THROUGH THE SPIRIT TO THE 12(Ephesians 3:5).
 - 1. They spoke in words taught by the Spirit (1 Corinthians 2:13).
 - 2. They also wrote what they received (**Ephesians 3:3-4**).
 - 3. The result is understanding the mystery(vs. 4). Communication.
 - a. We can all understand it alike!
 - b. No longer a mystery (vs. 5; 1 Peter 1:10-12).
- E. GOD'S REVELATION IS COMPLETE AND COMPLETELY FINISHED!
 - 1. **2 Timothy. 3:16-17**.
 - 2. "Once for all." (**Jude 3**; **Hebrews 10:10:12**).
- F. NOT EVEN AN ANGEL CAN CHANGE IT(Galatians 1:8-9; 1 John 4:1-6).

CONCLUSION: WHAT IS YOUR STANDARD? WHAT DOES IT DIRECT YOU TO DO?