

22- Learning to See Error

Mark 8:10-26

There is also a climate of spiritual change that has swept the country. Sin is no longer in fashion. We do not see the error our ways. *Colossians 2:8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.*

Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Another shift is accepting any and all view points as valid. Over the last years we hear the word tolerance and political correctness used. No one is to blame and truth cannot be known. *1 John 2:15,17 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him... 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.*

James 4:4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

There has been an assault against the Bible. We do not have the discernment that we need to identify evil. We need to learn to see errors. *Proverbs 14:12 There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.*

I- Seeking a Sign:

Jesus and the disciples cross the sea to the western side and are met by some of the Pharisees. They want a sign from Him.

Mark 8:10 And straightway he entered into a ship with his disciples, and came into the parts of Dalmanutha. 11 And the Pharisees came forth, and began to question with him, seeking of him a sign from heaven, tempting him. 12 And he sighed deeply in his spirit, and saith, Why doth this generation seek after a sign? Verily I say unto you, There shall no sign be given unto this generation. They did not want a sign to lead them to believe but one so they could accuse Him.

II- Beware of the Leaven:

They return to the ship to sail again. The disciples had food on their mind and the fact that they had not brought bread with them. *Mark 8:13 And he left them, and entering into the ship again departed to the other side. 14 Now the disciples had forgotten to take bread, neither had they in the ship with them more than one loaf.*

With that back drop Jesus spoke to them a warning. *Mark 8:15 And he charged them, saying, Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod.*

Just what was the warning He was speaking of. They both had an earthly kingdom and Jesus was warning the disciples to not be caught up in only the affairs of this world because His kingdom was not here. Another problem with the Pharisee was that they held up the Word of God but had infected it with all the man-made rules and laws. They were also puffed up with their self-righteous pride. May I say that there is potential for a little Pharisees in all of us. There is also a potential for us all to follow the way of the Herodians and allow the world to choke out the Word of God in our live.

III- Blind Eyes Need to See:

Mark 8:16 And they reasoned among themselves, saying, It is because we have no bread. 17 And when Jesus knew it, he saith unto them, Why reason ye, because ye have no bread? Perceive ye not yet, neither understand? Have ye your heart yet hardened? 18 Having eye, see ye not? And having ears, hear ye not? And do ye not remember? 19 When I brake the five loaves among five thousand, how many baskets full of fragments took ye up? They say unto him, Twelve. 20 And when the seven among four thousand, how many baskets full of fragments took ye up? And they said, Seven. 21 And he said unto them, How is it that ye do not understand? They did not understand what He was displaying before them.

IV- God Given Sight:

Now I confess it is hard sometime to see. *1 Corinthians 13:12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.*

The Message says in *1 Corinthians 13:12 MSG We don't yet see things clearly. We're squinting in a fog, peering through a mist. But it won't be long before the weather clears and the sun shines bright! We'll see it all then, see it all as clearly as God sees us, knowing him directly just as he knows us!*

The healing of the blind man follows. Remember that Jesus is trying to get them to see spiritual matters clearly and error of the Pharisees and the Herodians. So when they land He gives them and us a great illustration with the healing of a blind man.

Mark 8:22 And he cometh to Bethsaida; and they bring a blind man unto him, and besought him to touch him. 23 And he took the blind man by the hand, and led him out of the town; and when he had spit on his eyes, and put his hands upon him, he asked him if he saw ought. 24 And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking. 25 After that he put his hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly. There are a couple of quick points that we should not miss. First, the blind man was in a private place with Jesus. Many times the failures we have to learn to see spiritually are because we do not have the time alone with God we need. The next is that the sight did not come all at once. We do not always see clearly at first and more time is needed for our sight to come. Just as Christ opened this man's eyes He must also open ours to spiritual matters. Oh, that He will help us to see the error of our ways, the lies of the enemies and the path we need to walk.