



The Assault of Postmodernism

Postmodernism

- We live in a postmodern America
- Postmodernism is a philosophy or mindset characterized by
 - Secularization
 - Pluralism
 - Relativism
 - Privatization

Postmodernism is diametrically opposed to truth

- **Secularization**
 - Romans 1:18-21, 28
 - Acts 17:28; Proverbs 3:5-6
- **Pluralism**
 - Acts 17:21
 - John 14:6; Acts 4:12; Ephesians 4:4-6
- **Relativism**
 - Romans 3:8
 - John 17:17
 - Truth is universal: Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 17:30
 - Truth is final: John 16:12-13; Jude 3
 - Truth is unchangeable: Psalm 119:89; Galatians 1:6-8
- **Privatization**
 - Judges 21:25; Colossians 2:20-23
 - Matthew 16:24

Christians must oppose postmodern thinking

Postmodernism's Impact on Christians?

- **Some have a hard time settling on what is truth**
 - Not knowing truth is not praised in the Bible
 - 2 Timothy 3:7; Hebrews 5:12
 - We can and must know the truth
 - John 8:31-32; 1 Timothy 2:4
 - Yes, we must examine, but we must stand in truth
 - Acts 17:11; 2 Thessalonians 2:15; 2 Peter 1:12

We can and we must know the truth

Postmodernism's Impact on Christians?

- **Some want to embrace unity in diversity**
 - The New Testament teaches unity upon truth
 - 2 John 9
 - 2 Timothy 1:13
 - 1 Corinthians 1:10
 - The New Testament teaches having no fellowship with error
 - 1 Timothy 6:3-5
 - 2 John 10-11

Unity in Diversity is not Biblical

Postmodernism's Impact on Christians?

- Some say, “we all see the Bible through our own prejudices and so we cannot understand alike”
 - Not so. Those with an honest and good heart accept Him at His word
 - John 7:17
 - Ephesians 3:3-4
 - John 3:21 vs. 2 Thessalonians 2:11, 12
 - Luke 8:15

The one with an honest & good heart takes
the Lord at His Word

Postmodernism's Impact on Christians?

- Some want to accept the mantra, “don't judge others”
 - The New Testament teaches us to judge righteous judgment
 - John 7:24
 - 1 Corinthians 5:3
 - 2 Timothy 3:16-17
 - Titus 1:9-11

Our hearts are to be trained to discern and
to judge by truth

Postmodernism's Impact on Christians?

- Some, while identifying truth, are unwilling to reject and expose error
 - “Two conflicting and irreconcilable view may exist – but neither is allowed to be rejected, because that would infer the existence of an absolute.” (George Barna)
 - Jeremiah 1:10
 - 2 Timothy 4:2
 - Ephesians 5:11
 - Consider these examples:
 - Matthew 7:13-14
 - Ephesians 1:3; Galatians 3:26-27
 - Acts 22:16

Christians must be willing to not only receive truth, but reject and expose error

What is postmodernism's system of belief?

- Postmodernism is nothing less than DISBELIEF
- The postmodernist's thinking is this:
 - “Even if I grant to you that there is a God and that He said it, you and I may understand it differently, and besides, the real questions are these: do you like it or not like it, and is it reasonable to you? Interpret it your way, which is equally as valid as my way, and once you think you might know what it might mean, then make sure it fits your personal situation and you are comfortable with it.”
- The Christian's thinking is this:
 - “God said it. That settles it”

In the face of a postmodern culture, Christians must give diligence to be:

- **Rooted and grounded in the faith**
 - Colossians 1:9-12; 2:6-10
- **Morally pure**
 - 1 Peter 1:13-16; 2:11-12
 - Ephesians 5:8
- **Unashamed, bold, and courageous**
 - Ephesians 6:19-20
 - Romans 1:16
 - 1 Corinthians 16:13
- **Salt and light**
 - Matthew 5:13-16
 - Philippians 2:14-16

- Postmodernism
 - Denies absolutes
 - Sees truth as relative
 - Is unwilling to settle on the truth
 - Is unwilling to identify other ways as not the truth
- Postmodernism is an attack upon right thinking
- Think according to the truth
 - 1 Thessalonians 2:13
 - Romans 12:2