

Don't Touch My Orthodoxy: The Price Of Revelation

No New Revelation? The Lie Of The Theologian

Jeremiah 33:3 (NET): I'll Show You Things You Did Not Know

“Call on me in prayer and I will answer you. I will show you great and mysterious things which you still do not know about.”

Daniel 2:22 (NASB): God Reveals Hidden Things

“It is [God] who reveals the profound and hidden things; He knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with Him.”

John 16:12 (NET): I Have More Things To Say To You

“I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.”

- **God deliberately hides the revelation of God from theologians, scholars, and philosophers – the “wise and learned men” spoken of by Jesus.**

Luke 10:21 (NET): Hidden From The Wise, Revealed To Little Children

“On that same occasion Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this was your gracious will.”

1 Corinthians 1:19-21, 25, 27 (NIV): I Will Destroy The Wisdom of the Wise

“**1:19** For it is written: 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.' **1:20** Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? **1:21** For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe... **1:25** For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength... **1:27** But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.”

- **Theologians, scholars, and philosophers are paid to know more than other people about God, so when God presents a revelation that is outside the realm of their theology or understanding, they reject it. Further, they do everything in their power to stand in the way of anyone else who wants to receive it.**

Matthew 3:13 (NIV): Shut The Door Of Heaven In Men's Faces

“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You shut the kingdom of heaven in men's faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let those enter who are trying to.”

The Hole In Your Theology

- **Revelation is found by going through the rabbit-hole...the hole in your theology.**

- **When Jesus shows up with revelation, He'll be explaining the things you do not yet understand. This includes truth your theology is insufficient to explain, as well as errors in your doctrine/ tradition. This leaves you with a decision:**

The Old Wineskin: Pitch It or Patch It?

- **When God's Truth starts to poke holes in your theology, you've got to decide what to do: try to retain your tradition - to contain this new revelation - by patching up the holes; OR pitch the old wineskin and let God do something completely new in your life.**

Luke 5:36-39 (NET)

“5:36 He also told them a parable: 'No one tears a patch from a new garment and sews it on an old garment. If he does, he will have torn the new, and the piece from the new will not match the old. **5:37** And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins and will be spilled, and the skins will be destroyed. **5:38** Instead new wine must be poured into new wineskins. **5:39** No one after drinking old wine wants the new, for he says, “The old is good enough.””

- **You can sew up the holes in your theology, patch up the fortress, wall yourself in. Then sit down and drink your old wine. Old wine tastes good, and makes you feel pretty good if you drink enough of it. But what did you leave outside...what did you shut out?**

The Price Of Revelation

Hebrews 13:11-14: Joining Jesus Outside The Camp

“13:11 For the bodies of those animals whose blood the high priest brings into the sanctuary as an offering for sin are burned outside the camp. **13:12** Therefore, to sanctify the people by his own blood, Jesus also suffered outside the camp. **13:13** We must go out to him, then, outside the camp, bearing the abuse he experienced. **13:14** For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come.”

John 16:2-3 (NET): They Will Put You Out of the Synagogue

“16:2 They will put you out of the synagogue, yet a time is coming when the one who kills you will think he is offering service to God. **16:3** They will do these things because they have not known the Father or me.”

John 9:22b (NET): Anyone Who Confesses Jesus Will Be Put Out of the Synagogue

“For the Jewish leaders had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Christ would be put out of the synagogue.”

John 15:18, 20 (NET): They Hated Me First

“15:18 If the world hates you, be aware that it hated me first...**15:20** Remember what I told you, ‘A slave is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they obeyed my word, they will obey yours too.”

Orthodoxy vs. Jesus: Why You Have To Choose

- When revelation comes, you will either crucify your traditions or your God.
 1. You will crucify what your flesh wants (the comfort of orthodoxy) to pursue Christ, or
 2. You will crucify Christ all over again in order to preserve what your flesh wants.

Mark 7:13 (NET): God's Word vs. Tradition

“Thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down.”

Philippians 3:4b-11 (NET): Paul Considers His Religious Accomplishments Rubbish

“**3:4** If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: **3:5** circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; **3:6** as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless. **3:7** But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. **3:8** What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ **3:9** and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. **3:10** I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, **3:11** and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.”

- If orthodoxy is your God, you will crucify any messenger who comes to bring revelation, because revelation will destroy your old wineskin.
- If you think that staying within the bounds of “orthodoxy” will keep you safe from judgment, just remember that every one of the men responsible for Jesus' death LIVED there.
- If orthodoxy is your foundation, you are not as safe as you feel. The scriptures are the foundation that God wants you to trust in. The scriptures do contain mysteries, but if you obey what you understand, you will be safe from judgment.
- Safety doesn't come by knowing everything, but by trusting in God.

Facing the Unknown: A New Way To Do Church

- The early church started out meeting in homes and in Solomon's colonnade. Eventually, the temple was torn down, and persecution scattered the Christians.

Isaiah 43:18-19 (NIV): Forget the Former Things

“**43:18** Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. **43:19** See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.”

- **We must trust God like the father of our faith, Abraham:**

Hebrews 11:8, 15-16 (NET):

“**11:8** By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place he would later receive as an inheritance, and he went out without understanding where he was going...**11:15**...if they had been thinking of the land that they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. **11:16** But as it is, they aspire to a better land, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.”