I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE WORD

BY

GLEN E. TROPP

As we notice this subject, let us pray that the Sweet Spirit of the Lord will be very gracious to us and impart to our hearts the wonderful truths contained in this subject.

Let us apply the 4-C formula to our hearts at the very commencement of this message. They are as follows:

CONFESS YOUR SINS... One should realize that unconfessed sins will hinder your fellowship with the Lord through His Word. Psalms 66:18 states this truth... "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me." Note also the promise of I John 1:9,"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

COMMIT YOUR WILL... This simply means to be willing to become a doer of whatever the Lord bids you to do. This is the teaching of Romans 12:1-2, "I beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 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." Notice also the teaching of James 1:22,"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."

CONCENTRATE... This means to make sure that what you hear or read is in fact, the revealed will of God as recorded in the Word. Do not be motivated by the wrong spirit. Notice the warning of I John 4:1,"Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God; because many false prophets are gone out into the world." The way you do this is to simply "Search The Scriptures." The Spirit of God will never motivate you to do anything that is contrary to the teachings of the revealed Word of God.

CO-OPE RATE... With the Spirit means to yield to, surrender to His biddings in light of the revealed truths in the scriptures. Do not quench the Spirit, as noted in I Thess. 5:19 or Grieve the Spirit as noted in Eph. 4:30.

The importance of this is simply that if we're not properly ready and prepared, we'll not get the truths into our hearts to the degree that they will bless us and as a result equip us to benefit and be a blessing to others. The impact of this instruction is penned by the writer in I Cor. 2:14, "By the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him; neither can he know them because they are spiritually discerned."

Now, as we note this subject today, let me share with you 5 reasons why I Am Not Ashamed Of The Word. I Am Not Ashamed Of The Word Of God...
I. BECAUSE IT CONCerns THE SAVIOUR.
II. BECAUSE IT CONVERTS THE SOUL.
III. BECAUSE IT COMForts THE SAVED.
IV. BECAUSE IT COMPELs THE SOLDIER.
V. BECAUSE IT COMPLETELY EQUIPS THE SAINTS.

Now, let us notice briefly each of these points
I. BECAUSE IT CONCERNS THE SAVIOUR.

During the earthly ministry of the Lord Jesus, He spent much of His time instructing His Disciples. Inclined in this instruction is the revelation of this reality. He said in John 5:39 these words: "Search the scriptures: for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me."

Let us look at Him in the Old Testament Scripture. When I look at the Book of Genesis, I'm reminded that He's the beginning of all beginnings, the Alpha and Omega, the promised seed of the Woman who would pay the sin debt, put the Devil in his place and pave the way so that mankind could and can have access to God and be able to approach him. When I think of the Book of Exodus, I see him as the great Emancipator of all those who are servants and slaves in the slave market of sin. He's able to deliver us and set us free. When I think of the Book of Leviticus, I see him as the Priest of all Priests, the Wonderful and Great High Priest, who daily intercedes for all who will come to Him. When I look at the Book of Numbers, I see him as the Rock, who was smitten that I might receive the living water. When I read the Book of Joshua, I see Jesus as the Captain of all Captains, who can lead His people to Victory. When I think of the Book of Judges, I see Him as the Judge of all Judges. When I read the Book of Ruth, I see Him as the Kinsman Redeemer who humbled himself and took upon himself the form of a servant, and subjected himself to the limitations of a Human Body, so that he might as a Kinsman, redeem the lost possession. As one reads the Books of I and II Samuel, we see him as the Prophet of all Prophets, and He is King of all Kings as depicted in I and II Kings and I and II Chronicles. When I think of Ezra and Nehemiah, I see Jesus as the Great Rebuilder and I see the New Jerusalem. As one reads the Book of Esther, you see Him as the Great Protector and Provider of His People. In Psalms, He is the Anointed of Praise. In Proverbs, He's Wisdom Personified.

Yes, and even in the New Testament, we see Jesus on every page. The Gospels reveal that He's the Saviour of men. The New Testament depicts Him as Lord, Master, King, and the Head of the Church. You cannot read the Word of God without seeing Jesus Christ. The Written Word of God is a revelation of the Living Word and that is Jesus.

II. BECAUSE IT CONVERTS THE SOUL.

The psalmist said, "The Law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple." Psalms 19:7 The Apostle Paul also substantiates this truth in the inspired words that were recorded through him to the young preacher Timothy. He says, "And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." II Tim. 3:15. Yes, the Word of God is the instrument that the Spirit of God uses to prick the heart of mankind. Thru the Word, the Spirit Convicts men of sin, Convinces them that they cannot save themselves, Compels them to come to Christ, and Converts all who will repent and receive Jesus Christ as Saviour.

III. BECAUSE IT COMFORTS THE SAVED.

One of the greatest thrills of the Christian life is the intake of Biblical truths. When we begin to saturate our minds and hearts with the Word of God, and begin to realize what the Lord has done for us, what He desires to do with us and through us, and what He shall do with us, it certainly brings comfort and encouragement to our lives. "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope." Romans 15:4

IV. BECAUSE IT COMPELS THE SOLDIER.

There are many times that we are tempted to quit and give up, but if we've fed our souls upon the precious spiritual food of Heaven, we find that it compels us to keep on going. It compels us to keep on fighting the good fight of faith. An example of this is found in Jeremiah. There came a time in his life when he said that he was going to quit. Notice this teaching and what happened in Jeremiah 20:9, "Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in His name. But His Word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay." Maybe one of the reasons why we see so many soldiers of the Lord going AWOL is because they do not have enough of the Word of God in their hearts.

V. BECAUSE IT COMPLETELY EQUIPS THE SAINTS.
Everything that one needs to know to make them what they ought to be is found in the Word of God. Paul said, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." II Tim. 3: 16-17. It equips us for Growth as seen in I Peter 2: 2 and for Warfare as seen in Ephesians chapter 6.

Yes, my dear friends, I am not ashamed of the Word of God. May we say with the Psalmist, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

God help all of us to, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman, that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth." II Tim. 2: 15 Remember that Dust on your Bible means Dirt in your life so Discipline yourself to Dine on the De-vine Food from Heaven and then the Delightfulness of the Reality of your Redemp-tion will cause you to join in and say, "I AM NOT ASHAMED OF THE WORD OF GOD."

TEXT: TITUS 2:11-15
INTRODUCTION: Grace: God's unmerited favor to fallen man.
I. SAVING GRACE Eph. 2:8-9
   A. Redeemed by Grace - Eph. 1:3-7
   B. Justified by Grace - Titus 3:5-7
II. SECURING GRACE Titus 3:7
   A. Seals Us-Eph. 1:13 "In whom ye also trusted after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye belie-ved, ye were sealed with that holy spirit of Promise." Eph. 4:30 "And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."
   B. Keeps Us-Jude 24-25 "Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you fault-less before the presence of His glory with excedding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, be glo-ry and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. A'men.
III. SERVING GRACE
   A. Empowers Us-I Cor. 15:9-10 "For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an A-postle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all:yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.
   B. Guides Us-I Cor. 3:10 "According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.
IV. SUSTAINING GRACE
   A. During Time of Need-Philippians 4:19 "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Also Heb. 4:16
   B. During Time of Crises-2 Cor 12:9, "And he said un-to me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is make perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."
V. SUCCEMING GRACE (To Death)
   A. Death of Lovedones-I Thess. 4:13-18; I Cor.15:51-58
   B. Our Own Death
      1. David - Psalm 23:4
      2. Stephen - Acts 7:54-60
      3. Paul - II Timothy 4:6-8
UNKNOWN TONGUE
BY
RAY WILLIAMS

2 Timothy 2:15, "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Many of the "tongues" people, or the glossalalia movement as it is called, are divided in their beliefs about the "unknown tongues." Some claim that one must speak the "unknown tongue" in order to be saved. Others claim you speak it as a sign of your salvation, and as a second blessing. Still others teach that this speaking should be done in private, such as in a closet. There is not one of these claims based on the scriptures.

There is much controversy today over "unknown tongues." Much of this is due to the refusal of people to "study to show thyself approved unto God" as clearly stated in the Word of God.

One of the first and most important things a student, or casual reader, of God's Word needs to know is the difference between God's Word and man's additions. A very simple known fact about the King James Version is that italicized words have been added by the translators for the sake of clarity. However, it has been proved to be more confusing and misleading than clear. A case at hand is the use of the word "unknown" found in I Corinthians 12-14.

The Bible would be clearer to the child of God who studies to show himself approved unto God if he would omit all words in italics. God stated in His Word exactly what He intended to say. Read I Corinthians 12-14, omitting the italicized words, and see what He really said. The word "unknown" is NOT found in any of the earlier manuscripts from which the Bible was translated. It should not have been supplied by the translators.

In a complete and thorough study of this issue we also need to have a scriptural understanding of the word "tongue." This word, as found in these same chapters, and in Acts 2:3 is glossa in the Greek language. The meaning of glossa in this: the tongue (located in the mouth); speech or talk; language, nothing more.

In the light of the information concerning these two words "unknown" and "tongue," we can first look at Acts 2:3, 4, 6, 11. The word for cloven means split, or divided. The Lord divided the languages of the known world among certain ones in the church gathered there so that they might be able to preach the Gospel to all languages and peoples. The other (4,8,11) make this very clear. The special gifts of the Spirit given to the church were for two reasons: (1) that the world might know that these men were of God as shown by their gifts, and (2) that the church might grow faster in all areas.

The Bible teaches that salvation comes by grace (God's) through faith (ours) not of works (any man's). Ephesians 2:8. If there were an unknown tongue for salvation, then salvation would be of man's work.

Titus 3:5 states, "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us."

If the tongue is spoken as a sign of our salvation, to whom is it a sign? If it is to be a private thing, and spoken in a closet, then it would be of no value to anyone except those in the closet. However, the scriptures plainly state that the tongue was to be spoken in the church (not privately), only with an interpreter present, and spoken only by men. The scriptures further state (I Cor. 14:28) that only two or three were to speak at each gathering. Here are the facts: Only two or three were to speak; they must have an interpreter; women were to keep silent in the church; the church certainly is not a closet and is not "in private."

One other point about tongues must be recognized. I Corinthians 13:8 says that the gift of tongues will cease. The following verses (13:9-10) tell us when, i.e., "when that which is perfect is come," referring to the completed Word of God. This completion would be at the end of the first century with the writing of Revelation by John in 95 A.D. In all the books
written after First Corinthians which deal with church problems and Christian lives. There is not one mention of tongues. For centuries after the apostolic era, there is no mention of speaking in tongues. There is no speaking in tongues today. There is no room for confusion if the readers and students of God’s Word would “study.”

None of us deserves to be saved. But God’s Word tells us that we can be by trusting in His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, and not by speaking in a tongue, known or “unknown.” Then after we are saved we show our salvation by the fruit we bear and the love we have one for another. So, the sign of our salvation is not tongue-speaking but fruit-bearing and demonstrating our love for one another. This is not done in a closet, but openly.

PEARLS

PHILIPPIANS 4:7-14

I. TO KNOW JESUS MORE CLEARLY---PAUL.

II. TO LOVE JESUS MORE DEARLY---JOHN

III. TO FOLLOW JESUS MORE NEARLY---PETER

LOOK INTO THE FUTURE

BY DEVIN WARD

TEXT: Philippians 4:12-19

INTRODUCTION: Missions is a wonderful, biblical topic of study. The matter of missions is the life-blood of every new testament church. Our hearts should be challenged by thoughts relating to the Great Commission and humbled at the great responsibility before us. Note with me a few basic principles regarding mission work.

I. LET US LEARN THAT CHURCHES OUGHT TO SUPPORT MISSIONS.
   A. The Philippian church is a good example of this.
      1. Was herself established by Paul on His 2nd missionary trip. (Acts 16:9-40)
      2. Later showed love for Paul. (Text vs. 15, 16)
   B. Philippian church on many occasions−A Mission-minded church.

II. LET US LEARN SOME REASONS FOR SUPPORTING MISSIONS.
   A. It is God’s way of furthering the cause of Christ.
      1. We are to win souls, baptize them and teach them the Word of God. (Matthew 28:18-20)
      2. Your support makes you a part of God’s plan.
   B. It allows the supporting church or individual to prosper. (vs. 17)
      1. Paul was glad to get the much needed support but he was just as glad that blessings (fruit) was going to be given the church who helped.
      2. This is always the case. In this way, the Missionary, the work itself is aided (vs. 16)Plus the giver as well is blessed.

III. LET US LEARN OF GOD’S PROMISE TO THOSE WHO SUPPORT MISSIONS. (vs. 19)
   A. This verse often used to teach that God supplies the needs of His own.
      1. Of course He does support His own.
      2. But what is even more firmly taught here is that God will supply all the needs of the church that liberally support missions.
   B. Do we want the promise of God to apply to us? To our Church?

CONCLUSION: Souls world ’round need the gospel–we are the instruments God uses to preach the Word. He promises blessing upon those who are mission-minded. What more should we need to know? Just how bright is your future?
LOVE'S EXPRESSIONS

BY
D.B. WRIGHT

TEXT: LUKE 7:36-50

INTRODUCTION:
A. There are various reasons for loving Jesus.
   1. He loved first. I John 4:19
   2. His love for us is a mighty constraining force in the heart of the saved. II Cor. 5:14a
   3. Forgiveness and Cleansing from our every sin is reason enough for an eternity of love and devotion to Him.
      a. This woman had "many sins."
      b. This woman wasn't arrogant concerning her many sins! She came into His Holy presence with a "sense of guilt" and "weeping."
      c. In Jesus alone, We enjoy the Forgiveness of Sins. Eph. 1:7
B. There are many and varied expressions of one's love to Jesus.
   1. Millions, like John the Baptist and Stephen, have sealed their testimony of love with their lives.
   2. Millions have expressed their love to Jesus in sacrificial service.
   3. Others, have expressed their love to the Saviour in Silent Adoration.
C. In This message let us observe a few ways that Love Expresses Itself.

I. LOVE LAVISHES ITSELF ON THE OBJECT OF ITSELF.
   A. Remember the one who is known for sitting at Jesus' feet hearing His Word. Luke 10:39.
   B. Remember the poor widow who gave all her living.
   C. Lavish means to be extravagantly liberal, unrestrained.
   D. Look again at the woman of our lesson.

II. LOVE Lingers NEAR THE ONE LOVED!
   A. Take a trip down to the Children's Hospital and visit with parents who have been long tireless hours at the bedside of those whom they love.
   B. Scriptural Examples.
      1. Lazarus.... John 12:1-2
      2. Mary at His Feet.
      3. The 3 Mary's at the Cross. John 19:25

III. LOVE LOOKS UP TO THE ONE LOVED!
   A. King Solomon wrote of the Husband who is known in the city because his wife loved him and saw to it that he was well dressed. Prov. 31:23
   B. Psalms 121:1-2
   C. Col. 3:1
   D. Love looks up to Him in Holy adoration for Who He is.

IV. LOVE LIFTS UP THE ONE LOVED!
   A. Remember the 84 year old in the temple. 1. Luke 2:37-38
   B. Acts 8:4-5
   C. I Cor. 2:2
   D. Gal. 6:14

V. LOVE LABORS FOR THE HONOR AND GLORY OF THE ONE LOVED!
   A. The Virtuous mother of King Solomons day.
   B. Mothers who work sacrificially to see their daughters and sons dressed for the occasions and then sits in the audience with godly pride as she sees her own, unashamed to be in public.
   C. I Thess. 1:2-3,8
   D. Phil 2:11
   E. I Cor. 10:31
   F. Eph. 3:21

VI. LOVE LONGS FOR THE PRESENCE OF THE ONE LOVED.
   A. This is why the Disciples were sorrowful at the announcement of Jesus leaving them.
   B. This explains the prayer of Jesus in John 17:24
   C. This is why those who are right with Jesus are faithful in Church services. Matt. 18:20
   D. This explains Rev. 3:20
   E. This is why John prayed, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." Rev. 22:20
WHAT GOD'S PEOPLE OUGHT TO HAVE

BY

CHARLES SWILLING

TEXT: II Timothy 2:1-4

INTRODUCTION: There are many things that God's people ought to have and possess in order to accomplish the work. God shows us in comparison what we need when He likens His people to soldiers, laborors, and runners.

I. GOD'S PEOPLE OUGHT TO HAVE FIGHT.

A. Fight for the faith. II Tim. 4:7; Jude 3
B. Fight the world system. I John 2:16
C. Fight the flesh or sinful nature. Rom. 7:21
D. Fight the devil. I Peter 5:8
E. Fight your feelings.

II. GOD'S PEOPLE OUGHT TO HAVE LIGHT.

A. Light to reveal the sinfulness of this world. II Thess. 5:5; I John 5:17
B. Light to guide us. Psa. 119:105; Jer. 10:23
C. Light to cause us to understand. John 16:13; Acts 26:18

III. GOD'S PEOPLE NEED TO HAVE MIGHT.

A. Might to be what the Lord wants us to be. II Cor. 12:9
B. Might to do His work. Phil. 2:5

IV. GOD'S PEOPLE OUGHT TO HAVE THE RIGHT.

A. The right attitude. Phil. 2:5
B. The right answer.
C. The right aspiration. Phil. 3:10

V. GOD'S PEOPLE OUGHT TO HAVE SIGHT.

A. Sight to see the glories of spiritual things.
B. Sight to see through the world's vanity.
C. Sight to see man's real need. John 3:7
D. Sight to see the needs of our church.

WOULD YOU CONSIDER BECOMING A-PARTICIPATOR IN THIS MINISTRY???? Your faithful financial support could help this ministry to be expanded. We thank the Lord for other Churches who have included this Ministry in their monthly Mission Ministry. If you would like to become a participant, please feel free to join us in this endeavor. Checks should be made payable to Sound Out The Word Ministries and mailed to the GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, 1823 Aldine Mail Road, Houston, Texas 77039
"12 REASONS WHY I DO NOT BELIEVE IN THE TONGUES MOVEMENT WHICH IS SO PREVALENT TODAY."

BY GLEN E. TROPP

1. Because of the fact that the Bible stated they would cease. I Cor. 13:8-13
2. Because of the fact that the new tongues were languages as opposed to a bunch of gibbering.
   A. Acts 2:8,11
   B. The Word "unknown" is not even in the original manuscripts and a proof of this is that it was placed in italics. Notice every time the word unknown is used in I Cor. 12-14.
3. Because of the fact the Bible teaches that the Spirit will not draw attention or speak of himself. John 16:13-14
4. Because it edifies the person and not Christ. John 16:13-14
   I Cor. 14:4-5
   Col. 1:8
5. Because our main job is to present Christ and get people saved but those involved in the "Tongues Movement" today make the Tongues the pre-eminent thing.
   Matthew 28:19-20
6. Because the job of the Spirit is to emphasize Christ and make me like Him and He never spoke in tongues.
   Rom. 8:29
   Eph. 3:16-19
7. Because those involved today in the movement show disorderliness and confusion.
   I Cor. 14:40
   I Cor. 14:23-24
   I Cor. 14:33
8. Because the greatest precentage of those involved today in this movement are women and they were strickly forbidden to do it in the assembly.
   I Cor. 14:34-35
9. Because of the examples of the Scripture of those who were saved but were not instructed in this area.
   Acts 20:17-27
   Acts 8:26-39
   Acts 16:14-15
   Acts 16:25-34
10. Because those involved today in the movement claim its the height of spiritual experience but the Bible infers it was one of the inferior gifts.
    Note its last in the list.
    I Cor. 12:8-10
11. Because of the inconsistency of majoring on one of the signs with neglect to the others. Mark 16:17-18
12. Because those who are involved in the movement today claim its a sign of being really spiritual, but yet at the time it was in existence the most worldly church in the New Testament was seeking for it.

They were divided...I Cor. 1:10-17
They were carnal...I Cor. 3:1
They were babes....I Cor. 3:1
They were on milk and not meat
   I Cor. 3:2
They were filled with envy, strife and divisions....I Cor. 3:3
They were walking after the flesh and not after the spirit.
   I Cor. 3:3
They were puffed up against each other.
   I Cor. 4:6,18
They were boasting about immorality.
   I Cor. 5:1-2
They were taking each other to court.
   I Cor. 6:1-8

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