



The Danger of Opinions - Part 1

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Grace Fellowship of Morehead, KY



QUOTE: Opinion is really the lowest form of human knowledge. It requires NO accountability, no understand and no education.

“Opinion” – a view or judgment, not necessarily based on fact or knowledge.
Opinions are mostly based on your feelings.

QUOTE: Facts don’t care about your feelings!

John 8:32 – “And **ye shall know the truth**, and the **truth shall make you free.**”

UNDERSTAND: The Truth that you KNOW will make you free!
Not the feelings or opinions that you have!

QUOTE: Everyone has a right to an opinion, it doesn’t mean your opinion is right.

BELOVED: The greatest danger in the church is not the virus, or social unrest, or politics! It is the OPINIONS of man!

Social media has given everyone an illusion that their opinions are valuable!

Politics, morals, abortion, immorality, sexual preference, etc.

John 17:17 – “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”

2 Timothy 3:16,17

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

(PASSION TRANSLATION)

16 Every Scripture has been **written by the Holy Spirit, the breath of God**. It will empower you by its instruction and correction, giving you the strength to take the right direction and lead you deeper into the path of godliness.

17 Then you will be God’s servant, fully mature and perfectly prepared to fulfill any assignment God gives you.

2 Peter 1:20-21

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

Vs. 21 **(AMP)** – “For no prophecy ever originated because some man willed it [to do so--it never came by human impulse], but men spoke from God who were borne along (moved and impelled) by the Holy Spirit.”

The problem today is that a large portion of the culture does NOT really believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God.

If you believe the Bible is inspired...it will change that person’s way of life!

Proverbs 18:2 – “A fool hath no delight in understanding, **but that his heart may discover itself.**”
(NLT) – “Fools have no interest in understanding; **they only want to air their own opinions.**”

When your opinion doesn't match the Word of God...it is foolish!

OPINIONS have “demoted” and relegated the Word of God to a diminished position in the modern mindset...it is just ONE OPINION among many. Everyone is right and no one is wrong. The world is suppose to think this way...the real problem is when it is operating in the church.

When personal beliefs are considered higher than the Word...we are missing something! **It becomes the biggest danger in the church.**

Galatians 1:6-9 (NLT) – The Apostle Paul gets RIGHT AFTER IT!

- 6 **I am shocked that** you are **turning away so soon from God**, who called you to himself through the loving mercy of Christ. **You are following a different way that pretends to be the Good News**
- 7 but is not the Good News at all. **You are being fooled by those who deliberately twist the truth** concerning Christ.

“Shocked” – astonished, amazed...it is overwhelming

- 8 Let God's curse fall on anyone, including us **or even an angel from heaven, who preaches a different kind of Good News** than the one we preached to you.
- 9 I say again what we have said before: If anyone preaches any other Good News than the one you welcomed, **let that person be cursed.**

Any opinion other than the Word is wrong!

“Be cursed” – (KJV) – “accursed” – doomed to destruction!

UNDERSTAND: Paul is NOT fooling around! He is NOT taking it lightly! Opinions will destroy you! It will destroy the move of God!

2 Chronicles 7:14 – “If my people, which are called by my name, **shall humble themselves**, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”

As long as you are elevating your opinion over the Word...you have NOT humbled yourself!

Humility does NOT mean to think of yourself lowly (see Romans 12:3), it is to honor God's system and Him above your own.

James 4:6,7,10

- 6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, **but giveth grace unto the humble.**
- 7 **Submit yourselves therefore to God.** Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Humility is about submitting to God!

- 10 **Humble yourselves** in the sight of the Lord, and **he shall lift you up.**

1 Peter 5:6 – “**Humble yourselves** therefore under the mighty hand of God, that **he may exalt you in due time:**”

Matthew 23:12 – “And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall **humble himself shall be exalted.**”

Galatians 3:3 – “Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?”

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.”

(NASB) – “See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.”

Genesis 3:1-6 – **The Fall of Man**

- 1 Now the **serpent was more subtil** than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?
- 2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:
- 3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.
- 4 And the serpent said unto the woman, **Ye shall not surely die:**
- 5 **For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof**, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.
- 6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

The enemy has had the same game plan since the beginning of time...offering conflicting opinions over what God has declared!

UNDERSTAND: Conflicting opinions are LIES!

It destroyed the destiny of Adam and Eve and it will destroy your destiny if you listen and yield to the lies of opinions!

1 Corinthians 14:10 – “There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, **and none of them is without signification.**”

IN OTHER WORDS: There are a lot of opinions in the world...they all sound good and significant!
We MUST know the Word.

Romans 12:2-3

- 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.
- 3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

Vs. 3 (AMP) – “For by the grace (unmerited favor of God) given to me I warn everyone among you not to estimate and think of himself more highly than he ought [not to have an exaggerated opinion of his own importance], but to rate his ability with sober judgment, each according to the degree of faith apportioned by God to him.”

James 1:19 – “Wherefore, my beloved brethren, **let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:**”

A Sign of the End Times

Matthew 24:4 – “And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.”

UNDERSTAND: There will be people with OPINIONS set out to deceive you!

1 Timothy 4:1,2

- 1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;
- 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

(PASSION TRANSLATION)

- 1 The Holy Spirit has explicitly revealed: **At the end of this age, many will depart from the true faith one after another**, devoting themselves to spirits of deception and **following demon-inspired revelations and theories.**
- 2 Hypocritical liars will deceive many, and their consciences won't bother them at all!

2 Timothy 4:3,4

- 3 For the time will come when **they** will not **endure** sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, **having itching ears;**
- 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.
“after their own lusts” – desires or whims
“they” – large numbers
“endure” – no ability to put up with or have a tolerance for sound doctrine!
NOTE: It doesn't match their opinion...so they don't like the taste of it!
They just don't have an appetite for...but they will develop a distaste for the Word of God!
It gets in their way of their opinion!

2 Timothy 3:1-5

- 1 This know also, ***that in the last days perilous times shall come.***
- 2 For men ***shall be lovers of their own selves***, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,
- 3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,
- 4 Traitors, heady, highminded, ***lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;***
- 5 ***Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof:*** from such turn away.

AGAIN: In the last days! That is now!

NOTICE: There is a key to look for and a key that should be in a life that is based on the Word. Not just a form of being right...but POWER!

1 Kings 18:21 – “And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.”

Elijah proclaimed that there are TWO ways of thinking...one is all flash and sounds good...one produces POWER!

It is amazing how people with opinions are attacking church and ministries with POWER! Those who are seeing manifestation happening....opinionated people are tearing down!

The enemy isn't healing people!

The enemy isn't setting lives free! Luke 4:18,19

The enemy isn't increasing people!

Opinionate people are not either!

How to Keep from Being Deceived

FIVE keys to keep us strong and from being deceived! Not being fooled by others opinions!

1.) EVERY DAY spend time with God in the MORNING!

Psalm 5:3 – “My voice shalt thou hear ***in the morning, O LORD***; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, ***and will look up.***”

“Look up” – if you don't start your day by looking UP, you will start it by looking down! Messages on your phone. Emails! Tweets, facebook posts! Morning news! To do lists!

You can get a lot of opinions and thoughts inputted in your minds before you ever get a chance to think about the goodness of God!

David was surrounded by a lot of bad stuff...enemies hated him...his family even turned against him.

(AMP) – “***In the morning You hear my voice, O Lord; in the morning I prepare [a prayer, a sacrifice] for You and watch and wait [for You to speak to my heart].***”

I prepare myself to hear YOUR OPINION of things!

There are a lot of things in Scripture that tells us to start our day off with God!

NOTE: It is what Jesus did!

Mark 1:35 - "And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed."

NOTE: David did it!

Psalms 63:1 - "O God, thou art my God; **early will I seek thee:** my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;"

"Early" - at the beginning of any task, new day

Proverbs 8:17 - "I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me."

Psalms 59:16 - "But I will sing of thy power; yea, **I will sing aloud of thy mercy in the morning:** for thou hast been my defence and refuge in the day of my trouble."

Train yourself to start early with God.

If you have lost vision or have become discouraged...get up early, listen and talk with God.

ILLUSTRATION: In a football game, when does the offense have their huddle? At the end of the play? Do they line up and do whatever they want and then come to the huddle and find out what they were suppose to do?

ANSWER: Absolutely not! They start in the huddle...get the directions for that play and then run the play!

TOO OFTEN Christians wait until the end of the day to spend time with God and they have run their day without direction...then they wonder why they are so frustrated by the time they come home at the end of the day.

Spend time with God before the play starts and your play will run a lot smoother!

QUESTION: What do you do in the morning?

a.) **Start with the Word.**

John 17:17 - "...thy word is truth."

Start your day with Truth!

UNDERSTAND: Start your day with the TRUTH and it will harder to deceive you the rest of the day!

If you don't know the TRUTH...you will be TOO EASY to fool!

Making the Word and the Lord of the Word your FIRST focus every day will be a lifeline for your spiritual strength.

If you ignore this element of your spiritual walk you will end up troubled, worried, nervous and lack of power.

Proverbs 4:20-23

b.) **Talking to God (prayer).**

Philippians 4:6 - "**Be careful for nothing;** but in everything **by prayer** and **supplication** with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

Eliminate your troubles and anxiety through prayer and thanksgiving!

"Be careful for nothing"

BELOVED: Too often worry replaces worship. That is why we have a hard time sleeping... resting!

When we turn our affections upon Him...peace moves in!

UNDERSTAND: Part of your PRAYER needs to be worshipping...offering praise!

Derek Prince: "If you have ten minutes to pray, take eight minutes to worship. There is a lot you can pray for in two minutes."

We have tendency to struggle or strive when we pray...try to make things happen! Learn to step into His presence.

When you are outside the bubble of His presence you pray long and strive, inside of that bubble a short time changes everything.

THE QUESTION COMES...where are you praying from!

Worship and Praise puts you in position!

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

16 **Rejoice evermore.**

17 **Pray** without ceasing.

18 **In every thing give thanks:** for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

NOTICE: Rejoicing and thanksgiving make the sandwich of prayer.

"Prayer" – Philippians 4:6

DEFINED: prayer (worship); a place set apart to meet with God (noun)

"Supplications" – seeking, asking, entreating

"Requests" – ah-ee-tay-mah – request, demand, require.

QUICK NOTE: One reason many people have a hard time praying...anytime...is because they are not tithing!

Tithing opens the windows of heaven.

How do you communicate through closed windows? By yelling! That is why many people feel like they need to yell and scream during prayer! Bad communication.

ILLUSTRATION: How many people hate communicating through the masks? Frustrating! Something is in between and messing up the communication!

c.) **Use your heavenly language!**

BELOVED: The church has lost the VALUE of our heavenly language.

1 Corinthians 14:2 – "For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries."

You are tapping into the mindset of God. His mysteries. HIS OPINIONS!

"Mysteries" – things we don't currently know! Answers...not opinions!

1 Corinthians 14:4 – "**He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself;** but he that prophesieth edifieth the church."

Do you want to build yourself up so that you are not deceived or deceiving? Speak in tongues!

Acts 10:46 – "For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,"

When you speak in tongues...you are MAGNIFYING God...making Him bigger...making HIS OPINIONS bigger!

2.) EVERY DAY spend time feeding on other godly sources!

Don't be flippant about WHAT or WHO you are reading or listening to, but feed on other sources!
Books, cds, etc.

2 Timothy 4:13 – “The cloke that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, and the books, but especially the parchments.”

(NLT) – “When you come, be sure to bring the coat I left with Carpus at Troas. Also bring my books, and especially my papers.”

Obviously Paul didn't have an iPad or iPhone or CD or computer...but he did have books!
He was sitting in prison waiting to be executed and wanted to be strengthened!

BELOVED: He had some AMAZING experiences with God...He knew the Lord better than pretty much anyone...yet, he still longed to grow as He was getting ready to be with the Lord.

Listen to sermons! Read articles!

BELOVED: What you put in your mind will determine what you think, what you believe, and ultimately what will happen in your life.

1 Thessalonians 5:12 tells us to know them that labor among you.

IN OTHER WORDS: Don't just read or listen to anything and everything. There are some people you will spend too much time spitting out bones than getting nutrition. If you have to spit out 100 bones and dodge 100 bullets to get one thing...you are threatening yourself with A LOT of deceit!

NOTE: Traditions of men make the Word of God of none effect. (Mark 7:13)

3.) EVERY DAY spend time in quietness.

Psalms 46:10 – “Be still, **and know** that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.”

“**Be still**” does NOT describe a church service! J

(PASSION) – “Surrender your anxiety! **Be silent and stop your striving** and you will see that I am God. I am the God above all the nations, and I will be exalted throughout the whole earth.”

Being still helps you KNOW...takes out opinions!

Sit and listen! Listen to the spirit of God! Let the Word marinate in your heart!

Turn off the devices!

Write it down! Journal!

You say, where can I get alone and get quiet in my life?

Take a walk to let the quietness of the outdoors become a sanctuary for your spirit.

Get up before others in your house!

Go to the bathroom and shut the door!

THINK ABOUT IT: The sports on TV now...they tried it with empty stadiums and people hated it, because it was too weird, not having any noise. So they inserted background crowd noise. We are too used to noise!

THINK ABOUT IT: They say that other teams have an easier time stealing the other teams calls because they can HEAR EVERYTHING!

James 1:19 – “Wherefore, my beloved brethren, **let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:**”

QUESTION: What is the difference between you talking and you listening?

ANSWER: You are quiet!

QUOTE: Never assume LOUD is strong and QUIET is weak!

UNDERSTAND: The loudest and most REPEATED voices are the ones that stick with you. Will it be yours or the heathens?

BILL JOHNSON: We try to achieve revelation and experience in the environment of busyness instead of shut up and sit down.

4.) EVERY DAY spend time WITH those who strengthen you!

This cannot be overstated!

This is essential!

1 Corinthians 15:33 – “**Be not deceived:** evil communications corrupt good manners.”

Psalms 1:1-3

- 1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.
- 2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.
- 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Proverbs 12:26 (NASB) – “**The righteous is a guide to his neighbor,** But the way of the wicked leads them astray.”

(NLT) – “The godly give good advice to their friends; the wicked lead them astray.”

Proverbs 13:20 – “He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.”

Proverbs 24:6 – “For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war: **and in multitude of counsellors there is safety.**”

Proverbs 27:6 – “Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.”

Proverbs 27:17 – “Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.”

Speak to someone who sharpens you every day! Text...facetime...call!

ANOTHER IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THIS: Every believer needs the Truth filter of a pastor!

Acts 20:28 – “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.”

Their job is to hear from God, preach the Word and guide you into the plan of God for your life. Give you God’s opinion!

His job is to keep you from spiritual poison, not to shovel it to you!

5.) EVERY DAY take time to STOP and acknowledge God through the day.

REMEMBER: Praise is acknowledging the greatness and splendor of God.

Psalm 119:164 – “Seven times a day do I praise thee because of thy righteous judgments.”

BELOVED: That is a minimum...but it is essential.

Taking time through your day..pauses...to praise! You can use music or just your voice...but acknowledge WHO HE IS...WHAT HE HAS DONE!

Psalm 100:4 – “Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.”

It keeps you in His presence!

One place there is NO deceit is in His presence!