

Real Christianity

Elder Jeff Winfrey, Pastor
Dawson Springs Primitive Baptist Church
101 East Walnut Street
Dawson Springs, KY 42408
www.dspbc.com

I. Real Christianity

A. A blend of truth and love—A balance between the words and ways of Christ

Joh 4:23 ...the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

1Co 13:2 ...though I...understand...all knowledge...and have not charity, I am nothing.

Eph 4:15 But speaking the truth in love...

2Ti 1:13 Hold fast the form of sound words...in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

B. Truth without love is not real Christianity

2Ti 2:24 And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all *men*, apt to teach, patient,

2Ti 2:25 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

1Pe 3:15 ...*be* ready always to *give* an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

1Co 8:1 ...Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth.

C. Love without truth is not real Christianity

Pro 23:23 Buy the truth, and sell *it* not...

Joh 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth...

Joh 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

Joh 8:32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

1Ti 3:15 ... the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

Gal 2:5 To whom we gave place by subjection, no, not for an hour; that the truth of the gospel might continue with you.

II. A pursuit of real Christianity—History's greatest truth became 3 lessons on love

A. The most wonderful truth of all truths in all the world through all history

Luk 9:43 And they were all amazed at the mighty power of God. But while they wondered every one at all things which Jesus did, he said unto his disciples,

Luk 9:44 Let these sayings sink down into your ears: for **the Son of man shall be delivered into the hands of men.**

1. Their lack of true love proves that they totally (and shamefully) missed the point

Luk 9:45 But they understood not this saying, and it was hid from them, that they perceived it not: and they feared to ask him of that saying.

Luk 9:46 Then there arose a reasoning among them, which of them should be greatest.

2. Another occasion where they should have been pondering the idea of Jesus dying

Luk 22:19 ...This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.

Luk 22:20 ...This cup *is* the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.

Luk 22:22 And truly the Son of man goeth, as it was determined: but woe unto that man by whom he is betrayed!

Luk 22:23 And they began to enquire among themselves, which of them it was that should do this thing.

Luk 22:24 And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest.

3. On this occasion, Jesus first spoke to them of the true ways of His kingdom

Luk 22:25 And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors.

Luk 22:26 But ye *shall not be* so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve.

Luk 22:27 For whether *is* greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? *is* not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.

Luk 22:28 Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations.

Luk 22:29 And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me;

Luk 22:30 That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

4. Then Jesus demonstrated how much people in His church are to love each other

Joh 13:4 He riseth from supper...

Joh 13:5 ...he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet...

Joh 13:6 ...and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet?

Joh 13:14 If I then, *your* Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet.

B. The love-lesson goes past people in the same church—Even to all who claim Christ

Luk 9:49 And John answered and said, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name; and we forbad him, because he followeth not with us.

Luk 9:50 And Jesus said unto him, Forbid *him* not: for he that is not against us is for us.

1. My encounter with a Christian in China

2. Eldad and Medad—Who prophesied apart from Moses and the seventy

Num 11:16 And the LORD said unto Moses, Gather unto me seventy men...and bring them unto the tabernacle of the congregation, that they may stand there with thee.

Num 11:17 ...and I will take of the spirit which *is* upon thee, and will put *it* upon them...

Num 11:25 And the LORD...took of the spirit that *was* upon him, and gave *it* unto the seventy elders: and it came to pass, *that*...they prophesied, and did not cease.

Num 11:26 But there remained two *of the* men in the camp, the name of the one *was* Eldad, and the name of the other Medad: and the spirit rested upon them; and they *were* of them that were written, but went not out unto the tabernacle: and they prophesied in the camp.

Num 11:27 And there ran a young man, and told Moses, and said, Eldad and Medad do prophesy in the camp.

Num 11:28 And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of Moses, *one* of his young men, answered and said, My lord Moses, forbid them.

Num 11:29 ...Moses said unto him, Enviest thou for my sake? would God that all the LORD'S people were prophets, *and* that the LORD would put his spirit upon them!

3. The Spirit is the Spirit of truth—So, it is important to keep guarding the truth

Rom 16:17 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.

1Ti 3:15 ...the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

4. The Spirit is the Spirit of love—So, it is important to keep loving those in error

2Th 3:15 Yet count *him* not as an enemy, but admonish *him* as a brother.

Gal 6:1 Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

Gal 6:2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

C. The love-lesson extends beyond other Christians—Even to our enemies

Luk 9:51 And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem,

Luk 9:52 And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him.

Luk 9:53 And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem.

Luk 9:54 ...when his disciples James and John saw *this*, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?

Luk 9:55 But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.

Luk 9:56 For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save *them*. And they went to another village.

1. The lesson of the ear—Another place where Jesus taught us to love our enemies

Luk 22:35 And he said unto them, When I sent you without purse, and scrip, and shoes, lacked ye any thing? And they said, Nothing.

Luk 22:36 Then said he unto them, But now, he that hath a purse, let him take *it*, and likewise *his* scrip: and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment, and buy one.

Luk 22:38 And they said, Lord, behold, here *are* two swords. And he said unto them, It is enough.

Luk 22:49 When they which were about him saw what would follow, they said unto him, Lord, shall we smite with the sword?

Luk 22:50 And one of them smote the servant of the high priest, and cut off his right ear.

Luk 22:51 And Jesus answered and said, Suffer ye thus far. And he touched his ear, and healed him.

2. Jesus taught an extreme view of loving our enemies

Mat 5:39 But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

Mat 5:40 And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have *thy* cloke also.

Mat 5:41 And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.

Mat 5:42 Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.

Mat 5:43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

Mat 5:44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

Mat 5:45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

Mat 5:46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?

Mat 5:47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more *than others*? do not even the publicans so?

Mat 5:48 Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

3. Truth is important—Yet, love is the distinguishing mark of ‘Real Christianity’

Joh 13:35 By this shall all *men* know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

