

I. Judgment Begins with the Household of God (vv 25-28).

- A.** The need to tear down false worship (v 25)
 - 1) We are to act upon God's Word
 - 2) Judgment begins at the household of God (1 Pt 4:17; 1 Cor 11:32)
 - 3) Idols exist only to be torn down and destroyed.
- B.** False worship must be replaced with true worship (v 26a)
 - 1) The need for true worship
 - 2) The regulative principle of worship (Ex 20:25)
- C.** An illustration of the victory of the Lord Jesus Christ (vv 26b, 28)
 - 1) Christ, the Second Adam
 - 2) Christ, the Burnt offering (Jn 1:29)
 - 3) Christ, the Victor over all (Phil 2:10-11; Gen 4:20-22)
 - 4) Christ, His victory known in history (Col 2:15)
 - 5) *Use*, You must look to Christ or else all is worthless and for naught.
- D.** Contrasts between Gideon and Christ (v 27)
 - 1) Christ accomplished our salvation by Himself.
 - 2) Christ was never fearful to do the will of God.
 - 3) Christ accomplished our redemption openly in His death and resurrection.
- E.** A call to humility and charity towards Gideon (v 27)

II. The Disdain and Determination of Reformation (vv 29-32).

- A.** The disdain of reformation (vv 29-30, 32)
 - 1) Reformation is often met by great hostility.
 - 2) Reformation often shows a startling number of members (and even ministers) of the Church to be possibly unregenerate.
 - 3) True worship, doctrine, and piety will often be falsely treated as the innovation.

- 4) Those who oppose reformation will have an inverted view of what causes division.
- 5) Those who oppose reformation will appeal to a sense of tradition or experience rather than an objective, universal, and immutable standard of authority.
- 6) Those who oppose reformation will invert what is true justice regarding the punishment of sin (Dt 17:2-5).
- 7) Those who promote reformation and renewal (and really any form of truth) will be mocked and scorned.

B. The determination of reformation (v 31; Acts 5:34-39; Rom 8:31)**C.** Uses from the Point

- 1) We must consider a number of difficult truths about reformation within a broadly-corrupted Visible Church, as well as obedience in a crooked and perverse generation.
 - a) We will be outnumbered and out-resourced
 - b) We may suffer grievous injustices
 - c) Our obedience is not predicated upon the positive result and response of others
 - d) It is better to have a quiet conscience before God than to have all the comforts and commendations of man.
 - e) It is better to die in faith than to live in sin
- 2) We must, therefore, resolve to the obedience of faith.

III. The People of God Called Forth to Action (vv 33-35).

- A.** The enemies of God encamp against the people of God (v 33)
- B.** Gideon is anointed with the Spirit (v 34a)
 - 1) This points us to the meaning of the title Christ or Messiah, as the Anointed One.
 - 2) This points us to the redemptive-historical work of God in Pentecost (Luke 24:49)
- C.** The people of God are called forth to action (vv 34b-35; Gal 6:2)
- D.** Conclusion (Rev 11:15; Gal 6:16)