

Know What You Believe and Why

We know that we are required to give our testimony to any one, at any time.¹ But could you explain any part of what you believe if a national Head of State or formal enquiry asked you for it? Paul was asked for details² and he was able to give a full account of his beliefs. Could you?

Paul was able to expound on what he believed because it was part of him – part of his spirit. He lived it and breathed it. It wasn't just head knowledge and it wasn't just biblical knowledge. It was something that somebody preached on years ago but he can't remember what it was all about. We have to get to the same point where we are taught by the Spirit and what he teaches us becomes part of us, part of our understanding of the things of the Kingdom and the spirit realm, everything. So that when anybody asks us a question, we are able to confidently give an answer without the need to say, “You'll have to ask my pastor that”, or, “You'll have to ask my Bible teacher that”. Each of us is responsible for our own salvation, for our own spiritual growth and development, and for our own maturity in the Kingdom – nobody else.

If you want to speak into people's spirit the things that are of the Kingdom, then those things must be part of you and part of your spirit so that when you speak them they connect from your spirit to theirs.

Blind faith doesn't exist in the Kingdom. Neither do expressions like, “I don't know, I just believe it. It's what we all believe, so I believe it too”. That 'doesn't cut it'.

The entirety of what each of us believe should be something we can share at any time. Not only that, but we should be able to give reasons for why we believe what we believe. If a person told you to sell your house and move to the bush, could you give sound reasoning why you should or shouldn't comply – without being emotional, aggressive or avoiding a complete answer? If someone said that Jesus was returning on the Feast of Atonement this year, would you be able to confidently give them your full response?

For example how would you explain to someone that the Bible should not be called 'The Word of God'?³

You see, if we don't firmly believe something, we can easily be swayed by others' crafty words or by those who offer a single 'proof' scripture. We must be 'bullet-proof' in our beliefs. This is why we need sound doctrine and 'tons' of up-to-date *rhema* from our King – we need his mind at all times.

The catch-cry of the 1980s: “God said it. I believe it. That settles it” doesn't 'cut it'. This refrain was used to defend every form of charismatic or pentecostal belief because it was in the Bible. Why isn't this appropriate for Kingdom citizens? It's too simplistic and immature. Here's some examples of some errors:

1. Baptism should be compulsory for salvation because Jesus said new believers were to be baptised.⁴
2. Believers should interfere with other people's spiritual lives, correcting them without authority⁵, because they're not being busybodies⁶.
3. We should literally believe that one of the Beasts in Revelation will come out of the ocean.⁷
4. We should take Nazirite vows of abstinence because Paul did.⁸
5. We should believe that Jesus is coming back at the end of the world.⁹
6. We should deliberately get people drunk because Proverbs¹⁰ says it's OK.

1 – 1 Peter 3:15

2 – Acts 28:22

3 – See canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/The-Word-of-God-is-What-the-Spirit-Gives-Us-to-Speak.pdf

4 – Mark 16:16

5 – 1 Peter 4:15 ~ The Greek word translated 'busybody' is *allogriepiskopos* which refers to a person being another's overseer.

6 – 1 Peter 4:15 ~ *allogriepiskopos* is wrongly translated 'busybody' which today is a meddler or gossiper. That's not what the word means.

7 – Revelation 13:1

8 – Acts 18:18

9 – *Aiōn* (Gk) is 'age' or 'period of time'. It should not be translated 'world' (Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words). It's where we get our word 'eon' from.

10 – Proverbs 31:6-7

Very carefully read my teaching document “A View of the Kingdom from the Preterist Position” because in it is the sound doctrine you need to help you firmly and unwaveringly believe a number of key Kingdom tenets. Why? Because your liberty and freedom in the Kingdom is at stake.

Know what you believe and be ready to graciously justify it if asked.

Laurence

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