
BIBLE INSIGHT

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth. (2 Timothy 2:15)

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Seeing is Believing

by Phillip Shumake

“Now when the queen of Sheba heard about the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to test him with difficult questions.” (1 Kings 10:1)

As people “walking by faith,” we know the importance of trust. However, we should also remember the importance of investigation. In 1 Kings 10:1-13 we can read about the queen of Sheba’s investigation into the reputation of Solomon. Verse one of this chapter says “she came to test him with difficult questions.” All the wonderful reports of Solomon’s wisdom were not sufficient to satisfy the queen. She wanted to see the splendor of Jerusalem for herself. She wanted to hear the wisdom of Solomon for herself. She sought proof.

The queen sets a wonderful example for us to not believe everything we hear. We all know that news circulated from mouth to mouth is almost always distorted and magnified whether it is good or bad. The queen of Sheba trusted those who had spoken of Solomon to her enough to plan an extensive journey to Jerusalem, but she maintained a healthy skepticism that motivated her to seek the truth.

Although the queen of Sheba came to Solomon with a challenge for his wisdom, she also came with elaborate gifts. In her investigation of Solomon she came ready to be impressed and to give a gift proportionate to her amazement. After hearing Solomon’s wisdom face to face, “She gave the king a hundred and twenty talents of gold, and a very great amount of spices and precious stones. Never again did such abundance of spices come in as that which the queen of Sheba gave King Solomon.” (vs. 10)

Don’t miss the significance of

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church of Christ at Beverly Shores

Sun. 9:30 a.m.—Bible Classes
Sun. 10:30 a.m.—Worship
Sun. 6:00 p.m.—Worship
Wed. 7:00 p.m.—Bible Classes

1318 Griffin Road
Leesburg, FL 34748
352-365-9946

Welcome Visitors!

We are glad to have you visiting with us today, because you are part of our goals. This may sound odd, but please let us explain. Our goal is to worship God in spirit and in truth (John 4:24) and to glorify Him in all that we do. (1 Cor. 10:31)

God will always be our number one priority, but the Bible speaks of secondary goals that this church also recognizes. Today, we consider you our honored guest, and hope to prove ourselves welcoming and hospitable. In fact, we hope that you can tell we are loving.

1 Timothy 1:5 says: “But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.”

Because this is our goal as well, we hope that you can see love in our teaching. We hope you can see people with pure hearts, a good conscience, and faith that is totally genuine. Only then will we really be doing our job.

So please, stay a while after services so we can greet you. Feel free to take a welcome packet with you as you leave, and if you have any questions, don’t hesitate to ask. Helping you is part of our goals.

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the gifts that the queen brought to Solomon. This wonderful treasure reminds us that the queen came to test Solomon HOPING that the good report she had heard was true. She came to Solomon assuming the VERY BEST about him. This is such an important part of investigating other's reputations. When we hear news circulated about others do we assume the best or the worst to be true? We need to be diligent in our investigation, but always maintain a spirit of graciousness like the queen of Sheba.

When Jesus speaks of the queen of Sheba he praises her dedication to seek the wisdom of Solomon, and Jesus reminds all of us that if she would go to such great lengths to know more about an earthly king, we should be even more diligent to know the truth about our heavenly King, Jesus Christ.

As you continue your walk with God this week, make an extra effort to investigate the things you hear about others and make a diligent effort to investigate the love, grace, and Lordship of God.

Think on these things...

"Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation, if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord." (1 Peter 2:1-3)

A Plea For Higher Thinking
Comments on Mt. 5:21-48 by Dee Bowman

(Matthew 5:43-48) "You have heard that it was said, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR and hate your enemy.' "But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. "For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? "If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? "Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

The wise man said, "As he thinketh in his heart, so is he" (Prov. 23:7). That principle is true for every man. You do what you do because you've have been thinking to do it. You may say when you have made some mistake or some bad judgment, "I just wasn't thinking." Yes, you were. You may have not thought long nor well, but you thought.

This section of the *Sermon On The Mount* deals with right thinking. Jesus begins by saying that killing is the result of being angry. If a man controls his anger, he will not kill. He further alleges that a man will not commit adultery who does not first lust in his heart. If a man controls his desires and brings them into line with what he knows is right, he will not commit sexual immorality. In the same way, he says a true believer need not confirm his affirmations with an oath; he just needs to tell the truth and there will be no need for such. He decries the idea of retaliation, saying that a good man will go as far as he possibly can with those who have done him misery. He concludes the section with a warning about the highest thinking of all—love. He says if you would be perfect like your Father, you must do more than others—in this case, love your enemies.

Right thinking always precedes right actions. Wrong actions are always the result of wrong thinking. Make this day one where you engage in good, wholesome, and edifying thinking and you will have a good day.

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