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Service Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 A.M.
Worship: 10:30 A.M. & 5 P.M.
Sonshiners: 4:45pm

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7 P.M.

Preacher:

Russ Earl

AM Sermon:

Growing in Strength (**Pro 3:13-15**)

PM Sermon

Lessons from Psalms

Sunday AM Bible Class:

Paul Praschnik

Wednesday Bible Class:

James 2 - Chuck Northrop

In SEARCH of the Lord's Way

On Channel 6-2 Sundays @ 7:30 am

The Gospel of Christ TV Program

on Saturday @ 7:30am on Channel 53

BibleWayMediaMedia.org

The Oologah church of Christ only uses the **KJV, NKJV or ASV** translation of the Bible in classes & sermons.

The Oologah Informer November 24th, 2019

Thoughts from the Preacher

“Don’t Lose It”

We sometimes hear phrases like:

“you are either growing or dying”

Or “if you don’t use it you’ll lose it”.

The same can be said of spiritual knowledge.

If you are not growing you are dying.

If you are not using and sharpening your spiritual knowledge
it may just slip away.

The Divine Principle of Free Moral Agency

(Franklin Camp 1915 - 1991)

Free moral agency does not mean that there are no limitations. There is no such thing as absolute freedom without any limitations. Someone may say, "Is not God utterly and entirely free without limitations?" My answer is: No. There are some limitations that belong to God. There are certain limitations that characterize Him in some ways. There are some things that God cannot do:

“That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:” (Hebrews 6:18).

It is impossible for God to lie. The character of God places this limitation upon Him. The character and the nature of God is truth. This limits God and makes it impossible for Him to lie. His character forbids lying. Since God's character places some limitations upon Him, one should not be surprised that, though man is a free moral agent, it is not without some limitations. While man is free to make his choices, there are limitations that apply to him. God determines the consequences of the choices that man makes. One is free to make the choices, but then certain consequences, rewards or curses, come with the choices that one makes.

The prodigal son was free to go to the far country, but he was not free to determine the consequences that come from his choices. There was no way he could make the wrong choice and avoid the difficulties and suffering in the hog pen.

I mentioned that there is a simple side to this subject, but there is also a difficult side. The difficulty comes in being able to reconcile God on the one side and the free moral agency of man on the other. I am convinced that one of the real problems of the religious world today is its failure to reconcile these two. Some of the inconsistencies of the denominational world are tied to its failure to reconcile the sovereignty

of God on the one side and the free moral agency of man on the other. The failure to reconcile these leads to all kinds of erroneous doctrines.

No man can defend Calvinism consistently and at the same time uphold the free moral agency of man. Man cannot be free in the Calvinistic system. If before man was ever created God decided that certain ones would be saved (and that without any responsibility on their part) while the non-elect would be lost (and they could do nothing about it) where is the free moral agency of man? He is only a machine that is maneuvered by God. This false doctrine of Calvinism leads to further doctrines that are false which also deny the free moral agency of man.

Calvinism teaches that man is totally depraved, and, being totally depraved, he cannot make a right choice. If man is totally depraved and cannot make a right choice, where is his free moral agency in doing anything that is right?

There are some other subjects that are related to the one that we are studying. Man's accountability is determined by his free moral agency. If man is not a free moral agent, then one eliminates his accountability. For example, here is one who is an idiot, insane. Such a one is not held accountable for one's actions because of one's inability to make the proper choices, to make the proper decisions. Therefore, accountability is eliminated. It is only upon the basis of one's being able to make choices that accountability can be sustained.