

Closing the door on Satan: Lesson 5
Seeing through the fog of false teaching
Galatians 1:6-7
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show how we can see through the fog that is brought on by false teaching.

- Intro:
1. In life some things are difficult to understand because of all the “fog” - varying ideas or confusing language concerning it (insurance policies, car warranties, etc.)
 2. When was the last time that something (supposedly simple) was hard to understand because of other’s ideas (mine household repairs).

I. The fog of false teaching – what is it?

A. Contradicting statements

1. “That’s not the way I understand it....” (**2 Pt 1:20-21**)
2. “That’s what it says but actually....”

B. Traditions on equal ground as God’s commands.

1. We have done this for years....(**Mt 15:2-6**)
2. Those before us did it why can’t we...(**Acts 17:30-31**)

II. Examples of foggy ideas.

A. Foggy on Authority

1. Well the Bible doesn’t say that we can’t....(**Gal 5:21c** “and the like”)
2. We have done...for years (Acts 8:11-12); doing something for a long time doesn’t make it right – it doesn’t change sin to righteousness simple because of the length of time.
 - a. Nor does it matter who it was who did it or believed an idea or taught an idea – well bro. so and so used to say that *so what?*

B. Foggy on who will be saved.

1. All those who are good and kind and live moral lives will surely be in heaven (**1 Pt 4:17-18**).
2. If you invite Jesus into your heart you will be saved....- where is the scripture that says a person “invited Christ into their heart”
 - a. Some say – **Rev 3:20** instead consider the context **Rev 3:16-20** those who have done something can “open the door” to Christ in obedience – what must they first do? Obey,repent and be baptized; Rev 3:18
 - a. “buy from me gold refined in the fire” – obedience
 - b. “white garments that you may be clothed” repentance & baptism result in “white garments”- Rev 7:14
 - c. Is it simply inviting Christ into your life....NO
 - e. We don’t invite Christ into our hearts-He invites us into His Body-the church (**Mt 23:37, Gal 3:27**); as a result His Holy Spirit dwells within us – through His Word.

III. How to see through the fog.

A. Searching the scriptures for Bible authority.

1. A searcher is “fair-minded” (**Acts 17:11**)
2. Even those opposed to Christ wanted to know if He had the authority to do what He did and teach what He taught (**Mt 21:23**)

B. Proper attitude toward God and the Church.

1. It’s not what I think, desire or feel; but what God commanded/authorized.
2. When we have this attitude we can find the truth.

Application & Conclusion:

1. God’s Word really isn’t that complicated; when we allow the traditions, ideas, beliefs, and feelings of others and ourselves to get in the way-then the way of truth can become foggy.
2. But, when we decide we want the truth, not feelings, ideas or anything else, the fog will lift.
3. Full Invitation