

REFUSING TO UNDERSTAND 13

TEXT: Psa. 139:1-6

INTRODUCTION:

A. One of the most frustrating things to hear in the religious world today is:

1. I just can't understand the Bible.

2. The Bible is just too complicated.

3. All the religious division in the world shows that no two people can understand the Bible alike.

B. Let's notice some things that a person implies when he makes a statement like that.

C. They openly deny several attributes of God.

BODY:

I. OMNIPOTENCE.

A. God is called the Almighty.

1. Gen. 17:1 **When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless.**

2. Rev. 15:3.

B. He can do all things.

1. Gen. 18:14a. **Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth**

2. Job 42:2. **"I know that You can do everything, And that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You.**

C. Matt. 19:26-"With God all things are possible."

D. When someone says the Bible c/n be understood or c/n be agreed on, they are denying the power of God to inspire a message that could be understood.

II. OMNISCIENCE. knowing all things.

A. Psa. 147:5 Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite..

B. Psa. 139:1-6.

C. To say that the Bible c/n be understood is to say that God did not know how to author a book for all men to understand.

III. TRUTHFULNESS.

A. The Bible teaches that God is truth.

1. Jn. 3:33.

2. Rom. 3:4.

B. It is impossible for Him to lie-Heb. 6:18.

C. If God is truth, unable to lie, then why did He say that His Word could be understood?

1. Eph. 5:17.

2. Eph. 3:4.

IV. JUSTICE.

A. The O.T. continually speaks of the justice of God.

1. Deut. 32:4 **He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He..**

2. Isa. 30:18. **Therefore the Lord will wait, that He may be gracious to you; And therefore He will be exalted, that He may have mercy on you. For the Lord is a God of justice; Blessed are all those who wait for Him.**

B. The same justice is spoken of in the N.T.

1. Rom. 2:4-10.

2. Rom. 3:26.

C. If God is truly just, then how could He make us responsible to His Word--if it c/n be understood?

D. How could He save or condemn us on the basis of a book too deep for us to comprehend?

1. Jn. 12:48.

2. Isa. 55:11. **So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.**

3. Jn. 17:17.

E. Obviously, God would not do that. He has given us His Word and it can be understood by all. God's justice demands it.

QUESTION; If all of this is true, how do you explain the great diversity of opinions? That can be answered by looking at the ways men treat God's Word. Each person does one of these things:

V. HOW MEN TREAT GOD'S WORD.

A. Does not study it, so he does not know it-Matt. 22:29.

B. Studies it (or at least is exposed to it) but does not accept it - Jn. 6:60.

C. Studies it and then reshapes it to fit his own opinions.

1. 2 Pet. 3:15-18.

2. Religious men did it in the days of Christ and the apostles; what makes us think that religious teachers and preachers will not do it today?

D. Studies it, believes it as true, but does not obey it.

1. Acts 24:24-25.

2. Acts 26:27-28.

E. Studies it, follows it and is approved of by God.

1. Acts 17:11-12.

2. 1 Pet. 1:22-23.

3. James 1:21-22.

4. 2 Tim. 2:15-23.

CONCLUSION:

A. Yes, you can understand the Bible.

- B. You can "know what the will of the Lord is" Eph. 5:17.
- C. When the day of judgment has come, how will you have treated the word of God?
Acts 17:30-31.
- D. Don't refuse to understand.