

Commentary Blog H

Transforming Passages To Ponder

Week of 1/26-30 (B4;15)

Transforming Passages To Ponder

“All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

II Timothy 3:16,17 (NKJV)

This passage, at times, is troublesome to some churches today. Just try highlighting Scripture addressing the four listed purposes of His Word (doctrine, reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness) and you may find yourself in trouble!

I know a missionary who did just that and now this very ambassador of Christ Jesus is being censored – honestly, this is happening today ... by *church folk* of all people. Would to God we'd follow Peter's example and be humble enough to be open to corrective appeal, especially when the appeals are clearly biblical. (see Galatians 2:11-21) One contrast to a godly, teachable response is this: taking offense at the caring-enough-to-raise-concern appeals and then in that offense going on to walk in further carnality by reacting in un-Christlike ways.

As stated in the final blog of 2014, be watching for an increase in *churches* coming down hard on those who persist in speaking His Truths with loving intent. Indeed, I John 5:2 is almost *counter cultural* in some churches today! I found this posted at the library (of one of the colleges we serve) somewhat recently – author unstated:

Censorship is an enemy of truth, even more so than a lie. While a lie can be exposed, censorship can deter us from knowing the difference between truth and deception in that censorship discourages the concern to be uncovered in the first place.

All the more reason to be in the God of Truth's WORD!

THANK YOU Heavenly Father. Thank You for calling us to both Truth and relationship. Help us discern Your example as to when relationships need to remain unreconciled due to a refusal to listen. Thank You for Your example along these very lines. Thank You for Your Son's roll-modeling to us in Matthew 19:16-26, John 7:7 and other settings. May You, dear Father, be praised as we **avoid** lukewarmness – lukewarmness through compromising Your precious Truths, even in the setting of relationships! Help us discern Your will as we're about faithfully representing You, please. Unto Your glory and praise we pray. Amen.