

"If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

John 8:31-32

Store In My Heart

Joel 2:12-13

"Yet even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

The prophecy of Joel, like most others, was a call for Israel to return to God. Joel speaks of the 'day of the Lord' as a time of judgement upon the nation. His warning was to urge them to repent for that day was coming. Destruction awaited any who would not return to God. Peter quoted from Joel in Acts 2, telling those Jews that the 'day of the Lord' was happening to them.

Our future also holds a 'day of the Lord'. Either death or His return will bring our judgment. Am I living to be ready for it?



Preach To Me!

Bill Crews

Up and down in the land, day in and day out, by young and by old the banal little protest, "Don't preach to me!" is heard. I cannot use it. My understanding, my conscience, and the needs of my soul won't allow me. The Son of God came preaching. He died that the gospel of heaven might be proclaimed to lost and dying humanity. It has pleased God by the preaching that the world labels "foolishness" to save those who will believe (**1Corinthians 1:21**). So, I say, "Preach to me!"

But when you do so, make certain that it is heaven's will and wisdom, and not man's philosophy and psychology. Hold up God's mirror that I might see myself as I am (**James 1:2-25**). Use the Spirit's sword to discern the very thoughts and intents of my heart (**Hebrews 4:12**). Tell me what God wants me to know, and believe, and do, and become. Seek not to please me, but to persuade me; not to soothe me but to save me; not to entertain me, but to enlighten me.

Preach that which I need to hear and not that which you think I want to hear. Tell me of my blessings that I might be grateful, my responsibilities that I might be faithful, and my opportunities that I might be diligent; but shun not to tell me of my sins, my transgressions, my neglect, my imperfections. At the risk of offending me and even of making an enemy of me, preach to me the whole counsel of God (**Acts 20:27**) -- for in telling me the truth you are not my enemy, but my

Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about the Lord's Kingdom.

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For Our Information

Continue to keep the Jackson family in your prayers.

Paula Laubach is to see a dermatologist next week.

Joyce Venable still has difficulties.

Bill's brother, John and his family have health issues also.

Bill Venable, John & Betty Ragsdale are worshiping at home this week.

Tonight we start in 1Samuel 19:1.

Wednesday at 7 pm in Ephesians 1:1.

Pray for safety, courage & healing.

friend and God's servant. With fear of God, reverence for the truth, love for souls, and concern for duty PREACH TO ME!

Give Me The Truth!

Bill Crews

If you are my friend, if you are concerned about my soul, give me the truth. Do not flatter me. Do not praise my virtues while remaining silent about my vices. Do not fear the truth will offend me. Do not treasure our friendship, our friendly relations, above my salvation. Do not think that by ignoring my sins you can help me. Do not think that being blind to my sins will prove yourself charitable.

However I may react to it, whatever may be my attitude toward you after you have done it, give me the truth! For the truth, and only the truth, can make me free from the shackles of sin, strengthen me in the pathway of righteousness and lead me to the joys of heaven.

If I am wavering, weak, lukewarm, indifferent, neglectful; if I have been overtaken in a trespass; if I have been drawn into the pleasures of the world; if I have left my first love; if I have been led astray by error; or if I have done not of these but simply need to grow in knowledge and to be edified, GIVE ME THE TRUTH!

(Two articles with a similar idea in mind. Many in this life want to hear easy things. They want someone to sugar-coat even the most necessary negative message. This will only prolong the problem and make it that much harder to overcome.

What we really need is to hear truth on every matter. Sometimes it just needs to be blurted out. Sometimes it can be delivered softly. But we always need the truth.

Yes it will hurt sometimes, but it will eventually find us and then the hurt will be more difficult to bear. I think we will all be better when we finally say, "Just give me the truth." DLH)



We seek only to serve God according to His Will!