

## Healing Through the Word – Week 16 – Blasphemy or Not?

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Again, as I always remind you, don't take my word for it, search the Scriptures to find out whether these things are so; be like the Bereans.

*Acts 17:11* – “*These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.*”

*Romans 12:1, 2* – “*...that you may prove what is that good and that acceptable and perfect will of God.*” To those who are unsure or uncertain about God's will to heal – There is no qualification here to the word “prove” that omits healing. – We need to camp out here, face the Spirit and Word and allow the Spirit of Truth to transform and renew our minds concerning His good, acceptable, and perfect will.

*Luke 13: 10-16*

*Hebrews 7:22*

*Hebrews 8:6*

*Acts 1:6* “*But you shall receive **power**...*”

*Romans 1:16, 17* “*For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the **power of God** to salvation for everyone who believes, for the \*Jew first and also for the Greek.* <sup>17</sup> *For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.”*”

*1 Corinthians 2:4-5* “<sup>4</sup> *And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of **power**, <sup>5</sup> that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the **power** of God.*”

We are to live in the **power** of salvation by faith, from faith to faith revealing God's righteousness in the process. The goal of our speech and preaching is to be a demonstration of the Spirit and power that our faith should be in the **power** of God and not man's wisdom.

***Back to Ruffling Feathers:***

*John 14:12, 13* – “*Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to*

*My Father. <sup>13</sup> And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.”*

This statement begins with, Jesus saying, “**Most assuredly**.” Jesus, the Living Word, God incarnate, God with us, the 2<sup>nd</sup> person of the godhead says, “**Most assuredly**,” like if Jesus hadn’t said that most assuredly part, the rest of what He said might not be true? Does this conflict with any other statements of Christ? Does it perhaps confirm other instructions or commands Christ, or the Word has given to us?

If we believe in Jesus Christ, He states that the works that He does we will also do, and greater works, because He is going to His Father. He went to the Father and the Father sent the Holy Spirit in Jesus’ Name and with the Father now, Christ is at the right hand of the Father making intercession for us. – **Romans 8:34**.

So, Jesus makes intercession for us at the right hand of the Father the Holy Spirit makes intercession for us with groanings too deep to be uttered in articulated speech. (Remember **Romans 8:26**) – Now, let that sink in.

Back to John 14:

**John 14:25, 26** “*These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. <sup>26</sup> But the Helper, (The One who stands close alongside you the One who will make the call if you let Him make the call) the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.*”

What, all things except **John 14:12, 13**? All things except those things that make us uncomfortable or that we wish weren’t in the Bible?

The Helper, this One who stands alongside you and will make the call, teaching you and bringing to your remembrance ALL THINGS He said, will empower you and cause you to do the greater things while Jesus is interceding at the right hand of the Father!

How can explain that away? Didn’t Jesus mean it? If Jesus didn’t mean that we would do greater works or if we don’t believe it, how can we believe He meant it when He said He would redeem and save us?

A faith only in the historical without the current supernatural isn’t faith at all, it’s only a natural religion, it’s just an empty religious exercise, because once you open the door to faith without the supernatural today, eventually you’ll get to the

resurrection. About 5-6 years ago I was shocked to actually see and hear the Archbishop of Canterbury state that you could be a Christian and not believe in a literal resurrection. I saw it with my own eyes and heard it with my own ears.

Take away the present supernatural and all you have left is the History Channel - singing songs, bowing, kneeling, standing, sitting, candles, holding a Bible in our hands rather than holding the Bible in our hearts and the Bible holding us, while religiously muttering empty words we've been told to repeat. Is the Bible the final authority in our lives or not?

Greater works by asking in Jesus' Name to glorify the Father in the Son. Why would God or we exclude ourselves from this? Think about this, if we don't believe or if we deny **John 14:12, 13** we also deny the Father the opportunity to be glorified in the Son through our lives.

We need to seriously consider what picking and choosing, what tearing out pages and using whiteout does to our perceived declarations concerning the Bible and our faith and even our professed love for Christ. What are we left with then? ...a nice story but in truth we've made it a novel.

### **Back to Matthew's Gospel -**

In **Matthew 12:22** a demon possessed blind and dumb person – *“Then one was brought to Him who was demon-possessed, blind and mute; and He healed him, so that the blind and mute man both spoke and saw.”*

For His trouble Jesus is accused of casting out the demon by Beelzebub. Some people just can't stand to see the power and glory of God because they can't control it. Religion is kind of like socialism or communism – shared misery with control by an elite few who live like kings and queens.

Jesus sends the disciples across the sea of Galilee and then overtakes them, walking on the sea. Peter walks on water, they both get in the boat and reach the land of Gennesaret and:

**Matthew 14:35, 36-** *“<sup>35</sup> And when the men of that place recognized Him, they sent out into all that surrounding region, brought to Him all who were sick, <sup>36</sup> and begged Him that they might only touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched it were made perfectly well.”*

Each time I read about touching the hem of Jesus' garment, whether the woman with the issue of blood or this account, I am reminded of **Psalm 133**.

**Psalm 133 –**

*“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity!  
2 It is like the precious oil upon the head, Running down on the beard, The beard of  
Aaron, Running down on the edge of his garments. 3 It is like the dew of Hermon,  
Descending upon the mountains of Zion; For there the Lord commanded the  
blessing— Life forevermore.*

This good and pleasant anointing of unity is like oil flowing down to the hem, like the dew of Hermon flowing down to Mount Zion; this power of agreement in unity with God and the brethren takes us to the place where the Lord commands the blessing.

Unity is where we agree with the Father about Jesus. Unity in faith with the Lord, unity in faith with the brethren will put us in a place where the Lord commands the blessing and it brings and is life, forevermore - Not stumbled upon blessing but commanded blessing.

Consider this, Aaron whose head and beard received the precious oil was the high priest. Christ has now made us both priests and kings:

**Revelation 1:5, 6** – *“To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, 6 and has made us kings and **priests** to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”*

**1 Peter 2:9** – *“But you are a chosen generation, a **royal priesthood**, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;”*

Consider those verses, that God has made us priests and the level of unity with God that that priesthood confers; like oil running down Aaron’s head and beard to our hems, like the dew of Mount Hermon running down upon Mount Zion, if we will believe it. That’s the real Mountain Dew!

Consider the Aaronic Blessing and speak it over yourself and your family -

**Numbers 6:24-27** – *“The Lord bless you and keep you;*

*25 The Lord make His face shine upon you,*

*And be gracious to you;*

*26 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,*

*And give you peace.*

*27 ‘So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them.’”*

That putting His Name upon you, is like a brand, a mark of ownership and unity with the Father in that belief. That oil poured upon your head runs down to the hem of your garment, and like the dew of Hermon dripping down on Mount Zion, places you in the realm where the Lord commands the blessing. Look in the book of the Acts of the Apostles when they were corporately together in one accord, in perfect unity.

*Acts 1:14* – “These all continued with **one accord** in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.”

*Acts 2:1* “When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with **one accord** in **one** place.”

*Acts 2:46* – “So continuing daily with **one accord** in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart,”

*Acts 4:24* – “So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with **one accord** and said: “Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them,”

*Acts 5:12* – “And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with **one accord** in Solomon’s Porch.”

*Acts 8:6* – “And the multitudes with **one accord** heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.”

*Acts 15:25* – “it seemed good to us, being assembled with **one accord**, to send chosen men to you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul,”

As we look at these examples of unity and the demonstrable power of God that flowed out of it, where the Lord commands the blessing, we get more insight and understanding into these early saints having “all things in common,” which was not an endorsement of communism or communalism, but demonstrated the depth of that unity where no one would take advantage or indulge the lusts of their eyes:

*Acts 2:44, 45* – “<sup>44</sup> Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, <sup>45</sup> and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need.” And...

**Acts 4:32** – “Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common.”

The power of unity and one accord demonstrated in the early church also gives us insight and understanding into how Ananias and Sapphira devastated that unity and may explain the severity of their consequences for lying:

**Acts 5:1-3** – “But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. <sup>2</sup> And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles’ feet. <sup>3</sup> But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself?”

Another consideration here is our national motto of “e pluribus unum,” “which means out of many, one,” and the societal push for “diversity” today. Diversity as preached today is really division and disunity, making the cares of the flesh and soul preeminent over the spiritual concerns of unity that is the place where the Lord commands the blessing. I can’t be a male first and a Christian second, I can’t be white first and a Christian second, I can’t be a German Irish American or even an American first and a Christian second. Yes, we can celebrate our differences, but not at the expense of spiritual unity with the Father and the brethren.

**Romans 8:5, 6 (NKJV)**, “For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.”

I believe that this explains a lot of what we are currently experiencing today.

In unity, in one accord, these men and women of the early church turned the world right side up under tremendous persecution. In one accord, in unity, the power of God produces the very same works of God today when we believe. ...or do we need persecution to produce unity? I pray not.

We must not stay silent concerning God’s truth in His Word. Teach, preach, heal. And the prayer of agreement is very powerful indeed.

**Matthew 16:7-9** discloses a sad truth that really needs no context: “<sup>7</sup> Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying:

<sup>8</sup> *‘These people draw near to Me with their mouth,  
And honor Me with their lips,  
But their heart is far from Me.*

<sup>9</sup> *And in vain they worship Me,  
Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’*

But you are more noble!