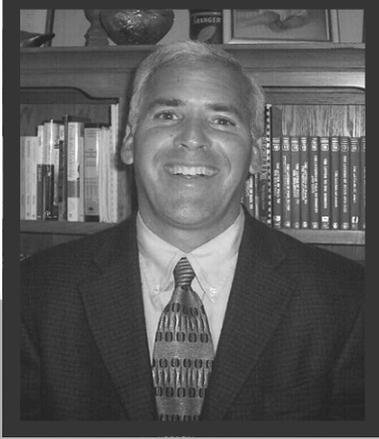


The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ
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You're Invited!!

2018

Fall Gospel

Meeting

October

14-17

Speaker:

Mel Futrell

Elizabethtown Church of Christ

SUNDAY

9:30 a.m.

Why Open the Scriptures?

10:30 a.m.

The Principle of Together

6:00 p.m.

In His Name

MONDAY

7:00 p.m.

**The Church We
Ought to Be**

TUESDAY

7:00 p.m.

Our Standard of Authority

WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m.

What Is Love?

1211 North Dixie Avenue, Elizabethtown, KY 42701
Phone-270-765-6446 / Web-www.etowncofc.org

Do You Insult God?

I read an illustration from a man who was a Bible Instructor that provided some food for thought. Here is the illustration:

One night one of my workers called me and said, "Come and talk to this man. He is an infidel." I went over and talked to him. I said, "Are you an infidel?" He said, "Yes, I am an infidel." I said, "Will you tell me why you are an infidel?" He said, "Yes, sir, because the Bible is full of contradictions." I said, "Will you please show me one?" He said, "It is full of them." "Well," I said, "if it is full of them you ought at least to be able to show me one. Will you show me one?" He said, "I don't pretend to know as much about the Bible as you do." "What are you talking about it for then?" I asked. "Now," I continued, "the Bible is God's Word. God is its author, and in throwing contempt on the Bible, you are throwing contempt upon God who is the author of it, and Jesus tells us that men shall give account of every idle word in the Day of Judgment, and you will have to give account of this idle word you have spoken against the Bible and against God who is its Author." He turned pale, as well he might, and said, "I did not mean to do that." "Well, that is what you have done," and that is what many a man is doing, speaking lightly and thoughtlessly about the Bible, not realizing that in condemning the Bible, he is insulting the God who is the Author of it, and he will have to give account of his folly in the Day of Judgment.

Though this approach by Torrey from the 1800's may not be the exact way we would address such an issue today, it does make me think of our need to consider how we treat the Bible.

Though we may not state that the Bible is full of contradictions, and in doing so insult God, I wonder if the way we treat the Bible at times could be an insult to God. As a parent I know I try my very best to instruct my girls. It is always difficult to accept when a child does not heed your instructions or suggestions. But with God I am sure there are times in all of our lives where we fail to treat His Word the way He longs for us to treat it. God has provided perfect, wise instruction for His children!

Consider as well though that we may often fail to even consult God's grand book of life. How must God feel when He has provided all we need and we do not take the time to consult Scripture? I can't help but think that such an action would result in an insult to a loving God. We may not belittle His Word, but is ignoring it much better?

What can we do to make certain that our attitude toward Scripture is pleasing to God? He Himself suggests a number of ways we might respect Scripture. First, we must listen and read God's Word (Romans 10:17). Next, we know that we are to study to show ourselves approved by God so that we might handle aright Scripture (2 Timothy 2:15). But study alone is not enough. James states that we must be doers of the word and not hearers only. Jesus taught the foolish nature of one who would hear the Word and fail to practice or follow the teachings of that Word (Matthew 7:21ff).

What about you? Do you feel you would never belittle the Bible by saying it is a book full of contradictions that we can simply cast aside without any thought? Well that is good, but is it possible you belittle it in other ways? Do you fail to read and follow the Bible? In doing so do you insult God? Just some food for thought...

*John F. Board
Elizabethtown, KY*