

By reading this you are able to understand my insight about the mystery of the Messiah.

Ephesians 3:4 (HSCB)

Store In My Heart

Micah 4:1-2

It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and it shall be lifted up above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it, and many nations shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

Yes, that passage is in Micah. Micah prophesied near the time Israel was taken captive by Assyria. His warnings and message of hope were needed but not heeded by those in Judah. The coming salvation was prominent in the hopeful passages of his writing.

Such promises help verify the identity of Jesus as Messiah.



"It is Written"

Doy Moyer

Reflections on Authority, CENI, and Grace

(Continued From Last Week)

Now none of that is to say that all the particulars are worked out. What I'm defending is a process, not all of the conclusions that have been reached through the process by various interpreters. What people are really fussing about is not the process so much as whether or not some conclusions really are necessary, or whether or not some commands are still binding. If some think they can take the Lord's Supper on a day other than the first day of the week, they will argue that those who teach the latter are binding where God has not and have inferred what is not necessary. But they will still argue their position on what they think is to be inferred from the revealed information because they cannot bypass the process without just making things up out of thin air.

Let's take this issue into the area of grace and law. Some speak against those whom they think put too much stress on God's commands, saying that they don't say enough about grace. They think we put too much on authority and need to allow for more freedom based on grace. But here is the kicker: those who teach their view of grace do so by going to the text and arguing that it's what the authoritative text either states or implies. That is, they go right back to the "Tell-Show-Imply" process to prove their point about grace. To make their case, they must rely every bit as much on the authority of the text as those with whom they disagree. Authority is still at the foundation of any of these discussions. The only other option is to make things up out of the blue.

Further, grace is only possible when one is authoritative enough to

Contact Us

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

Church of Christ
1512 Tanner Street
Malvern, AR 72104
(501) 332-8806

Find Us Online

preacher@tannerst.com

tannerst.com
FB @TannerStCoC

For Our Information

Joyce Venable is still not feeling well. She is at home but doctors changed her medications and, as many know all too well, that can require adjustments. She was very sick and unable to keep things down on Saturday.

John Ragsdale has been undergoing test the past few weeks. They are still waiting on results from some of them.

Pray for safety, courage & healing.

grant that grace. Mark 2 shows that Jesus had authority to forgive sins. Not just anyone can forgive the sins of others. This can only come from God's power. Therefore, to pit grace against authority is fallacious because to talk grace, we must necessarily confess God's authority to grant the grace on His own terms.

We know what we know about grace because of what the authoritative text tells us. We know what we know about God's commands because of what the text tells us. No one knows anything authoritatively apart from what is revealed in the authoritative text. It is certainly possible that we put more stress on one matter over another, and we may indeed fail in our teaching because we ignore what the text teaches. But the standard for judging any of this still needs to be the text, and not our personal preferences.

Regardless of which position we take, the authority of the text must be key. Why? Because it is the revelation of God's mind. The only other option is to invent our own doctrines, and then where are we? We may disagree with each other on exactly what the text teaches, but there is absolutely no basis for unity when we give up the authority of the text. "It is written" needs to be the appeal. Without it, we will wallow in self-willed authority with no foundation for anything other than our own desires serving as the standard. I would hope that all of us would emphatically deny that alternative.

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(As mentioned last week, this article can be found in its entirety on Brother Moyer's website, SearchingDaily.com. Just type this link in your browser address bar: "https://searchingdaily.com/2019/02/18/it-is-written-reflections-on-authority-ceni-and-grace".

I have included this article in our bulletin because it gives some good insight into the discussion of establishing authority. This has been the topic of our Sunday morning Bible study for the past several weeks. Brother Moyer does of good job of explaining that we use the same methods in establishing authority for our religious actions as we use to establish any practice from the written word. It is simply how we are able to understand what is said, no matter the subject. How we learn is established, what we have learned is where our most of our disagreement comes from. The text only reveals ONE truth. Study, Pray, Apply, Repeat! DLH)



We seek only to serve God according to His Will!