

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for April 12-13, 1997

"Do Not Quench the Spirit"

Dale Whitehead

I Thessalonians 5:19-20

Part III

The psychological movement within our society has infiltrated the church. And I believe is distracting professing believers from honestly considering and responding to God's word and is therefore guilty of contributing to the quenching of the Spirit.

This growing dependence upon professional counselors becomes a problem when the power of scripture is devalued in the counseling experience.

The Scriptures declares itself to be sufficient to meet all human need (Psalm 19:7-9).

"The law of the Lord is perfect , restoring the soul".

The word "restore" can mean "converting", "reviving", "refreshing" or I believe best understood "transforming".

"The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple".

The Hebrew word translated "simple" comes from an expression meaning "an open door." It portrays an image of a naive person who doesn't know when to shut his mind to false or impure teaching."

"The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart".

God's precepts, David said, are "right". Rather than simply indicating what is right as opposed to wrong, that word has the sense of showing someone the true path.

"The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes".

"pure" could better be translated "lucid". Scripture is not mystifying, confusing, or puzzling. The synonym "clear" is best.

"The fear of the Lord is clean enduring forever".

"fear" speaks of the reverential awe for God that compels us to worship Him. Scripture, in this sense, is God's manual on how to worship Him.

And it is a worship manual which is clean. The scriptures being clean or flawless will therefore last forever.

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"The judgments of the Lord are true; they are righteous altogether".

The implication of that phrase is that its truthfulness produces a comprehensive righteousness in those who accept it. There is therefore no need for additional revelations, visions, or words of prophecy.