



Berean Christian Fellowship

DEVOTIONAL 235.0

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Cognitive Dissonance—P4

“God is not a God of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints” (1 Corinthians 14:33).

We know Cognitive Dissonance creates confusion in the mind. How can it not when you have irreconcilable beliefs cohabiting in your thoughts? It is like serving two masters, but *“no one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other”* (Matt. 6:24a). Cognitive dissonance will always lead to idolatry, because to allow anything to cohabitate in your mind and heart alongside God IS idolatry.

“Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. I speak as to wise men; you judge what I say. Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ? Since there is one bread, we who are many are one body; for we all partake of the one bread. Look at the nation Israel; are not those who eat the sacrifices sharers in the altar? What do I mean then? That a thing sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? No, but I say that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God; and I do not want you to become sharers in demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? We are not stronger than He, are we?” (1 Cor. 10:14-22)

In light of this, we are told: *“Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols?”* (2 Cor. 6:14-16a) So, *“let no one deceive you with empty words, for be-*

cause of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not be partakers with them; for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light” (Eph. 5:6-8).

We need to be active in guarding the truth in our minds and heart and sifting out the leaven of Cognitive Dissonance and confusion that so easily can lead us astray: *“O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you, avoiding worldly and empty chatter and the opposing arguments of what is falsely called “knowledge”— which some have professed and thus gone astray from the faith. Grace be with you”* (1 Tim. 6:20-21).

In light of this, may we actively pray as David did, *“Teach me Your way, O Lord; I will walk in Your truth; Unite my heart to fear Your name”* (Psalm 86:11). And of vast importance, may we be in God’s Word with sincere hearts. May we pay attention to what we believe in integrity. May we recognize what has been sown into our hearts and minds by the devil—those seeds of confusion—thoughts and desires that prevent our growth in understanding of the knowledge of God.

This is very important because the devil doesn’t often invent completely new lies to manipulate us, he more often twists God’s Word to create confusion in us: just as he tried to confuse Jesus: *“If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for it is written, “He will command His angels concerning You”; and “On their hands they will bear You up, so that You will not strike Your foot against a stone.””* Jesus said to him, *“On the other hand, it is written, “You shall not put the Lord your God to the test””* (Matt. 4:6-7).

Jesus showed us by example that we need to have a solid understanding of God’s Word to answer this spirit of confusion. May we examine what we believe in the light of God’s Word by the teaching of the Holy Spirit. Is there leaven in you? Is there confusion? May my desire be to *“walk within my house in the integrity of my heart”* (Psalm 101:2b). Amen.