

Pastor's Pen

Did God Mean It?

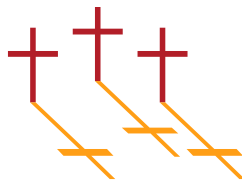
"You husbands in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with a weaker vessel, since she is a woman;" 1 Peter 3:7

I recently saw a video of a female minister speaking on this verse. She explained that she has her children read from scripture every night at dinner. On this particular night, her daughter said, "I'm not reading this passage. She then asked her mom, "Do we believe this? Is this really in the Bible?" Instead of telling her daughter yes and explaining what the verse meant, she said this was not true for the day. She even twisted the verse by saying the verse describes the wife as a weaker partner. The verse says no such thing. While many today are confused about what a woman is and the biological differences between men and women, God's word is not.

Peter, writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, does not say that the wife is the weaker partner but the weaker vessel. Women are not inferior to men mentally or spiritually. We are equal in God's eyes. The weaker vessel means women are, by and large, weaker physically than the average male of the same age. A Christian husband is called to protect his wife even if it cost him his life.

We live in a time when every word from Scripture seems to be manipulated. That is why it is so important for believers to know the Word of God. Read it, study it, and hear it preached, so you can spot heretical teaching the instant you hear it.

Your shepherd,
Pastor Mark



Grace Gems

George Whitefield: Calvinist Evangelist-Andrew Morrow

George Whitefield, the famed 18th century evangelist known for crossing the Atlantic Ocean thirteen times, was an instrumental figure in the Great Awakening. Also known as the "Grand Itinerant", Whitefield often preached outdoors to crowds upwards of 20,000 people.

He was a passionate proclaimer of the gospel of Jesus Christ, urging lost souls to be born again. Yet, throughout the entirety of his ministry, he remained fully committed to the doctrine of God's sovereignty in salvation. For Whitefield, there was no contradiction between affirming the doctrine of God's sovereignty in salvation and diligently proclaiming the gospel to the lost.

This grand preacher was born on 1714 in Gloucester, England. In 1732 he began attending Oxford and it was there that he met Charles and John Wesley. After cultivating a relationship with the Wesley brothers, Charles gave George a copy of *The Life of God in the Soul of a Man*, written by a Puritan named Henry Scougal. It was through Whitefield's reading of this book that he was stirred to consider what it truly means to be born again. In 1735, God granted Whitefield the new birth. Whitefield began diligently reading the Scriptures, along with Matthew Henry's commentary on the Bible. It was through the reading of God's Word that Whitefield came to affirm the doctrines of grace. This was not a system he was taught by his contemporaries, but something he learned from the Bible. "I embrace the Calvinistic scheme," he wrote, "not because Calvin, but Jesus Christ has taught it to me" (cited from Arnold Dallimore, *George Whitefield*, 69).

Quote of the Week

"If you are going to walk with Jesus Christ, you are going to be opposed ... In our days, to be a true Christian is really to become a scandal."
-George Whitefield 1714-1770

The source of his doctrine was not primarily from the Reformers and Puritans, but from his own careful reading of Scripture. With his own pen he explained, "I believe God, His Spirit has convinced me of our eternal election by the Father through the Son, of our free justification through faith in His blood, of our sanctification as the consequence of that, and of our final perseverance and glorification as the result of all" (*Letters of George Whitefield*, 129). From that statement, it is clear that he was taught from the Scriptures that God elects individuals unto salvation and preserves them in the faith.

In another letter, Whitefield penned these words: This, however, is my comfort, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday today, and forever." He saw me from all eternity; He gave me being; He called me in time; He freely justified me through faith in His blood; He has in part sanctified me by His spirit; He will preserve me underneath His everlasting arms, til time shall be no more. Oh the blessedness of these evangelical truths! These are indeed gospel; they are glad tidings of great joy to all that have ears to hear." (*Letters of George Whitefield*, 98)

These doctrines of grace were a great comfort to Whitefield. He did not attempt to change his conviction on these doctrines, as if they might be a hindrance to his evangelistic efforts. Whitefield was a man of the Bible and allowed the Bible to speak for itself on matters of the sinfulness of man and the sovereignty of God. Whitefield knew that God had graciously saved him and that he had the personal responsibility to proclaim this message of Christ crucified to others wherever he went. Steve Lawson helpfully states "It was the doctrines of grace that ignited his soul with holy compulsion to reach the world with the message of Christ" (Steven Lawson, *The Evangelist Zeal of George Whitefield*, 49).

Whitefield crossed the Atlantic Ocean 13 times to preach the good news of Christ crucified for sinners. He was thoroughly motivated to proclaim the gospel to everyone who would listen. Whitefield's preaching, along with that of men like Jonathan Edwards, was used by God to bring about the Great Awakening. At this time the current pattern of formalism was confronted and many souls were saved in the American colonies. True revival began to take place throughout New England.

Whitefield spent nearly 35 years preaching both in England and in the American colonies. This prolonged example of the faithful ministry of Whitefield serves as a testimony to his passion for Christ and commitment to biblical doctrine. He never saw the doctrines of grace as a deterrent to preaching the gospel to as many people as he could.

Weekly Gatherings

Bible Classes

Old & New Testament Classes
Ladies Class
Young Adults Young Parents
Youth Surge
Sunday Morning @ 9:00AM

Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays | 6:30PM AWANA

Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM
All Family Groups will resume on
September 19, 2024

Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team
and need to sign up, please contact the
team leader at the appropriate email
address on the back of this bulletin.

Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM
Youth Study; AWANA & Surge!

Service Times

Sunday Services 10:30AM
Sunday School 9:00AM
Children's Church @11:00AM

Giving from service on 10/06/2024

General Offering	\$14,252.85
Building Fund	\$3,130.00
Uganda Missions	\$185.00
Benevolence	\$1,350.00

Total.....	\$18,917.85
Attendance	239
Online.....	20

Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org
Maintenance-maintenance@ghbcva.org
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org
Security-security@ghbcva.org



GRACE HARVEST BIBLE CHURCH

GO GATHER GROW GO

ghbcva.org | 804.561.3742
9821 South Redfield Drive, Amelia, VA 23002

Grace Harvest Bible Church

Oct 13, 2024

Welcome