

“Sometimes, People Just Don’t Get It”

I Cor. 8:1-2

V. 1 – “Now as touching things offered unto idols, we know that we all have knowledge.” (Paul admits that all Christians have this knowledge (personal experience, gnôsis), but this problem cannot be solved by knowledge.) “**Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth.**” Genuine knowledge (possession of facts and how things work) doesn't have pride attached to it. **V.2** – “**And if any man think that he knoweth any thing, (he as gone to the “bottom” of a subject and knows all about it) he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know.**”

Paul is teaching about food that was sacrificed to idols. It was certainly a controversial issue in the church at Corinth. And Paul goes on in the same chapter to teach that: Those who feel they have the personal freedom to do controversial things should not be a stumbling block by causing those who are “weak” to sin.

The Corinthian believers had a self-satisfied attitude that seemed to have made some of them feel that they had attained complete knowledge. They were spiritual “know - it - alls.” Instead of teaching, they needed to be taught. What did they need to be taught? =

- ♦ Love is the solution, not knowledge, in all social problems.
- ♦ A wise person is one who knows that they can’t know it all, on a subject.
- ♦ At best, we can only gather a bucket of sand on the shore of the ocean of truth.
- ♦ The really learned man knows his ignorance of what lies beyond. Quote from Robertson’s Commentary: “Shallow knowledge is like the depth of the mud hole, not of the crystal spring.”

Sometimes though... people just don’t get a clear signal; they see things differently from the truth =

Wife’s Diary:

Tonight, I thought my husband was acting weird. We had made plans to meet at a nice restaurant for dinner. I was shopping with my friends all day long, so I thought he was upset at the fact that I was a bit late, but he made no comment on it. Conversation wasn't flowing, so I suggested that we go somewhere quiet so we could talk. He agreed, but he didn't say much.

I asked him what was wrong; He said, 'Nothing.' I asked him if it was my fault that he was upset. He said he wasn't upset, that it had nothing to do with me, and not to worry about it. On the way home, I told him that I loved him. He smiled slightly, and kept driving.

I can't explain his behavior I don't know why he didn't say, 'I love you, too.' When we got home, I felt as if I had lost him completely, as if he wanted nothing to do with me anymore. He just sat there quietly, and watched TV. He continued to seem distant and absent. Finally, with silence all around us, I decided to go to bed. About 15 minutes later, he came to bed. But I still felt that he was distracted, and his thoughts were somewhere else. He fell asleep - I cried. I don't know what to do. I'm almost sure that his thoughts are with someone else. My life is a disaster.

Husband's Diary:

Boat wouldn't start, can't figure it out.

Let us look at the subject, “Some People Just Don’t Get It...” Someone said, “*Regardless of what happens, there's always someone who knew it would!*”

I. Sin Is More Deadly – than people think - **James 1:14-15** “But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.” You can't flirt with sin and remain unaffected, like the measles it spreads.

A. Scar our Conscience – **Psalms 51:3** “For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.” Be careful that you don’t stop caring for things that really matter! A city fellow came to a fork in the road. An old farmer was standing in a field nearby. “Hey, old-timer,” shouted the man, “does it make any difference which road I take?” The old man answered, “Not to me, it don't.”

B. Spot our Character - others will lose confidence in you.

C. Silence our Communion with God – Psalms 66:18 “If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.”

II. Satan Is More Deceptive – than people think - GOD SAID: **Genesis 2:17** “But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.” SATAN SAID TO EVE: **Genesis 3:4** “And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:”

A. Satan is a False Prophet that Deceives – II Corinthians 11:13-15.

B. Satan is a Thief that Robs – Joy, Peace, Usefulness

C. Satan is a Devil that Damns – For the sinner, he has one thing in mind, that is to keep them lost and headed for HELL; For the Saved Child of God, he will tempt, trip, torment, and anything else to keep him from being faithful to the Lord.

III. Sorrows Of Hell Are More Unbearable – than people think - **Luke 16** and the “rich man.”

A. What He Saw – Father Abraham, Flames of hell, Fierce, unrelenting torment.

B. What He Said – Tormented in the flame; Torn over family in need of the Savior

C. What He Suffered – Agonizing thirst; Agonizing memory; Agonizing rejection. The “rich man” became the poor man = the story of a peasant who was offered all the land he could walk around in a day. So the man started, hurrying to get around as fast as possible. But the exertion he put forth was so great that he fell dead just as he got back to where he started. He ended up with nothing. His desire for possession was greater than his desire to live. It is sad when "to have" is more important than "to be." The peasant's desire to have something cost him everything. The poorest man in the world is the one who is always wanting more than he has.

IV. Second Coming Is More Closer – than you think - **I Thess. 5:1-2; Titus 2:13.**

A. Are you in? Are you sure? During W.W. II, Helmut Thielicke was pastor in Stuttgart, Germany. The city was practically destroyed from constant bombing. One morning, Thielicke stood in combat boots and military fatigues in front of a gaping hole. A cellar, which had sustained a direct hit, was totally devastated. 20 men had been seeking shelter in that cellar when it was destroyed. A woman approached him and asked, “Are you Pastor Thielicke?” He said, “yes.” she continued, “My husband was down there last night. All they found was his cap. But I want you to know that we heard you preach often. And I want to thank you for getting him ready for eternity.” No one is guaranteed tomorrow, this side of eternity. Death may come, or Christ may come. In either case, we must be ready