RESPECT FOR SCRIPTURE

Of the law of Moses Jesus said:

Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and
shall teach men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven: but
whosoever shall do and teach them, he shall be called great in the
kingdom of heaven” (Mat. 5:19).

If the Lord's displeasure was clearly upon those who would break even the least com-
mmand of the inferior covenant (which was soon to pass away), how much more shall His
wrath be upon those who disrespect the superior covenant of Calvary?

The inspired writer makes this very argument in Hebrews 2:2-3:

For if the word spoken through angels proved stedfast, and every
transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward;

how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?

Unmistakably, the Lord's approval is only upon those who faithfully obey and teach His
Word. No less unmistakably, His wrath is upon those who treat His Word with disdain
and disrespect. There really is no other criterion for measuring faithfulness to Christ:
"He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my sayings, hath one that judgeth him: the
word that I spake, the same shall judge him in the last day" (John 12:48). Show me a
man who is flippant, careless, superior, and disdainful in his attitude toward the Sacred
Page, and I will show you a man possessed of the same attitudes toward its Divine
Author, regardless of his claims to the contrary.

How strange that we have come to the day when God's Word is hardly even
considered before some new program is launched, some new gimmick is adopted, or
even some new doctrine is taught among the people of God. We should not be 
surprised that secular, atheistic, humanistic, and hedonistic worldlings despise God's Word. They always have and always will. The amazement almost overcomes us when 
those among the people of God disdain the Holy Book.

In a day when many brethren falsely charge those who are set for the defense of the Gospel with "bibliolatry" (worshiping the Bible), we take refuge in the Lord's own 
unblushing respect for the written Word. Every word He ever said concerning or quoted 
from the inspired writers, whether in the law, the prophets, or the psalms (Luke 24:44) 
demonstrated His absolute confidence in the Sacred Text, including the accounts of 
creation, Jonah and the great fish, the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, and Moses 
and the burning bush, all of which modernist theologians and other assorted infidels so 
enjoy classifying as “myths” and “legends.”

Faithfulness to God absolutely demands such confidence in His Word. When one 
surrenders undaunted faith in the Holy Word, he has surrendered confidence in all that 
really matters. "To the law and to the testimony," is the consistent cry of God's faithful 
people.

—Dub McClish
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