

Everyone Has An Opinion

“That’s just your opinion, and everybody has an opinion.” Have you ever heard anyone say that or something like it? Perhaps even you? It seems to be said more often regarding to the Bible than anything else. It is true that there are myriad opinions which circulate in the religious world of our day, resulting for many in bewildered confusion, abject apathy, rejection of any objective standard for truth or a rigid, obstinate refusal to reason regardless of the evidence presented. It’s no wonder that “church” has become “pot luck,” an “everyone bring your own” type of affair. It may seem that churches are hopelessly divided, but there remains that which we can do to keep from contributing to the problem: *“Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Prove yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?--unless indeed you are disqualified?”* (2 Cor. 13:5; cf. 1 Cor. 4:6; Col. 2:6-10). The only infallible standard by which to examine ourselves, and formulate our opinions remains the Bible.

In spite of the value that we each place upon our own opinions, not all opinions are equal. In Elijah’s trial of the false prophets: *“And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.”* (1 Kings 18:21). Further reading reveals simply that the difference between the “two opinions” was that one was wrong and one was right. Those who base their opinions upon a faithful, diligent study of God’s word have the only valid, defensible position and convictions arising from that study will be well grounded in truth. To contribute to the cure, rather than to the disease let us each determine to accept God’s word as final.

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