

Without Controversy

1 Timothy 3:16 King James Version

INTRODUCTION: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE HAVE TO SAY?

There are many subjects today that are controversial.

The word “controversy” means to argue or debate or disagree with something.

- ✓ The most controversial of all topics is religion to the point where it divides nations and people even of the same country or nation.

But when people get to engage in conversation with each other it is inevitable that a controversial subject will become part of the subject matter in their conversation that they will raise.

✚ In the days we are living everything seems to be a topic for discussion.

This is no different to what we read in the Bible (KJV) about the subject of our Lord and Saviour. Yet God is the author of the only truth, whether people would want to believe that or not.

The controversy today is as it was yesterday and for the last few thousand years back to the Book of Genesis and has not changed with regards to religion.

Although there are still several religions that look to the Old Testament or parts of the Old Testament none of them agree with each other on every doctrine mentioned.

- ✚ The word “controversy” is referred to 12 times in the Bible (KJV) 11 of which are in the Old Testament and 1 mention in the New Testament
- ✚ Every time it is mentioned it speaks about an argument or a disagreement as we can see in one such scripture of Deuteronomy 19:17.

Deuteronomy 19:17 (KJV)

Then both the men, between whom the **controversy** is, shall stand before the LORD, before the priests and the judges, which shall be in those days;

1. In this instance the two men are told to bring such matters before the LORD and the priests and the judges.
2. So, we can see that controversy is when both sides who argue the issue always think that they are right.
3. But what does the bible say.....”**But stand before the LORD**” and to take it before the priests and the judges.

✚ This to a point is the same as in the courtrooms where the people would lay their left hand upon the bible, the “Word of the Lord” and raise their right hand and utter an oath to tell the truth and nothing but the truth, and end with the oath “so help me God”.

- ✓ Whether this is still been cited in the courtrooms of the world today is for another message.
 - ✓ But the point is one of **controversy** which needs to be settled.
 - ✚ Man is not capable in his own capacity of telling the whole truth because of his sinful nature, and that is why truth can only come from God.
 - ❖ The bible tells us that God's Word is the truth.
1. **So if God's word is truth then it can be "the only source from which all truth flows"**
 2. **Then by all other definitions which go against what God says must be a lie.**

Both the Old Testament and the New Testament is God's Word and testifies of the completed Word of the Lord God.

John 17:17 Sanctify them through **thy truth: thy word is truth.**

1 Kings 17:24 And the woman said to Elijah, Now by this I know that thou art a man of God, and that **the word of the LORD in thy mouth is truth.**

1. It is therefore impossible for God to lie.
2. So that is why the Lord can make the following statement from His Word and that is why He does not have to explain Himself or give a reason for His statement.
3. Because every Word of God is True.

This is the Statement God made.

1 Timothy 3:16 (KJV)

And **without controversy** great is **the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

- ✚ There is a lot mentioned in this verse which reveals who Jesus Christ is.
 - ✚ First this verse tells us that there is no controversial explanation necessary because this is a statement declared by God.
 - ✚ This is not some Rabbi or Priest that needs to explain himself. This is God making an unequivocal statement of His Nature.
1. There cannot be an argument against this statement.
 2. It is without controversy.
 3. You cannot deny that this mystery was not mentioned before in the Old Testament?
 4. You cannot deny that this is speaking about Jesus because God was manifest" in the flesh, just as John 1:14 tells us.
 5. You cannot deny that Jesus is therefore God.

The definition of the word "Manifest" means to be "Made known".

1. This definition can be easily seen as the bible uses it in 50 verses defining its meaning for itself.
 2. The bible is also its own dictionary and its own concordance, and we don't have to resort to a dictionary to understand any word in the bible. (KJV)
 - ✚ For those who are skeptics like the religions of Islam and even the Jehovah's false witnesses who don't believe that Jesus is God.
 - ✚ They both will say show me in the bible where Jesus says "I am God Worship me"?
 - ✚ Don't be fooled or overtaken by such comments designed to throw you into the deep end of the swimming pool to see if you can swim.. But respond to those skeptics by taking them to **1Timothy 3:16** in the (KJV) Bible only because the modern bible versions don't have this verse details so you will drown if you go to those bibles.
- ✓ **The only God that can save any person is Jesus Christ the Son.**
 - ✓ **The only way to heaven is through Jesus. And the reason he can save you is because he is God, and equal to His Father.**
- ✚ **Remember God does not send people to hell; because they are on their way there already as a fallen and unbelieving born sinner.**
 - ✚ **So, unless they believe in Jesus Christ for their salvation their destiny of hell is already waiting for them.**
1. So, don't let anyone say to you "How can a loving God send anyone to Hell"?
 2. Well, the truth of the matter is they are sending themselves there.
 3. Their course is already determined if they have not believed (John 3:18). (KJV)

John 3:18 King James Version

¹⁸ He that believeth on him is not condemned: but **he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.**

4. **The message is simple, but the message is clear from God.**
 - ✓ When the scripture speaks about the prophets it's always referring to the Old Testament scriptures.
 - ✓ And when Scriptures speaks about the Apostles it's always about the New Testament.
 - ✓ So, Romans 16:26 is referring to the Old Testament Prophets saying that as it was recorded in the Old Testament scriptures Jesus was now manifested or made known. Both words are used in the same sentence again defining for us what manifest means.

Romans 16:26

But now is made **manifest**, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, **made known** to all nations for the obedience of faith:

- ✓ So, when you go back to the verse of 1 Timothy 3:16 and insert the definition of the word manifest the verse will speak for itself, and the fool that has said in His heart that there is no God should tremble at this verse.

 **God was manifest in the flesh – means God was Made known in the flesh.**


1 Timothy 3:16

And **without controversy** great is **the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

1. The mystery of who Jesus was did not get revealed by God until such time as the NT revelations.
2. Many scriptures tell us that this mystery was kept secret from the beginning of the world which goes to show also that God is all knowing and had a plan for redemption.

 **In Ephesians 3 we can read about the mystery of Jesus from the beginning.**

 **The mystery is that Jesus Christ was from before the beginning of the World.**

 **The mystery is that Jesus Christ has been hid in God, who created all things just as John 1:1-6 tells us.**

 **Ephesians 3 tells us the story in reality.**

Ephesians 3:9

And to make all men see **what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:**

1. The fellowship of the mystery was to be what 1 Timothy 3:16 explains, and that is that God's Son would one day be manifest in the flesh as explained by Luke 1.

Colossians 1:26

Even the **mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations**, but now is made manifest to his saints:

1 Corinthians 2:7

But we speak the wisdom of God in a **mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:**

 **The mystery is finally revealed by the angel Gabriel in Luke 1.**

Luke 1:26-33 King James Version

²⁶ And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, ²⁷ To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

28 And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.

29 And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.

31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

1. So strong is the argument of 1 Timothy 3:16 for the existence of Jesus Christ being God, but for what cause has it been deleted from the text of the modern bible versions.
2. It is because the scripture said....."Without Controversy"
3. Because it cannot be argued against.....so they just remove it entirely?
4. Ask yourself why is that?

What about another scripture 1 John 5:7 which speaks of the deity of Jesus that has been removed also from the modern bible versions.

1 John 5:7 King James Version

7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

- ✚ Ask yourself why has this verse been removed from the modern bible versions like the NIV, when this verse clearly explains beautifully who Jesus is and the Father is and the Holy spirit is. And tells is that these three are one?
 - ✚ Why has it been deleted?
 - ✚ With simple logic, how can a modern bible version be better or more superior, or easier to read if the text has been removed or butchered?
- ✓ Why would a bible delete many more references to the deity of Jesus?

This is why.

Matthew 13:19

When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, **then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart.** This is he which received seed by the way side.

- ✓ How can you hear and understand the word of the kingdom when it's not the true word of the kingdom?
 - ✓ Matthew 13:19 says that because they understood not the word of the kingdom then cometh the wicked one and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart.
 - ✓ People's faith is weakened if they do not have the proper word of God in their hearts and hands.
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- How can you believe something from the modern bibles which later you find out was not true?
 - What does that do to the faith of a man if later he is deceived by the wrong word of God which he always thought was true.

All I can say is friend please look for the pure Word of God.

Let not your heart be deceived by man's controversial wisdom.

5. Modern bible versions create uncertainty in the minds of the readers as to the existence of Jesus claiming Himself to be God.

I will close with this inspirational verse from Joshua and his family in the Old testament.

Joshua 24:15

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

I trust we will all have a blessed week.

PRAYER.....CLOSE