

The Spirit Of The Message Pt4

The Benefit Of The Doubt

GENESIS 13:6-9

6. *And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together: for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together.*
7. *And there was a strife between the herdmen of Abram's cattle and the herdmen of Lot's cattle: and the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelled then in the land.*
8. *And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren.*
9. *Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.*

FAITH [56-0815]

But brother, what did Abraham do? They started fussing, so Abraham said, "Now, Lot, before we have any quarrels between us, you separate yourself from me and I from you. Now, you look any way you want to. You take your choice." That's the way a Christian does, giving them benefit of the doubt. "Take your choice. You go east; I'll go west. You go north; I'll go south. Well, I give you **the benefit of the doubt.**"

JEHOVAH JIREH [57-0810]

And now notice, and with Lot being what we would call, today, a borderline believer, one of these here lukewarm. When Abraham being a real representative of Christianity, he said, "You take your choice of which side of the land you want." **A Christian will always give you the benefit of the doubt.**

I TIMOTHY 5:21

21. *I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things **without [preferring] one before another**, doing nothing by partiality.*

GREEK LEXICON - STRONG'S NUMBER 4299

prokrima {prok'-ree-mah}

1) *an opinion formed before the facts are known, a pre-judgement, a prejudice*

JAMES 3:16-17

16. *For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.*
17. *But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, **without partiality, and without hypocrisy.***

RESPECTS [61-1015E]

“He never wrote the book at all. And if the man never checked upon his article any closer than that, I doubt that the rest that he’s ever said about Brother Allen is the truth.” Taking up for Brother Allen... And I said, “Besides, if Brother Allen would be wrong, I’d rather be found at the judgment bar taking my stand with Brother Allen in the wrong, when he’s trying to win souls to Christ, than to be criticizing what the man’s trying to do.”

BE NOT AFRAID, IT IS I [61-0123]

If you get a spirit in you, you’re better than someone else, then--then you’re worse than anybody else that I know of.

FROM THAT TIME [61-0415B]

And listen, **I would rather be Scripturally wrong, and have the right kind of a spirit, than be Scripturally right and have the wrong kind of spirit.**

THE GODHEAD EXPLAINED [61-0425B]

...**as long as you fuss, you’re both wrong** (See?), because **I would rather be wrong in my doctrine and right in my heart, than to be right in my doctrine and wrong in my heart.**” See? I said, “After all, **it’s your heart’s condition.**”

And I made that a practice to know this, that if a man, no matter what he does and how much he differens, and what he says about me, if in my heart, not from just a duty, but from my heart I can’t love that man as well as I love anyone else, then I know **there’s something wrong in here.**

THE GODHEAD EXPLAINED [61-0425B]

The Oneness church, seventy-two churches sponsoring my meeting, and I put Brother Petty, the Assembly of God brother up on the platform that night. Now, you know that’s true. He’s a precious brother. Brother Petty, if any of you know him, from Beaumont, Texas. He’s one of the finest man I ever met. His wife is a converted Catholic, a real sainted woman. He’s a real man of God. Tell me who’s a finer man than Roy Weed of the Assemblies of God. Mention any of these men. Look here all these brothers I know around here: Brother... From the Philadelphian church here, and the Assemblies of God men, and... Who’s any finer people? Tell me where... Tell me who’s a finer man than Jack Moore? Tell me that. He’s a, what they call... They belong to them... He’s not a radical. **You find radical on both sides, and that’s where the people point, and that’s where the devil points. But they’re all men of God; God’s give them the Holy Ghost.** If it wasn’t for the grace of God, we’d all be gone with our fusses and things. That’s exactly right. But the grace of God binds us together.

GETTING IN THE SPIRIT [61-0428]

You'll never do it, separating yourself from other brothers. You've got to come back, and we got to be one. I don't care if the man's wrong. If he's wrong and sincere in his heart and you're right in your belief and--and you're wrong in the--acting the way you're acting. **I'd rather be in his place than be in yours.** That's right.

I'd rather be wrong in my doctrine and right in my heart. God will respect it more. **So if a man is wrong, what of it? Help him.** He needs help. Love him. If you can't love your enemy the same as you love those who love you, you're no better off than the publicans. That's right. That's what the Church has failed to get. **I hope you get it tonight. I hope you see what I'm talking about.**

THE GREAT COMMISSION [58-0301B]

If the devil can keep us separated, he--he's got us shooting at one another, so he--he--he's got a open target anywhere he wants to shoot. And what's the use of shooting, we're shooting one another? See, see? So he can just set back and relax.

But did you ever... Let me just give you... If I have found grace in your sight through God, you take my word for this, brethren. If you want to be a blessing, and get a blessing, when a man has done you wrong, and he has absolutely justly, he... I mean he has done you wrong and you know that he's done you wrong; he's done you evil. **Don't mention that; you take him to prayer before God.** And don't take it in a way of just a selfish and say, "Well, I'm supposed to do this." But stand with your shoulder to his shoulder, and stand in the Presence of God our Father, way a prayer should be made in the Presence of God, say, "Father, here's my brother, and he--he is justly; he deserves punishment because he has--he's done me evil. And I don't see why he did it."

Then let God go to talking to you. And you'll see maybe, what that man's been through. The devil has twisted him up somewhere and caused him to do that. Though he's absolutely wrong, **before you leave the throne of God you'll be feeling sorry for that man. You'll be sympathizing with that brother.** And when you get back down to where--earth again, you'll go over to that brother and shake his hand, 'cause you know what he's been through. **You can't stand with a mortal in the Presence of God and condemn anybody,** I don't believe, no, sir, **even if he is a rank sinner.**

And what about a brother that has made a mistake? Though I say he's wrong. Sometimes he's accused wrong when he's not wrong. But if he is wrong, well, if we will take him to the throne of God, stand there shoulder-to-shoulder with our brother, knowing he's a mortal, and **maybe his destination rests upon our attitude towards him,** when we come back from the throne of God, we'll realize that **we're every one guilty, and we all need help one from the other. And the best way to do is pray.**