

The Formulating of an Opinion: By Pastor Anthony Higginson 10/10/10

Introduction

Last time I spoke, we covered the concept of how powerfully destructive the opinions of men can be towards the things of God. God has given each of us intelligence, along with giving each of us a brain and a free will. Taking all that into consideration, you would then think you were entitled to your own opinion. Let me take this opportunity to build a **key principle** into your head, heart and spirit, so as to guide you in the rules of you interpreting things that don't actually mean what you want them to mean. What God has spoken, time and time again, through His word, is not open for discussion, nor is it open for you to make your opinion about. God's word and truth is always higher than any opinion you may have. **Truth is higher than facts**, as facts are not always based on truth but based on information and data collected. God will not allow His truth to be reduced, minimised, shrunk or compromised and why - because His ways and His thoughts, His reasons, His intent is much higher than yours or mine.

Isaiah 64:8 *Yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.*

Isaiah 29:16 *You turn things upside down, as if the potter were thought to be like the clay! Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, "He did not make me"? Can the pot say of the potter, "He knows nothing"?*

The anatomy of forming an opinion

1 **Stage One: Truth** is initially spoken out, taught and shared, whether it be doctrine, prophetic insight or principle.

2 **Stage Two: From this truth people then begin to waver**, potentially causing people to go to and fro in their thinking. The result of this wavering produces doubt and unbelief. **1 Kings 18:21**

3 **Stage Three: Opinions:** When doubt and unbelief form in the minds and hearts of people, doctrinal philosophical stances are then taken.

4 **Stage Four:** When doctrine and philosophical opinions have been formed segregation develops. This is where sides are taken and now opposing groups are formed.

5 **Stage Five:** When segregation develops defences and stances are formed. This is where a battle of proving one's doctrinal opinion blinds people, bringing about a derailing from pursuing the real purpose of God for their lives - in essence the main thing no longer becomes the main thing.

6 **Stage Six:** When defences are formed, people create a new position for themselves, hailing themselves as being defenders of the faith. These are people who, whenever a new move of God takes place, their opinion is the only one that they want to count and because of this, they make it their aim to defend what they see as being the truth. They write, shout and publicly malign anyone and everything good about what God is doing. Nine times out of ten these people tend not to be spirit-shunning everyone who moves in any kind of spiritual gift.

7 **Stage Seven:** When people see themselves as being the defender of the faith, making their opinion the highest, God Himself hands them over to their own opinion, which is another translation for their **own delusion.**

The dictionary describes the word opinion as

- 1 Judgement or belief not founded on certainty or proof.
- 2 A point open to question.
- 3 The prevailing or popular feeling or view or public opinion.

2 Thessalonians 2:10-12 *In every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.*

Isaiah 44:20 *He feeds on ashes, a deluded heart misleads him; he cannot save himself, or say, "Is not this thing in my right hand a lie?"*

Romans 1:24-28 *Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshipped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen. Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion. Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done.*