

A Word About Words

Revelation 20:6 [New King James] *“Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.”*

Christians who are part of the first resurrection will reign with Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 6:2-3 [New King James] *“Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world will be judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life?”*

Part of the rulership with Jesus Christ will be making judgements.

Every judge today has spent many years of in-depth learning and experience before being appointed as a judge.

Even to enter the legal profession involves years of undergraduate study followed by at least three years of intensive training in a law school.

After this comes years of experience in legal practice.

But to reach the position of a judge also includes a certain amount of character, including discretion, being a way of life.

How easy it would be to waste all these precious years of training and experience with a careless word or phrase.

Judges do not rise to their office by being careless with their speech and writing.

Being precise with words is paramount in the legal profession.

Jesus Christ, as living head of the true Christian Church, [Ephesians 1:22; Ephesians 4:15; Colossians 1:18], and King of kings, [Revelation 19:11-16], tells us we will have to give account for every word we speak, [Matthew 12:36-37].

Quote from journalism text book –

“There is no such thing as a meaningless word.”

This is every word has meaning, although it may **not** have the meaning that was intended, to those who hear or read what is said or written.

While we are personally responsible for what we say or write, many unfortunately take it upon themselves to not only judge what was said, but also why something was said.

Such people divert their attention from what was meant and perhaps unknowingly falsely impute motives.

Further misunderstanding results when these faulty thoughts are discussed with other people.

In such conversations common phrases are – *“this is why so-and-so said that”* or *“he’s doing this because there is something in it for him, you can be sure.”*

Such actions can damage reputations and disrupt unity in a group of people.

We need to remember who is behind false rumours, Satan the devil, [Revelation 12:10] and the “father of lies” [John 8:44].

Do not allow Satan to use us as one of his tools to destroy humanity.

Romans 2:1-3 [New King James] *“Therefore you are inexcusable, O man, whoever you are who judge, for in whatever you judge another you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. But we know that the judgment of God is according to truth against those who practice such things. And do you think this, O man, you who judge those practicing such things, and doing the same, that you will escape the judgment of God?”*

It is a dangerous thing to judge another person’s motives behind what they say. For only God knows the truth about a person’s motives, [Psalms 139:1-16].

This misunderstanding is not exclusive to our present society!

2 Peter 3:16 [New King James] *“as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.”*

Many people **assume** that Peter is saying that Paul’s writings were hard to understand, **and conclude that Paul confused certain doctrines through his writings.**

So people then say to others, *“Peter couldn’t understand Paul’s writings and I cannot either.”*

What Peter meant is that some of the topics that Paul wrote about are difficult to understand, not his writing. God used Paul to explain and authoritatively declare complex theology, particularly how God’s law works within God’s Church.

Yet even in Paul’s day his writings were twisted by others, by attaching wrong meanings to his epistles.

I think that the J.B. Phillips translation renders the meaning clearly –

“There are, of course, some things in Paul’s letters which are difficult to understand, and which, unhappily, ill-informed and unbalanced people distort.”

This was not the only distortion Paul had to deal with.

Paul had to correct the Corinthian Church for imputing motives and judging his behaviour.

2 Corinthians 10:10 [New King James] *“‘For his letters,’ they say, ‘are weighty and powerful, but his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible.’”*

Paul answered this in **verse 11**, that they would really find out what he was like when he arrived to visit them.

Philippians 2:14 [New King James] *“Do all things without complaining and disputing,”*

As true Christians we need to stop “second guessing” and trying to judge what someone actually meant, what their motive was.

Acts 9:15 [New King James] *“But the Lord said to him, ‘Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel.’”*

Jesus Christ personally commissioned Paul to deliver the gospel message, do not waste time and energy finding fault with Paul’s writing.

Where our energy should be focussed is examining our attitudes, not “*second guessing*” and trying to judge the motives behind what a person may say or write.

Only the Creator God knows what truly motivates a person, [**1 Samuel 16:7**]. Let us believe the best about people, remember that **only** God has the ability to judge any person justly, because of who He is and what He is.

In our preparation to work with Jesus Christ after His Second Coming, let us use our time wisely, studying and meditating on God’s Word, the Christian Bible.

Crying out to God daily that the active Holy Spirit in us will lead us into all truths, [John 16:13].

The standard by which every judgement we make in the future, under the supervision of Jesus Christ, will be God’s Word, the Christian Bible, [**Revelation 20:11-13**].

We need now to learn to use the Christian Bible in our daily judgements of **our life** on a day-to-day basis.

This website seeks to help you to do this.