



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

Sunday – December 4, 2011

## ***Heart to Heart...***

Predictions, predictions, predictions. They are all around us. It seems there are those who run around with some type of doomsday prediction. Some lack credibility but some make predictions from a more plausible source. For instance: "A respected medical journal reports that..." or "One of the nation's leading scientists says that..." or a man/woman with many letters after their name has some startling stat that leads to predictions. How can we know what is really believable?

This problem has existed from centuries gone by. In the Old Testament there were prophets that would predict something from God as if God had spoken to them as a fact. They were false but claimed to be relaying God's message for man. God warned His people of such! In fact, God gave a simple way to determine whether a man calling himself a prophet could be trusted or not. If what they predicted occurred, they are true. If their prophesy failed, they were false (Deuteronomy 18:15-22).

Today we have many modern prophets and religious figures that claim they know the future. Some twist of Scripture here or making Old Testament prophecy come alive by some mathematical numbering system and there they have it. Throw in a little Revelation on top of it and you have people spell-bound and captivated! We have those running around about claims to miracle cures, health scares, our economy, the environment and the list goes forward. How can we know anything for sure?

The principle that God had Israel try the predictors is a good principle for us too. How many times do we hear over and over the end of time prediction and put it with a specific date? Yet they have been proved wrong over and over, yet people still follow their teachings and buy their books. It's a great tool of the devil because it makes people immune to the fact that Jesus is coming back. People claim something is backed up by research and that too gets our attention.

The answer always lay in God's word. Too many are getting caught up in all this prediction stuff that they simply don't read God's word anymore. They allow the predictors to shape their thinking instead of God. People just don't know their Bibles and sometimes they are us, the church! The scientists have told us that our world is coming to an end by either freezing to death or by a change in ocean currents caused by melting icecaps. It's all part of the global-warming theory! What if we knew our Bibles? Could we have more assurances? "***While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night, shall not cease.***" (Genesis 8:22) God said that as a promise to Noah!

We need to stop allowing all the predictions about things to take us away from sound thinking in the Lord. We need to allow the word of God to mold our thinking. Too many are allowing man to mold their thinking and see if they can fit the word of God into that mind-set! That's backwards! We need clear direction from God and allow His word to guide us so we don't have to live our lives in fear of *modern-day false prophets!* Think about it!!!

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