



## How to Be Filled with the Knowledge of His Will: Intro: The Problem of Theologically Confused Clergy; The Bible on How to Teach the Bible, Isa 33:6; 28:7-8

### How to Be Filled with the Knowledge of His Will

#### A. Introduction:

Paul speaks in Romans of those who professing to be wise became fools. This is a horrid indictment even for an unbeliever but it is a tragedy for a believer. Yet today we observe those who give no pause to wear the vestments of the clergy or to bask in the prestige of ecclesiastical title defile the very office to which we must assume they were appointed by the grace of God.

There is no greater example of hypocrisy than the men, and yes even women, who, with the false-confidence provided by too many seminary degrees, parade about in the media as authorities on the Bible. A layman may be forgiven for his ignorance for he is dependent upon the instruction of the clergy to acquire knowledge of God's will. But the person who holds the office and possesses the credentials should be ashamed to go out in public and present a confused message, wrought with human viewpoint, which promotes evil. However, they are not.

Such ones as these who hold the authority to mount pulpits are the catalysts for the downfall of this country. The United States is a client nation and as such is dependent upon divine protection under the principle that Jesus Christ controls history. We have seen numerous examples of this principle in our current study of the Kings of Israel and Judah.

When the spiritual life of the client nation is compromised by the failure of the priesthood to do its duty then the people perish. The sinful nature is in league with the desires of Lucifer and they form an alliance that consistently attacks the souls of men. The person who is without knowledge of God and His will is an easy mark for satanic propaganda communicated through those whose duty is to teach the truth but are instead neutralized by the sinful nature's propensity to compromise the truth.

There is no question that there are wonderful exceptions throughout the land. They are few. This is an evident fact when the Protestant pastors and leaders of Christian organizations agree to speak on theological subjects through the national media. Their confusion is legion. They do not understand the Bible or how it is constructed let alone what the will of God is.

On rare occasions there are a few who have the temerity to stand up and speak the truth. But today the truth is in such stark contrast with prevailing public opinion that the progressive hue and cry shouts down the messenger and after having discredited him personally assigns him and his message to the dustbin of wide-eyed theologians described as "fundamentalist-wacko, religious-right, nut cases."

In order to restore their public image and regain some sliver of respect by the masses the miscreant preacher reinterprets or redacts his message, apologizes for his narrow-minded lapse of propriety, and agrees to adjust his views in accordance with those of the anointed.

The problem that has thus developed in client nation America is that the "prophets have been killed" through intimidation and fear while the "altars have been torn down" by discrediting the Bible's divine message.

Consequently, The People have a dim view of the Bible, Bible study, Bible doctrine, and doctrinal pastors who insist that these things are the *sine qua non* of the Christian way of life. Not wanting to be associated with churches that stress the Bible over other aspects of worship, some legitimate, some not, they seek out an environment that will allow them to play Christianity.



God is not going to promote or protect those who feel close to Him or who are motivated by emotion. God promotes and protects those who hunger and thirst for the Word. It was God's desire to make Himself known to the human race and it is apparent that He has done so thorough Scripture. Any system that attempts to give advice on how the believer should live his life but does not place top priority on Scripture as its major reference is flawed by human viewpoint at best and evil at worst.

If congregations continue to furnish their churches with pulpits then they are honor bound to use them; not for brass bands, not for large choirs, not for self-promoting soloists, not for some razzle-dazzle, flimflam flummox but for the instruction of Bible doctrine.

That this church is not popular among the masses is a testimony to the veracity of its message. The People are not of a disposition to become serious students of the Word of God. Instead they lust for a cave in which to hide from the realities of society's raveling moral fabric that makes it uncomfortable for them to participate in the ever-darkening public weal. Church therefore becomes a place where one no longer learns to resolve the exigencies of life from divine viewpoint but rather to avoid them through sublimation. Unbelievers take drink and drugs, the emotion-driven Christian get worked-up on music and works. The lust for a cheap rush is so great that popular "praise" music starts out at fortissimo and then builds a relentless crescendo from there until emotional fatigue finally puts a stop to it all.

From the current cacophony comes the idea that Christian maturity is achieved by doing things, being active, helping around the church, being emotional, and listening to Christian radio. These things may or may not be a part of the execution of the spiritual life but none of them contribute to spiritual growth. Further, a believer's ability to determine whether these things are meaningful or meaningless is dependent upon consistent instruction from the Bible by a prepared pastor who is not afraid to teach doctrine.

But unfortunately most pastors are afraid to stress Bible study from the pulpit because The People want to be entertained. They are lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God. The few who want to search the Scripture are asked to teach Sunday School. Consequently, the pastor forfeits his teaching authority to both men and women who are without the gift of pastor-teacher and by doing so turns the souls of his parishioners over to amateurs.

But who gets criticized? Pastors who use a system of biblical analysis that is in some way or fashion taught among the various seminaries of this nation. All those who graduate seminary have been taught some form of biblical analysis. Precious few of them have the courage to then go out and teach their congregations using that system.

Why? Because not enough people have interest in serious Bible study and thus church attendance would shrivel, donations would shrink, and the mortgage on the First Six-Flags Church of the Holy Tabernacle would go into arrears.

Therefore, the system by which pastors should teach their congregations will be our subject for awhile so that you can understand why it is so important that I remain loyal to the system I was taught and so that you can become a front-ranker in the scrum of the angelic conflict.

In this way you will be prepared to defend our system of communication and I will be able to protect the altar of biblical truth. Here goes:

## **B. The Bible on How to Teach the Bible**

- 1- The Prophet Isaiah was commissioned by God to warn the Jews of their failure as a client nation and the need for them to return to the spiritual life of their dispensation.



- 2- His prophecies in Isaiah 28 are directed toward both the Northern and Southern Kingdoms and warn of impending invasions by the Assyrian Empire. These prophecies were fulfilled by the fifth cycle of discipline administered to Israel in 721 B.C. and the threat of it to Judah in 701 B.C.

- 3- Isaiah states a critical principle in:

**Isaiah 33:6** - The stability provided by the Lord in your times is made possible by wisdom and knowledge; by these shall be the wealth of your deliverance.

- 4- In his prophecy in Isaiah 28, Isaiah first of all indicates how God's protective wisdom and knowledge is not to be acquired:

**Isaiah 28:7** - These also through wine have erred, reeling! Through strong drink have, staggering, strayed! Through strong drink have erred both priest and prophet, the wine they have swallowed has swallowed up them! Through strong drink they have strayed as they staggered, have reeled even when seeing a vision! Have staggered, pronouncing a judgment!

**v. 8** - All tables are filled with their vomit—vile filth! Not a spot can be found that is cleanly.

This passage is metaphorical and receives an excellent synopsis from:

**Jennings, F. C. *Studies in Isaiah*. (New York: Loizeaux Brothers, n.d.), 330-31:**

The people have walked in the same path of uncontrolled self-pleasing, termed "drunkenness." But even the "priests and prophets" are swallowed up of the very wine that they have swallowed—for thus it literally reads. This we may interpret as, intoxicated with the falsehood they preach, they have imbibed baseless hopes, and the false merriment these hopes give is like that due to excess of wine. They have even received their inspiration for visions as prophets, or for giving judicial decisions that demanded the most sober discrimination from this intoxication; not a spot can be found not defiled with their filth!

The intoxication that plagues American clergy is from imbibing the false doctrine that emerges from flawed theology, exegeting Scripture from the English, if at all, and the lust to accommodate the habits and fads of The People at the expense of biblical revelation.

The Gospel is under assault by denominations that profess limited atonement or require something beyond faith alone in Christ alone for salvation.

The authority of the pulpit is under assault by denominations that deemphasize Bible study, conjure doctrines that are gross distortions of clear passages, and adopt policies that appease special interest groups. Jennings continues:

But this [vv. 7-8] must most assuredly not be confined to literalism, even if it be taken literal at all. Rather does it bring before a proud self-satisfied people, what they are really like in the eye of God. They are as repulsive in their senseless pride, in their ill-timed pleasures, as drunkards who foul their own food! Alas, are we, as the present responsible witness for God upon the earth, any better? How repellent must it be to the Lord when He says of it, because of lukewarm self-complacency, "I will spue [sic] thee out of My mouth" (in Revelation 3:16).

The peoples of the divided kingdoms are distracted by religious syncretism that plagued them from the outset. Even though many of the compromised Israelites were believers they didn't have enough doctrine in their souls to afford any historical impact in their generation.