

Misinformed/Miseducation

▲ Mark 7:18-23.... 18 And he saith unto them, Are ye so without understanding⁸⁰¹ also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him; 19 Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats? 20 And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. 21 For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, 22 Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: 23 All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.

Romans 1:29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, 30 Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 Without understanding⁸⁰¹, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:

Romans 13:13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.

2Corinthians 12:20 For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, and that I shall be found unto you such as ye would not: lest there be debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults:

Galatians 5:19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies¹³⁹, 21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

2Timothy 3:2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, 4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; 5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

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“Also it is not good for a person to be without knowledge,
And he who hurries his footsteps errs.”
Proverbs 19:2 NASU

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Within the context of the New Testament, being without understanding refers to the absence of revelation on spiritual things. It is referred not only to people who refuse to hear the word, but to those who have not opened their minds to spiritual things in order to gain more understanding of God. In the Old Testament, especially in Proverbs, wisdom and understanding are viewed as the ability to acknowledge God’s word and making wise decisions. Of course, this is due to the carnal mind and the unwillingness to humble ourselves to the Spirit or word of God.

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In the extreme sense of Jesus’ statement to the disciples (Mark 7:18), there will always be something that we do not understand. Jesus was not speaking in the extreme sense. He was speaking about the basic things that believers should understand. There is always room for progressive revelation and understanding of Jesus Christ, but the main challenge to the Church is the lack of understanding of the basics. If we can grasp and apply the basics, then the Spirit and the word can build upon them. Jesus Christ is the foundation. He is the basis. When we understand His goals and general purpose for the Church, we will always grow in understanding.

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Mark 7:14-19

14 Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. *15* Nothing outside a man can make him 'unclean' by going into him. Rather, it is what comes out of a man that makes him 'unclean.'" *17* After he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about this parable. *18* "Are you so dull?" he asked. "Don't you see that nothing that enters a man from the outside can make him 'unclean'? *19* For it doesn't go into his heart but into his stomach, and then out of his body." (In saying this, Jesus declared all foods "clean.")

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1 Cor 1:18-26

18 For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. *19* For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. *20* Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? *21* For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. *22* For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: *23* But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; *24* But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. *25* Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men. *26* For ye

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see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:

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Proverbs 2:3-6

³ Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; ⁴ If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; ⁵ Then shalt thou understand the fear of the Lord, and find the knowledge of God. ⁶ For the Lord giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.

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Proverbs 9:4-6

⁴ Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither: as for him that wanteth understanding, she saith to him, ⁵ Come, eat of my bread, and drink of the wine which I have mingled, ⁶ Forsake the foolish, and live: and go in the way of understanding.

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Prov 10:13 On the lips of the discerning, wisdom is found, But a rod is for the back of him who lacks understanding.

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Prov 10:21 The lips of the righteous feed many, But fools die for lack of understanding.

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Prov 19:2 Also it is not good for a person to be without knowledge, And he who hurries his footsteps errs.

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Prov 28:5 Evil men do not understand justice, But those who seek the LORD understand all things.

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Tradition

Tradition is one of the things that cause us not to understand what God wants to reveal to us. When we use tradition as the foundation of our understanding, we will frustrate the grace of God¹.

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¹ "I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain," Galatians 2:21

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Matt 5:21-22, 27-28, 33-34, 38-39, 43-44

²¹ *Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment:*

²² *But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment.....*

²⁷ *Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery:*

²⁸ *But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.....*

³³ *Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths:*

³⁴ *But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne.....*

³⁸ *Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:*

³⁹ *But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil*

⁴³ *Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.*

⁴⁴ *But I say unto you, Love your enemies....*

Heresy

Heresies¹³⁹ are false teachings that divide the Church and cause people to deny the truth and therefore understanding. Here are s few of the biggest heresies that the early church faced.

2 Cor 11:3-6

³ *But I am afraid that, as the ^aserpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.*

⁴ *For if ¹one comes and preaches ^aanother Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a ^bdifferent spirit which you have not received, or a ^cdifferent gospel which you have not accepted, you ^dbear this ^ebeautifully. ⁵ For I consider myself ^anot in the least inferior to the ¹most eminent apostles.*

⁶ *But even if I am ^aunskilled in speech, yet I am not so in ^bknowledge; in fact, in every way we have ^cmade this evident to you in all things. (NASU)*

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Gal 1:6-7; 3:2-3

⁶ I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: ⁷ Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. ... ² This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? ³ Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?

Heb 5:10-11

¹⁰ Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec.¹¹ Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing.

1 John 4:1-3

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. ² Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: ³ And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

Feelings

The things that come to our mind are based on feelings. They can be based on truth or just our perspective. The word of God comes to break down empty thoughts based on human feeling.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5

⁴ (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds:); ⁵ Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Environment

The biggest teacher in our lives. In many ways, it controls our experiences in life. Our experiences in life help form us as individuals. The attributes of our character are many times evident of our environment. This is why Paul tells the believer to choose your

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company according to their deeds. Especially in the case of believers young in faith (pretty much every believer he ever wrote to).

1 Corinthians 15:33 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

2 Thessalonians 3:14-15 And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.

Personal Experience

So how do we come out of a state of misinformation.

Matt 13:10-17²

¹⁰ And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables? ¹¹ He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. ¹² For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath. ¹³ Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. ¹⁴ And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: ¹⁵ For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. ¹⁶ But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. ¹⁷ For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.

1 Corinthians 2:12-14

¹² Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. ¹³ Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. ¹⁴ But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

² Paul quotes this same scripture in Acts 28:25-27.

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Matt 15:12-14

¹² Then came his disciples, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying? ¹³ But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up. ¹⁴ Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.

2 Peter 1:4-9

⁴ Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. ⁵ And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; ⁶ And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; ⁷ And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. ⁸ For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

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Appendix F

HERESY

ai%resi\$

139 haireisis {hah'-ee-res-is}

from 138; TDNT - 1:180,27; n f

AV - sect 5, heresy 4; 9

1) act of taking, capture: e.g. storming a city 2) choosing, choice 3) that which is chosen 4) a body of men following their own tenets (sect or party) 4a) of the Sadducees 4b) of the Pharisees 4c) of the Christians 5) dissensions arising from diversity of opinions and aims

haireisis (ai%resi\$, NT:139) denotes (a) "a choosing, choice" (from haireomai, "to choose"); then, "that which is chosen," and hence, "an opinion," especially a self-willed opinion, which is substituted for submission to the power of truth, and leads to division and the formation of sects, Gal 5:20 (marg., "parties"); such erroneous opinions are frequently the outcome of personal preference or the prospect of advantage; see 2 Peter 2:1, where "destructive" (RV) signifies leading to ruin; some assign even this to (b); in the papyri the prevalent meaning is "choice" (Moulton and Milligan, Vocab.); (b) "a sect"; this secondary meaning, resulting from (a), is the dominating significance in the NT, Acts 5:17; 15:5; 24:5,14; 26:5; 28:22; "heresies" in 1 Cor 11:19 (see marg.). See SECT.

801 asunetos {as-oon'-ay-tos}

from 1 (as a negative particle) and 4908; TDNT - 7:888,1119; adj

AV - without understanding 3, foolish 2; 5

1) unintelligent, without understanding, stupid

UNDERSTANDING

a)su/neto\$

Adjective

asunetos (a)su/neto\$, NT:801), "without understanding or discernment" (a, negative, sunetos, "intelligent, understanding"), is translated "without understanding" in Matt 15:16; Mark 7:18; Rom 1:31; 10:19, RV, "void of understanding" (KJV, "foolish"); in Rom 1:21, RV, "senseless" (KJV, "foolish").

Note: In 1 Cor 14:20, KJV, phren, "the mind," is translated "understanding" (twice), RV, "mind."

NT:801† a)su/neto\$, 2 asynetos without understanding*

The term appears in Jesus' question to the disciples in Mark 7:18 par. Matt 15:16: "Are you also without understanding?" It occurs also in Rom 1:21 (of the heart); 1:31 together with ® a)su/neto\$ in a vice catalog; and 10:19 (Deut 32:21), of "a people without understanding" (RSV "foolish nation"). H. Conzelmann, TDNT VII, 888f., 892-96.

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NT:801

32.49 NT:801! a)su/neto\$, on: pertaining to a lack of capacity for insight and understanding - 'without understanding, senseless, foolish.' kmh\n kai\ u(me=i=\$ a)su/netoi/ e)ste; 'are you still without understanding?' Matt 15:16; a)skoti/sqh h(a)su/neto\$ au)tw=n kardi/a 'their foolish hearts are filled with darkness' Rom 1:21. Care must be exercised in the rendering of a)su/neto\$ in Matt 15:16 and Rom 1:21, since a lack of capacity for understanding may result from mental deficiencies or from a lack of the proper use of mental capacity. It is, of course, this latter meaning which is involved in the use of a)su/neto\$ in these contexts.

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4. asunetos (a)su/neto\$, NT:801) denotes "without discernment," or "understanding" (a, negative, suniemi, "to understand"); hence "senseless," as in the RV of Rom 1:21 (KJV, "foolish"), of the heart; in 10:19, KJV, "foolish," RV, "void of understanding. See UNDERSTANDING.

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NT:801

NT:801 a)su/neto\$, a)su/neton, unintelligent, without understanding: Matt 15:16; Mark 7:18; stupid: Rom 1:21; 10:19. In imitation of the Hebrew |b*n*, ungodly (Wisdom 1:5; Ecclus 15:7 (cf. a)sune/tein, Ps 118:158, (119:158))), because a wicked man has no mind for the things which make for salvation: Rom 1:31 (others adhere here to the Greek usage; cf. Fritzsche at the passage). (In Greek writings from Herodotus down.) (Cf. sufa/\$, at the end).

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Understanding

Prov 28:2

2 By the transgression of a land many are its princes,

But by a man of understanding and knowledge, so it endures.

NASU

Unrest and rebellion in a nation results in turnover of leadership. For example, the Northern Kingdom had many rulers, 20 kings in nine dynasties,. Order, however, is maintained in a nation by good rulers who have insight and knowledge about how to govern. (Bible Knowledge Commentary)

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