

SO, YOU HAVE GOT IT ALL FIGURED OUT, DO YOU?

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My dear friends, I find it so sad when I come across certain Christian brethren who have fallen into doctrinal error, who when I patiently try to correct their understanding, instead of accepting, or at least taking time to consider what I have to say, due to their own pride, they immediately choose to laugh at me, to berate me, to mock me, and to belittle me. I am not saying this because I am offended, or upset, or as if my feelings have been hurt. I have been online for more than three decades now. As such, I've learned to be thick-skinned, and such childish behavior does not faze me in the least. No, what bothers me is the arrogance and haughty spirit which I sometimes encounter.

Sadly, these people, who call themselves Christians, seem to have no humility whatsoever. Furthermore, some of them seem to be totally unteachable. They are so full of themselves, and so full of their pet doctrines, that they seem to have forgotten some of the primary attributes which are supposed to define our Christian character. What am I referring to? Consider the following group of Bible verses and examine

yourselves:

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

John 13:35, KJV

"He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love."

1John 4:8, KJV

"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christs sake hath forgiven you."

Ephesians 4:32, KJV

"Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder.

Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:"

1 Peter 5:5-6, KJV

"But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble . . . Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

James 4:6, 10, KJV

"But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted."

Matthew 23:11-12, KJV

"Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 18:4, KJV

"Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

Matthew 11:29, KJV

"Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

Proverbs 16:18, KJV

What a far cry those verses are from what I often witness on some of the social networks -- such as Facebook, for example -- where some Christians treat their fellow brethren with so little love and respect. Is winning an argument so important

to you that you will butcher your brethren with your hurtful words? Would it not be much better to win over your brethren and to keep them as friends? Yet sadly, as I mentioned above, this arrogance and hostility seems to have become prevalent on some of the social networks. In my case, as I have tried to shed light on the fallacies, misguided interpretations and inadequacies which have become associated with the widespread theological perspective known as Futurism, I have likewise encountered this poor attitude on occasion.

For those of my readers who may not be too familiar with the word, Futurism is a doctrinal belief system which takes some of the ancient, already-fulfilled Bible prophecies, and tries to apply them to our modern day as if said prophecies haven't been fulfilled yet. This is particularly true with regard to some of the enigmatic and hard-to-understand prophecies which we find in the Book of the Daniel, as well as in the Book of Revelation. Sadly, literally millions of modern Christians have been deceived by this popular belief system. As I point out in some of my other Bill's Bible Basics articles, I was deceived by it as well for about forty years of my Christian life, until 2011-2012 when my spiritual eyes were finally opened to the Scriptural truth.

Wrapped up in this Futurist deception are those Christians who have become convinced that President Trump -- or maybe Elon Musk, or King Charles, or Barack Obama, or some other politician or famous person -- is the infamous Antichrist, who is also referred to in the Scriptures as the Beast. In fact, after learning about these Internet rumors, I wrote two BBB articles where I discuss the misguided claims that are currently being made regarding both President Trump and Elon Musk. These two articles are called "It Is Time to Wake Up!" and "Is Elon Musk the Antichrist?". You will find links for them at the end of this same article.

So because I opposed these obviously false interpretations of the Holy Scriptures, and likewise began to speak out more strongly against and expose the erroneous doctrines which are associated with Futurism, some of my Christian brethren took it upon themselves to claim that I'm terribly deceived, misguided, blind, asleep at the wheel, missing the signs and other such nonsense. Oh, they say all kinds of mean-spirited and vicious things to me. However, as I said, I just let it roll off my back like a duck. But to those of you who are guilty of engaging in this sad behavior, allow me to state the following for your consideration:

My dear friends, the truth is this. You can laugh and mock me all you want with your proud, arrogant, haughty, flippant and know-it-all attitudes. However, I can assure you that if you are one who embraces any of the aforementioned beliefs, within a few short years from now at best, just like so many other misguided Christians who have come before you, who for years now have been making all kinds of erroneous assertions regarding this person or that person being the Antichrist, you will likewise eventually, and hopefully, come to realize that you have been deceived by the twisted truths, fallacies, deceptions and misinterpretations of the theological doctrine known as Futurism. The fact of the matter is that time will always and eventually reveal the truth, and that includes the truth of God's Word.

This development is nothing new. In fact, as I explain in a few other articles, this deception, known as Futurism, first began making inroads into our Christian faith -- both within the United States and in Great Britain -- about two hundred years ago by way of individuals such as John Nelson Darby, Margaret MacDonald, and William Miller and his Millerites. You see, they too believed in the soon return of Jesus, and in the Rapture of the Saints. But, my friends, that was back during the early 1800s. Ever since that time, one foolish individual after another -- including some of the popular TV preachers -- has made misguided predictions -- even including setting specific dates -- regarding the so-called Rapture of the Saints, the start of the period referred to as the Great Tribulation, the return of Jesus Christ, the rise of the evil figure known as the Antichrist, and related events.

But guess what? Despite so many predictions having been made, and so many dates given, and so many individuals named as the infamous Beast or Antichrist, the truth of the matter is that over the past two hundred years or so, including to this very day, it is rather evident that every single one of them has simply been wrong, and has failed miserably. My friends, you need to stop and ask yourselves why this is. Why have all of their predictions and dates failed? Where's their Antichrist? What are they getting wrong? When will you stop listening to their misguided foolishness?

My dear friends, if anything I have stated above applies to you, please understand that while I really mean no offense, I am compelled to tell you that you are so deceived, and so overly confident in and blinded by your own beliefs, that

you fail to even realize how deeply deceived you've actually become. Please consider the following Bible verse that was written by the Apostle Paul:

"But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived."
2 Timothy 3:13, KJV

No, my friends, I am most certainly NOT saying that you are evil. After all, you are undoubtedly a Christian brother or sister who is simply doing your best to try to be faithful to the Lord, based on the knowledge and understanding which you currently have. However, because you have become quite deceived regarding this issue concerning the identity of the Antichrist, you are in turn deceiving other people as well without realizing it. You are spreading false information, and that is a very serious matter, as I am sure you already understand. After all, the Bible plainly teaches us that we will be judged by our words. As such, we should all strive to limit our words, and when we do speak, we should make certain that we are speaking the truth to the very best of our ability. Consider the following group of Bible verses:

"For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."
Matthew 12:37, KJV

"Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath . . . If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this mans religion is vain."
James 1:19, 26, KJV

"For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:"
1 Peter 3:10, KJV

"Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer."
Psalms 19:14, KJV

"He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him . . . Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof."

Proverbs 18:13, 21, KJV

"A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards."

Proverbs 29:11, KJV

"Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few."

Ecclesiastes 5:2, KJV

My friends, I think that perhaps the problem with some of you is that you underestimate Satan's intelligence. Let us be honest here for a moment, shall we? Tell me something. Do you really believe that you are smarter than the Devil is? After all, that fiend has had thousands of years of practice insofar as the deception game is concerned. So you're simply no match for him. He will run circles around you with his lies.

You need to understand that in the never-ending satanic game of constant deception, if something appears to be one thing, it is more than likely something entirely different. So that being the case, if something seems really obvious to you -- such as a certain person being the Antichrist, for example -- it is more than likely just a distraction and a decoy from the actual truth. In other words, the Devil is not just going to be obvious and reveal his cards. After all, how can he trap you in his snare that way?

So to those of you who remain convinced that either Donald Trump or maybe Elon Musk is the Antichrist, please tell me something, my friends. What do you say to those Christians who still insist that Barack Obama is the Antichrist -- yes, believe it or not, they are still around -- and who likewise have said that Pope Francis was the False Prophet? Oh well, Pope Francis is now dead, and his card is off the table, so I suppose the people who made that blunder are eating crow. I hope they learned an important lesson regarding spiritual discernment after making such a major public mistake.

Likewise, what do you say regarding those Christians who have confidently -- and erroneously -- pointed to other important individuals in the world as supposedly being the infamous Antichrist, such as King Charles, Lord Maitreya, John Lennon, Adolf Hitler, or anyone else in their mind who has seemed to fit the bill? Then, of course, there is the new kid on the

block who is now claiming to be the Islamic mahdi. His name is Aba Al-Sadiq Abdullah Hashem, and you will find that he's rapidly growing in popularity on his YouTube channel with millions of views and many thousands of subscribers.

To me personally, it is rather obvious that anyone who made such claims regarding knowing who the Antichrist is were all wrong. Either that, or they will yet be proven to be wrong. Yet despite these obvious mistakes, some of you still insist that you are wide awake, and you boast to others that you know the truth, as if you have got some kind of inside scoop regarding the true identity of the Antichrist. On top of it all, and to make matters worse, you mock and attack people such as myself who try to tell you the truth. My friends, as I said before -- while not meaning to intentionally offend anyone, I am convinced that you don't even realize the error in your own understanding of the Scriptures. I think that it would be smart of you to consider the wisdom that is found in the following two Bible verses:

"Now as touching things offered unto idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth. And if any man think that he knoweth any thing, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know."
1Corinthians 8:1-2, KJV

It is interesting to note that in the first verse, Apostle Paul writes "Knowledge puffeth up", and then in the second verse he basically says to them "You don't know as much as you think you know!" Converted into our modern language, Paul is quite obviously talking about proud, loud-mouthed people who get the big head because they think they know it all. Tragically, that is precisely what I see occurring on some of the social networks amongst our Christian brethren. But then notice what Paul writes right after that. He says "but charity edifieth." You see, he is saying the same thing that I told you earlier. That is that you can beat brethren over the head with your supposed superior knowledge, but it is much better to be humble and to love them and to win them.

My friends, again, I don't wish to offend you, but from my perspective, some of you have indeed grown very puffed up with knowledge, and sadly, it has made you rather haughty and condescending towards others. That is why some of you belittle me, and mock me, and make your little jabs at me with words such as "sleepy" or "asleep", because I refuse to accept your point of view and your particular understanding

of the Scriptures.

In fact, as some of you already know, not only do I refuse to accept your misguided beliefs, but I will honestly and patiently tell you that I think that you are wrong, and I will point you to some of my articles to read. In fact, oft times, I will not say anything at all. I will simply post a comment in which I leave a link or two to articles on my website, in case you become curious enough to want to read them. I really do not like confrontations, so I will try to use a non-combative approach.

Look, my friends, I'm very open regarding the fact that even after studying the Scriptures for more than five decades now, I still don't know it all. There are still some things which I do not fully understand, and which I continue to struggle with. This is particularly true in the area of ancient -- and often ambiguous -- Bible prophecies. I humbly recognize my limitations. It is for that very reason that I have written articles such as the following:

Are You Flexible?

Humility in Our Understanding of God's Word

My Evolving Theology

Understanding the Bible in Context

You will find links to the above articles at the end of this same article. The truth is that deciphering what has already been fulfilled, what may possibly be occurring in our present time, and what may yet be reserved for future fulfillment, is no easy task. It requires a lot of time, a lot of patience, a lot of prayer, a lot of diligently studying the Scriptures, and a lot of delving into the historical records of the past as well. All of these are necessary components in order to hopefully arrive at the truth. If in your impatience you try to skip a step, you may very well end up misinformed or even totally deceived.

Yet sadly, it has become quite evident to me that insofar as the social networks are concerned, some of you proud, young bucks don't take the time to do this. Instead, you foolishly decide to take a shortcut, and you just shoot off your mouths pretending that you know what you are talking about, when in reality, you are absolutely clueless, deceived yourself, and

deceiving others in the process. Again, it is really not my intention to offend anyone; but some of you really need to hear this truth, and you really need to examine yourselves. So again I ask you to please carefully and prayerfully consider my words.

Before concluding this article, I would like to take a moment to address my Christian brethren who still embrace Futurism. My friends, first of all, I want you to know that I do not judge you or condemn you for your current beliefs. After all, it would be rather hypocritical for me to do so considering that I was likewise deceived by Futurism for forty years of my adult Christian life, until the Lord finally woke me up.

I know that what I have shared with you here will probably be very hard for you to accept, because just as it was with me, and just as it still is with many other Futurist-leaning Christians, your current beliefs are no doubt quite engrained in you,. As such, you will more than likely resist everything I have just stated here. Some of you may even consider me to be a misguided teacher or a false prophet. However, before you choose to hastily arrive at that conclusion, I ask you to open your heart to the Lord, and seriously pray about what I have written here. Ask the Lord to reveal to you whether or not I have spoken the truth.

My goal in writing this current article, as is the case with everything that I have written over the years, is simply to share Scriptural truth as I have come to understand it. The truth is very important to me. I often pray that the Lord will not allow me to ever become deceived again, as I was for so many years. I also pray that He will continue to reveal more and more Biblical truth to me, as I continue to delve ever more deeply into His wonderful Word. As He does, it will continue to be my personal goal to share these truths with the world.

As a former Futurist myself, I know how you think. Some of the things you still believe today, I likewise believed for such a long time. I was completely convinced of them, and I fervently defended them and taught them to others. So as I already said, I understand how deeply embedded such beliefs can become in a person's life, even if those beliefs happen to be wrong. That is where the hard part enters the picture. It takes a lot of honesty and humility to be willing to admit to ourselves, to God, and likewise to our brethren, that we have been wrong, misguided, and a little off in our beliefs.

My friends, I have been down that road. After forty years of being a staunch Futurist, I had to admit that I had been misled, and that I had become quite deceived. Not only was I personally deceived, but I was unknowingly and ignorantly deceiving others as well due to the things that I taught. It was of course not done with malicious intent. I was simply convinced of those things which I taught, just as you still are today. However, once God began to reveal things to me back in 2011-2012, I simply could not resist the truth of the Scriptures. Thus, since that time, I have worked hard to correct, update and rewrite those articles and series where I know that I have been in error.

So, I want you to understand that the things which I write regarding Futurism, aren't an attack against you personally. They are an exposé of the false doctrines themselves. Simply put, I want you to know the truth. I want to give you a big opportunity to escape the deception of Futurism. However, it must be by your own choice. I can show you the evidence, but you alone must decide whether or not you want to believe it. I have done my job. The ball is now in your court. What will you do? I pray you make the right choice.

With these thoughts, I will bring this article to a close. It is my hope that you've found it informative and enlightening, and I pray that it has been a blessing in your life as well. If you have an account with Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr or with any other social network, I would really appreciate if you'd take the time to click or tap on the corresponding link that is found on this page. Thanks so much, and may God bless you abundantly!

For additional information and further study, you may want to refer to the list of reading resources below which were either mentioned in this article, or which contain topics which are related to this article. All of these articles are likewise located on the Bill's Bible Basics web server. To read these articles, simply click or tap on any link you see below.

Abomination of Desolation: Explained!

Are You Flexible?

As a Thief in the Night

Don't Ever Underestimate Our Spiritual Enemy

Facebook False Prophets and Misguided Teachers

Fight Against Futurism

Gaslighting: We Are Being Manipulated and Surveilled
He That Shall Endure unto the End
Humility in Our Understanding of God's Word
In the Ages to Come
Jesus Christ's Return: Have We Been Deceived?
Modern Deception: Shall a Nation Be Born at Once?
Modern Deceptions: Return to Israel, the Fig Tree and This Generation
My Evolving Theology
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Preterist or Futurist? It's All by Faith
Prophetic Comparisons: Moshiach, Mahdi and Messiah
Psalm 83 War False Doctrine Exposed!
Seventy Weeks Prophecy: What It Means
Should Christians Engage in Doctrinal Debates?
Sorry, Jesus Is Not Coming at Any Moment
The 70th Week of Daniel Error: Are You Guilty?
The Day I Am Waiting For
The Day of the Lord: What It Really Means
The Great Tribulation and the Rapture
The Last Seven Years Chart
The Misguided End of the World Predictions of Harold Camping
The Triumphant Touchdown of Jesus Christ
The Two Sackcloth Witnesses of Revelation 11
The Woman in the Wilderness and the 144,000
Tradition or Truth? Old Wine or New Wine?
Understanding the Bible in Context
Vespasian, Titus and the Fall of Jerusalem
When Was Satan Cast Out of Heaven?
Who Hindered the Antichrist?
Who is Babylon the Great?
Who is Moshiach ben David?
Who is Who?: Defining Important Prophecy Terms

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