

I Do Need To Understand!



Most people have heard the song entitled
 “I Don’t Need To Understand.”

*“I don’t need to understand
 I just need to hold His hand;
 I don’t ever need to ask the reason, why
 For I know He’ll make a way
 Through the night and through the day;
 I don’t need to understand,
 I just need to hold His hand.”*

What parent has not taken the hand of their little child when crossing a busy intersection, however, if someone has to hold your hand to cross the street when you are an adult, it would be because you are mentally challenged.

Jesus Said

I Need To Understand

In Matthew 13:19 Jesus said, “When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart.” In verse twenty-three He said, “But...he that heareth the word, and understandeth it...beareth fruit...”

Jesus said...

Matthew 15:10

Hear, and understand...”

Matthew 15:16

“Are ye also yet without understanding?”

Matthew 15:17

“Do not ye yet understand...”

Matthew 16:9

“Do ye not yet understand?”

Matthew 16:11

“How is it that ye do not understand...?”

Matthew 24:15

“...whoso readeth, let him understand.”

Mark 7:14

“Hearken unto me every one of you, and understand.”

Mark 7:18

“Are ye so without understanding also?”

Do ye not perceive...”

Mark 8:17

“...perceive ye not yet, neither understand? have ye your heart yet hardened?”

Mark 13:23

“How is it that ye do not understand?”

Mark 13:23

“...love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding...”

Paul Said

I Need To Understand

First Corinthians 14:20

“Brethren, be not children in understanding...in understanding be men.”

Ephesians 5:17

“Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.”

Colossians 1:9

“...desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual **understanding**;”

Second Timothy 2:7

“Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee **understanding** in all things.”

We Need To Understand How To Live The Christian Life In This Age of Apostasy

If there ever was a time when we needed to **understand** what is going on around us, it is now.

“This Know!”

Second Timothy 3:1 - “*This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.*” The word “know” in the verse above has been translated “**understand**” eight times. It is not enough to just know about the apostasy that surrounds us, we must **understand** what we must do. Paul said, “I would that thou mayest understand...” (Philippians 1:12)

We Need To Understand That The Unsaved Have Set Themselves Against The Lord.

Psalm 2:1-3 says, “Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? 2 The kings of the earth **set themselves**, and the rulers take counsel together, **against** the LORD, and **against** his anointed, saying, 3 Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.”

Things Have Changed!

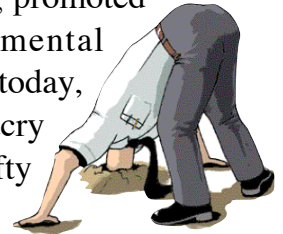
We are living in an age of increased rebellion against God, His Word and His followers. The Mayor of Toronto recently faced heavy criticism for not supporting a sodomite parade. Fifty years ago he would have faced criticism if he had supported it. Sodomite marriages and the ordination of sodomite church leaders has

become acceptable. Fifty years ago this would have caused an outcry from almost everyone.

The new season TV programs are being called the most perverted ever. Society is almost totally opposed to everything the Word of God teaches. We are living in an age of apostasy that has come in like a flood. Christian parents and pastors, who do not understand what is happening, will lose their young people to the flood.

We Need To Understand That The Apostasy Has Come In Like A Flood In Our Fundamental Independent Baptist Churches

The doctrine of separation has been thrown out the window. What is being promoted by so-called fundamental Independent Baptist leaders today, would have caused an outcry from fundamental leaders fifty years ago.



Do You Want To Understand?

We are living in an age like that of Jeremiah. He faced two problems. (Jeremiah 5:31)

1. “The prophets prophesy falsely...”
2. “...and my people love to have it so...”

Understanding And Action Go Together

It would be more honest for most so-called fundamental Christians to sing, “**I Don’t Want To Understand!**” We need only to look at the average congregation in our fundamental churches to realize that about 90% of the

people do nothing for the Lord, and “...they love to have it that way.”

Exodus 36:1

Understanding & Working.

“...*understanding* to know how to work...”

First Chronicles 12:32

Understanding & Doing.

“...men that had *understanding* of the times, to know what Israel ought to do.”

First Kings 7:14

Understanding & Working.

“...he was filled with wisdom, and *understanding*, and cunning to work...”

First Chronicles 22:12

Understanding & Doing God’s Will.

“Only the LORD give thee wisdom and *understanding*...that thou mayest keep the law of the LORD thy God.”

Second Chronicles 2:12

Understanding & Building.

Solomon was...

“...endued with prudence and *understanding*, that might build an house for the LORD, and an house for his kingdom.”

Psalms 119:34

Understanding & Doing God’s Will.

“Give me *understanding*, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart...”

Psalms 119:73

Understanding & Learning.

“...give me *understanding*, that I may learn thy commandments.”

Psalms 119:73

Understanding & Hating.

“... I get *understanding*: therefore I hate every false way.”

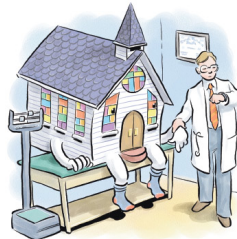
We Need To Understand That Separation Is Not Isolation

Referring to us, Jesus said, “...these are in the world...Holy Father, keep (to keep, one in the state in

which he is) through thine own name those whom thou hast given me...” (John 17:11)

We have a job to do in this age of apostasy. The word “go” in the New Testament 252 times. **Matthew 28:19-20** says, “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” **We are commanded to go!**

We Need To Understand That We Live In A Sin-Sick World And That Sickness Is Very Contagious



The phrase “in the world” is found twenty-six times in the Word of God.

Second Peter 1:4

“...the *corruption* that is in the world...”

James 1:27

“...to keep himself *unspotted* from the world.”

Obedience to the Word of God is the only immunity (the ability to resist a particular infection) we have for protection from the contagious apostasy in which we live.

Christ Prayed - Keep Them From The Evil

John 17:14-18 - “I have given them thy Word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. 18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.”

Christ's prayer was "I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world...but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil."

Christ Represents Us In Heaven

First John 2:1 - "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate (a person who publicly supports and pleads on someone else's behalf) with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:"

We Represent Christ On The Earth

Second Corinthians 5:20 - "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God."

Maintaining A Scriptural Balance

Acts 1:8 - "...ye shall be witnesses unto me..."

Second Corinthians 6:17 - "...come out from among them, and be ye separate..."

In upcoming articles we will look at the following verses and attempt to explain them within the context in which they appear. We must be "...ambassadors for Christ," while maintaining our responsibility to...

Ephesians 5:7

"Be not ye therefore partakers with them..."

Ephesians 5:11

"And have no fellowship...but rather reprove them."

Titus 1:3

"...rebuke them sharply..."

Second Timothy 3:5

"...from such turn away."

Romans 16:17,18

"...mark them...and avoid them."

Second Thessalonians 3:14,15

"...have no company with him..."

Second John 7-11

"...receive him not...neither bid him God speed."

Galatians 1:6-9

"... let him be accursed."

Second Thessalonians 3:6

"...withdraw yourselves..."

We need to **understand** the context of these verses.

This Is The First In A Series of Articles Concerning Understanding The Apostasy of Our Day



Example

Ephesians 5:7 -

"Be not ye therefore partakers with them."

1. To whom does the word "them" refer?
2. What is meant by a "partaker"?

Ephesians 5:11 -

"And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them."

1. What constitutes "fellowship"?
2. What does "unfruitful works of darkness" include?

Second Corinthians 6:17 -

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you."

1. Who does God mean by "them"?
2. What is the "unclean thing"?

"Wisdom is before him that hath understanding"

(Proverbs 17:24)

"...understanding shall keep thee."

(Proverbs 2:11)

"... with all thy getting get understanding."

(Proverbs 4:7)