

Opinions, Part 4

By Anthony Higginson, 23 October 2010

Last week we saw that ‘God was not a man that He should lie nor the son of man that He should change His mind’ unlike a certain Mr Wayne Rooney, I might add.

Hebrews 6: 18-20 says God did this so that, ‘by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain where Jesus who went before us, has entered on our behalf. He has become our high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.’

Though the opinions of men change, despite shifting opinions and circumstances, we have an anchor which holds us fast bringing us certain hope.

In the last couple months I have spoken to you about the variety of spiritual ignorance’s which seem to be alive within so many believers; ignorance’s in areas where they shouldn’t be ignorant in or about. It seems everyone has an opinion and their opinion, to themselves, seems not only to be common sense and right, but more so, their opinion interprets everything. They now become the judge, jury, defence lawyer and chief prosecutor as their opinions ride above every authority, so much so, that the bible says they are handed by God over to their own delusions, which we have previously seen, means opinions. Now opinions are formed based on the way people think and feel towards a particular thing, person or event. Hebrews says our truth, not opinions, holds us firm whatever the conditions or terrain or may be.

Matthew 22:15-18.

15 ‘Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. 16 They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. “Teacher,” they said, “we know you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren’t swayed by men, because you pay no attention to who they are. 17 Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not? 18 But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me?’

2 Timothy 3:6. ‘They are the kind who worm their way into homes and gain control over weak-willed women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires, 7 always learning but never able to acknowledge the truth, (They are always formulating their opinions). 8 Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these men oppose the truth—men of depraved minds, who, as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected.’

Illustrate: Jonathan Edwards: Triple jumper who renounced his faith saying he had been deceived.

Genesis 28:26-28. ‘Meanwhile, Abimelech had come to him from Gerar, with Ahuzzath his personal adviser and Phicol the commander of his forces. 27 Isaac asked them, “Why have you come to me, since you were hostile to me and sent me away? 28 They answered, “We saw clearly that the LORD was with you; so we said, ‘There

ought to be a sworn agreement between us'—between us and you. Let us make a treaty with you.'

Notice their opinions are shifting again as now they begin to change from hate to fear as now they see God is moving with them.

People's opinions of us will change within this town of Droylsden for people will see that God is with us and seek to make covenant with us.

How you think determines the opinions you form.

Mosaic-opinion thinking: A picture or pattern made by placing together small pieces of glass, stone, etc. of different colours, for example, a Roman mosaic. Some people are small piece thinkers; they can only see in small pieces.

Matrix-opinion thinking: They see things in symbols, columns and rows; everything is taken as a single quantity. Others see/think in terms of highways, seeing various exits to their thinking. Some people like all the ducks in a line because this is the way they think.

Linear-opinion thinking: some people, when painting, break the linear perspective of painting. Why? Because most people can only think one way. To think prophetically and apostolically freaks many pastors out because its outside of the pastoral box.

Lateral-opinion thinking: Through the use of good imagination, though they see one building, when it comes to solving problems, they see from many angles. This is prophetic thinking.

Possibility-opinion thinking: Uncontainable thinking whereby no circumstances or limitations are able to stop the impossibility becoming possible. Eph 3:20: 'Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.'

Negative opinion-thinking: Bad, harmful, destructive thinking are thoughts which stem from opinions prejudices. Psalm 55:10-11 'Day and night they prowl about on its walls; malice and abuse are within it. 11 Destructive forces are at work in the city; threats and lies never leave its streets.'