

Chapter 1 : God's Way Verses Man's Way

God's Way To Be Man. In short, he shows us God's way to be man. And if he shows us the way, he will certainly also lead us the truth and the life.

Pride, Haughtiness, and Egotism Why should people be meek and humble? What problems are caused by pride, arrogance, ego, self-exaltation, haughtiness, and self-will? Should you learn self-assertiveness, or should you learn not to be proud and haughty? What does the Bible teach about meekness, humility, gentleness, and lowliness in contrast to pride, selfishness, self-will, and arrogance? Two of the greatest characters in the Bible possessed in common the qualities we want to study in this lesson. Both were chosen by God to be givers of His law. Jesus was the Divine Son of God. Surely we should seek to be like these men. Other verses emphasize the importance of these qualities Matthew 5: Jesus declares a "blessing" happiness on those who are meek. It is better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly. If we seek to be happy, to be led by the Spirit, to avoid destruction, and to be like great people such as Moses and Jesus, we need to possess meekness and humility. It is the purpose of this lesson to study these qualities, what they are, and how they will affect our lives. As we study, we will frequently note Moses and Jesus as examples who teach us about meekness and humility. Meekness This is an extremely difficult word to translate into English, because we think "meek" implies weakness. Sometimes it is translated NKJV "gentleness," but that also implies weakness. The best way to know the meaning of a word is to study passages where it is used. As we do, we will see meekness is an attitude or quality of heart [1 Peter 3: The meek person is not self-willed - not continually concerned with self, his own ways, ideas, and wishes. He is willing to put himself in second place and submit himself to achieve what is good for others. Meekness is the opposite of self-will, self-interest, and self-assertiveness. This is a sign, not of weakness of character as some think, but of strength. It requires great self-control to submit to others. Humility This is an attitude or quality of mind [Acts Spiritually, one abases himself because he realizes his sinfulness and therefore he is willing to depend on God to meet His needs. It is the opposite of pride, haughtiness, and self-exaltation. Meekness and Humility Toward God In the Bible, meekness is primarily emphasized as submissiveness toward God rather than toward men. As directed toward God, meekness and humility require the following: We Must Recognize Our Sinfulness. The Publican pleaded for mercy admitting he was a sinner. Note the conclusion in v14 - One who exalts self will be abased, one who humbles self will be exalted! Humility is the opposite of self-exaltation and self-righteousness. A preacher once preached a sermon on this story and afterward a man prayed, "Lord, we thank thee that we are not proud like that Pharisee"! He was doing the very thing he was saying he was not doing! We are all sinners. We can be more righteous than the Pharisee, but only by humbling ourselves like the publican and calling on God to forgive us. We are all sinners, and often need forgiveness. We all deserve to be punished for our sins. We are no better than the Pharisee or publican, in the sense we are all sinners. We Must Depend on God. Note the example of Moses - Deuteronomy 8: Our physical blessings come, not by our own power and might, but from God. All good things come from God. We must appreciate how weak we would be without Him. This leads us to depend on God to meet our needs. In turn, we then appreciate and exalt Him. Note the teaching of Jesus - Matthew The greatest in the kingdom is one who is humble like a little child. I have heard people say a child is humble because it is forgiving. Perhaps, but a child is not just forgiving; he is totally dependent on his parents. Where does a child receive what he needs? Who provides his food, changes his diaper, and dresses him? When he has pain, for whom does he call? A child is weak, but he knows Momma and Daddy can meet his needs. So humility leads us to humbly admit our need for God. Proper humility toward God is an admission of our own weakness, sinfulness, unprofitableness, and inability to obtain or accomplish by ourselves the things we need. We need help from someone far greater than we are. God knows what we need and what is good better than we know, and He has power to do what needs done. Humility will lead us to appreciate Him, trust His will, and give Him the glory, rather than exalting self. We should believe that His will is best and that we will receive His aid only if we obey Him. The example of Jesus Philippians 2: He did no sin nor was guilt found in His mouth. Both Moses and Jesus are expressly noted for their meekness and

humility, and both were thoroughly obedient to God. Applications to Us James 1: Be doers of the word, not just hearers. Humble yourselves in the sight of God and He will exalt you. Therefore be subject to God, draw nigh to Him, cleanse your hands, purify your hearts, be afflicted, mourn, and weep. This is why Scripture so often associates repentance with humbling oneself. To be meek is to deny self. The selfish person says "I want this, I want that What does God want? We must question every act, word, thought as to what effect it will have on our service to God. Then we do only what we are sure will please God. A meek and humble person will accept persecution, mistreatment, suffering, or hardship without rebelling against God and without doubting His wisdom. We will accept the fact that He has chosen to allow this to happen for His good purposes. People constantly complained about his leadership, even though he was just doing what God said. How many of us would have stood for it? No wonder he was called the meekest man on earth! In fact, it was a complaint against him that occasioned the statement that he was so meek Did this take meekness? He said, "Not my will but thine be done. Consider how much humility and meekness would be required for one to willingly leave the glory of heaven to come to earth to live as a man and die as a criminal to save others. Application to Us Hebrews We should be willing to submit to suffering just as He did. We have suffered nothing like He did, yet we often tend to rebel against our problems. This will do us good in the end. We want to control our own lives. But facing hardships, that we cannot solve alone, helps make us humble. We see our weakness and we turn to God for help. Then we appreciate Him and see our need for Him. This does not mean we should blame God for causing all problems that come, nor does it mean we only have problems when we sin. Sometimes our problems are caused by our own sins. But sometimes, like Job, we have not sinned, but God allows Satan to cause hardships. Satan is ultimately responsible for the existence of troubles, but God uses them to make us humble. Satan, not God, brought the problem. But God allowed it to remain, because it produced good for Paul. So our problems may be allowed because they keep us from becoming proud and self-reliant. This does not mean we should put ourselves in hard circumstances, nor that we avoid improving our circumstances. If we can escape our problems, we should do so and give thanks to God.

Chapter 2 : 5 Characteristics Of A Godly Woman, And 43 Verses To Help you Become One. - Watermark

God's narrow Way or the world's wide highway? "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He.

You may download this resource at no cost, for personal use or for use in a Christian ministry, as long as you are not publishing it for sale. All I ask is that you acknowledge the source of this material: For all other uses, please contact me at mark markdroberts. Introduction This is one blog series I wish were completely unnecessary. I wish conflict among Christians were a relatively insignificant problem. I wish we who believe in Jesus could experience the unity he commended to us John But all of this is, I admit, wishful thinking. The fact is that Christians often have a hard time getting along with each other. This has been true from the earliest days of the church. The Apostle Paul, who planted the church in Corinth, wrote what we call 1 Corinthians to the believers there principally because of internal conflict in the church. By the time Paul wrote 2 Corinthians, the tension was largely between Paul and his church. Even in a healthy church, such as the one in Philippi, conflict was a problem. Thus Paul wrote in his letter to the Philippians: But the more I have studied the early church, the more I have come to recognize the manifold problems that plagued the first Christians. Among these, conflict played a central role. Perhaps one of the most discouraging things about studying church history, from the first century onward, is to see just how often Christians have been mired in disputes and strife. Not a happy story, not at all. This was not what Jesus intended, to be sure. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. To be sure, there are times when followers of Jesus do love each other in an exemplary way. But, far too often, such love is marred by conflict, tension, and outright meanness. And, far too often, we have not dealt with these problems in a loving way. This series will be relevant, I believe, to one-on-one relationships and to denominational disagreements. My hope is that when we experience conflict in the church, we will be prepared to deal with it in a way that honors God and strengthens Christian community. Dealing with Conflict Among Christians: Now this is always a good starting point, the best there is, in fact. There are several reasons why. First, in times of conflict our natural human emotions often try to dictate our behavior. We feel anger and want to lash out. We feel fear and want to defend or attack. We feel wronged and want to get revenge. The copy of the Gutenberg Bible in the U. Chief among these ways is the desire to win. We can also be tempted to use human schemes to defeat our opponents. We rally the troops. We get out the vote. We play the victim. We undermine our opponents. We hold grudges, and so forth and so on. So we need the Bible to show us different ways to operate in times of conflict: The biblical combination of ethics and theology helps to shape our thoughts, feelings, and actions. But even if your church is in a blessed season of harmony, you may be able to direct others to the biblical guidance I will convey. Moreover, if you take seriously what I will share with you, you may very well help your church stay out of serious conflict. Today, however, I want to print the entire passage and then offer some guidance for how to let it impact your heart and your actions. If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Ask the Lord to speak to you through this section of his Word and through the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Prayerfully, slowly read this passage. Read it at least three times. If possible, read it aloud. Let each

word sink in. Be attentive to what God is saying to you personally. Let the Lord speak to you about you. As God convicts you, go with it. Talk to him about it. Confess if you need to. Ask for his help to obey if you need to. Take time to talk with the Lord about how this passage should impact your life. If you are able to do so, share with at least one other believer what God has been saying to you through Philippians 2. Be open to encouragement and or correction from this believer or these believers. Ask them to pray for you as you move to the next step. Act upon what God has said to you through this passage. Be a doer of the Word, not a hearer only James 1: You may find it very hard to do what God wants you to do. He will provide the strength you need if you depend on him. Yes, I have a few things I want to say about this passage. But right now I think I should get my words out of the way. What you need most of all is the Word of God, brought to life by the Spirit of God. My reflections will come in due time, and that time will be tomorrow. May the peace of Christ be with you. Your gut instinct is to win the battle, to be vindicated, to prevail over your opponents. But this text speaks of being agreeable, humble, and considering others as better than yourself. Philippians 2 begins with a series of ethical injunctions that could be paraphrased: These imperatives are summarized in verse five: Rather, Paul shows us quite clearly in verses what it means to think like Jesus: This is a tricky text for a variety of reasons. For one thing, the language is rather unusual for Paul and therefore difficult to interpret. This fact, combined with the poetic structure of the passage, has led many scholars to propose that Paul is quoting an early Christian hymn, something he did not write. This explains the uniqueness of the language. Ruins of the ancient forum in Philippi. Photo used by permission of HolyLandPhotos. What is this big picture? Moreover, this passage paints a shocking picture of a divine being who not only became human, but also chose to die a most humiliating and painful death by crucifixion. One cannot imagine a more startling and unsettling image of humility and self-sacrifice. How might our conflict with others be different if we took seriously the humility of Jesus? How might we react to those who wrong us if we were to reflect upon the self-giving love of Christ? Having the Mind of Christ: Part 2 Throughout the ages, commentators and preachers have seen Philippians 2: In this gospel text, Jesus literally humbled himself, doing that which an actual slave would ordinarily have done. He did this to teach his disciples how they were to love each other, in anticipation of his ultimate act of love on the cross. In Philippians 2, Paul uses the image of the humble, self-sacrificing, serving, crucified Christ to teach the Philippians believers how they ought to treat each other. Philippians 2 raises all sorts of tantalizing theological questions about the nature of Christ. In what way was he equal to God? In what sense did he empty himself?

Chapter 3 : Bible Verses About: Ways of God

This, then, is God's way -- God's will!! Man has never been satisfied with God's way! They have continually rejected the church and tried to build something better and, as has been said, they still use the same old tired excuses!

They are impressed by physical miracles. They eagerly seek for healing and for material blessings. Most of their prayers too are related to such earthly matters, in which they want to see God act on their behalf and bless them in the physical realm. This is because they are in a state of spiritual babyhood. If these are the things that still excite us, then we have not seen the glory of the new covenant. If you want to know more about God and His ways, read this book They are impressed by external miracles. Eternal life does not refer to eternal existence. Eternal existence will be experienced by all human beings - even by those who go to hell. But very few enjoy eternal life. The more we know God and the Lord Jesus the more we will have of eternal life. Today, under the new covenant, that privilege is offered to all of us. And when they experience an external miracle like getting a job, or earning more money, or getting a new house, or finding a wife or a husband, or experiencing healing, they are excited and are quick to testify about these matters, because these are the greatest things in life for them. It is only when we understand God and His ways that we will be able, for example, to understand what "worldliness" really is. Many believers think of worldliness as something external, such as wearing lipstick and ornaments and fancy clothes or having expensive electronic gadgets in the home etc. A person may get rid of all the external marks of worldliness and have a good testimony before men, and yet be thoroughly worldly in his way of thinking. But if anyone possesses more than them then such a person IS worldly! And when their own standard of living goes up, their gauge of what is worldly is adjusted upwards accordingly! But no believer is the perfect standard. Jesus alone is our Standard. To recognise worldliness, we must know Jesus Christ. Only in the light of His life can we see what is worldly and what is not. The Pharisees became self-righteous in their pursuit of righteousness because they did not know God. They pursued righteousness without hungering and thirsting after God Himself. We cannot get rid of Phariseeism merely by avoiding the acts of the Pharisees. We can, for example, hear of some of the marks of a Pharisee and perhaps get rid of those marks from our lives. But that would be only snipping off the fruit from a bad tree. The bad fruit will again appear on another branch. A believer can spend his entire life merely snipping off various fruits of Phariseeism from his life and end up as a greater Pharisee at the end than he was at the beginning of his Christian life! When we know God however, we will realise that the only way to be saved from self-righteousness is by chopping the tree down from the roots itself. Consider the matter of the "healing crusades" that are conducted everywhere these days. Millions of rupees are collected for such crusades from gullible believers. It is rare to find a believer who can discern that there is nothing of the spirit of Christ in such commercialised "Christianity". When you know Jesus Christ however, you will compare everyone who claims to be a servant of God with Jesus Himself. The Holy Spirit has emphatically stated that in the last days there will be a flood of deceitful spirits invading the world, who will lead many astray 1 Timothy 4: Jesus often warned His disciples to be careful that they were not deceived. He mentioned deception as the first sign of the end of the age Matthew The only way to escape such deception is by knowing the Lord. Then we will be able to discern between what glorifies God and what does not. Are we to just imitate the standards adopted by other godly brothers? The Bible seems to imply that imitating the actions of others can lead to our being drowned See Hebrews We are to imitate the faith of others not their actions See Hebrews We are to understand the principles by which a brother arrived at a decision, and not just imitate his actions. Let me illustrate this with an example. I was told of a brother who, knowing that frugality was an essential part of godliness, used to put tooth-paste across only half of his tooth-brush, so that his tooth-paste tube would last twice as long. But you can imitate that practice every day and yet never become godly!! It is the principle of frugality that that brother lived by that we can imitate and not the measure of tooth-paste he used on his tooth-brush!! If your teeth are bad, you may need to use a full length of tooth-paste on your brush, even if you are a godly man!! Our passion should be to know God better and better, because this is eternal life. We are going to spend all eternity getting to know God more and more. This is why eternity will not be boring

for anyone whose passion is to know God. Our earthly life too will then not be boring any more. God is always alert to the needs of people and does all that He can to meet those needs. When we partake of this Divine nature, we too will become like that - always alert to the needs and problems of those around us and doing everything we can in order to meet those needs! This will involve a great deal of sacrifice on our part often. We need therefore to ask ourselves whether we are willing to pay this price for partaking of the Divine nature. Our Adamic nature is the exact opposite of this Divine nature. The life of Adam is thoroughly selfish and makes us alert only to our own needs and to the needs of our own family members. In fact it is so full of selfishness and jealousy that it does not want the needs of others to be met even by another. On the contrary, it enjoys seeing people suffer. When man sinned, God placed cherubs in front of the tree of life with a sword that turned in every direction to guard the way to that tree. The tree of life symbolises eternal life - knowing God. Through this sword placed in front of the tree of life, God was symbolically showing Adam that if anyone now wanted to partake of the tree of life, he had to first experience the sword falling on his own selfish life. We read in Genesis 3: There too God was teaching them the same lesson - that the only way for them to be clothed now was through the way of sacrifice and death. Adam and Eve had tried to clothe themselves at first without any "death" - with just fig leaves. But God threw those leaves away and showed them the right way to be clothed. So we see right from the beginning God emphasising sacrifice as the way for man to fellowship with Him and to be clothed with His nature. God told Cain that his fundamental problem was that he "did not intend well" towards his brother Abel Genesis 4: Jude speaks of those who walk in "the way of Cain" Jude They are those who do not intend well towards their brothers. It is good for all of us to have a spiritual check-up in this matter. Can you honestly say that you desire the very best for all the brothers and sisters in your local church and for their families? Can you also say that you desire the very best for other believers whom you know in other denominations? Then widen the circle still further and ask yourself if you desire the very best for all the people whom you know, including your relatives, your enemies and those who have harmed you in any way. If you find a disturbance in your heart instead of a rejoicing when something good happens to another person or to his children, or if you sense a rejoicing in your heart instead of a grief when something evil happens to him or his family, what do such attitudes indicate? Just this that the life of Adam is alive and active in you. If you are honest with yourself, you will soon discover whether you are walking the way of Cain or not. You must be quick when you see that evil Adamic life within you to put it to death, if you want the fire and the anointing of God to rest upon you constantly. He will always intend well towards all. He will never get angry in any matter that concerns himself and he will never quarrel with anyone. We may not realise it, but the attitude we have in our hearts is often reflected on our faces. If you intend well towards all, your face will always beam with the joy of the Lord. Many believers are walking in the way of Cain. Beneath their weak smiles and the "Praise the Lord"s that come from their lips, are found wrong attitudes towards their fellow-believers. When people turn against you and do evil to you, God uses them to give you a scan of your real heart condition. Jesus intended well even towards Judas Iscariot. God desires the very best for all people. The gospel message is that we too can partake of this nature. When Adam and Eve sinned, God did not curse them. He cursed the serpent. But to Adam and Eve, He gave that wonderful promise of the coming of Christ as "the seed of the woman" Genesis 3: This is Divine love - a love that is willing to lay down its life in order to save the one it loves. When we see the depth of the love of God, we see how far short of it we come ourselves. We can never produce this life of God ourselves, even if we strive after it for a million years. It has to be given to us by God. The Holy Spirit has come down to flood our hearts with this love Romans 5: Only one who is willing to live by this principle of sacrificial love can be used by God to build His church on earth. In 2 Chronicles 3:

Chapter 4 : Man's Way Vs God's Way Sermon by Tim Zingale, Matthew - theinnatdunvilla.com

As a godless man, not concerned about the spiritual promises God had given to Abraham, Esau was clearly seeking his own way, not God's way. His tears (, 38) may make us feel sorry for him. But remember, Esau wasn't truly repentant, ready to turn from his self-seeking ways to follow God's ways.

No one comes to the Father except through Me. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. All the righteousness which he has done shall not be remembered; because of the unfaithfulness of which he is guilty and the sin which he has committed, because of them he shall die. When a righteous man turns away from his righteousness, commits iniquity, and dies in it, it is because of the iniquity which he has done that he dies. So I gave them over to their own stubborn heart, to walk in their own counsels. Oh, that My people would listen to Me, that Israel would walk in My ways! I would soon subdue their enemies, and turn My hand against their adversaries. Yet they seek Me daily, and delight to know My ways, As a nation that did righteousness, and did not forsake the ordinance of their God. They ask of Me the ordinances of justice; they take delight in approaching God. Why have we afflicted our souls, and You take no notice? I entreated Your favor with my whole heart; be merciful to me according to Your word. O my God, I trust in You Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Beware that you do not forget the Lord your God by not keeping His commandments Then it shall be, if you by any means forget the Lord your God, and follow other gods, and serve them and worship them, I testify against you this day that you shall surely perish. As the nations which the Lord destroys before you, so you shall perish, because you would not be obedient to the voice of the Lord your God. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Chapter 5 : Meekness and Humility: God's Cure for Pride, Arrogance and Haughtiness

Man Up God's Way, Eureka, Missouri. K likes. Our ministry is dedicated to teaching men to become godly in an ungodly world. Now is the time!

In addition, this handout that can be downloaded, printed, and shared. To watch the message that inspired this blog post, click the button below. Be a man of action. Assume it is your job and your moment. Psalm , Proverbs Silence in the midst of sin is a sin. Fear God, not man. Speak the truth in love. Better is open rebuke than love that is concealed. Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but deceitful are the kisses of an enemy. Open your mouth, judge righteously, and defend the rights of the afflicted and needy. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world. Be vigilant against pride. Get the log out of your eye. Let the righteous smite me in kindness and reprove me; it is oil upon the head; do not let my head refuse it, for still my prayer is against their wicked deeds. Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you. Seek first His Kingdom, His glory, and His righteousness. Hope in the eternal. Live for a greater reward.

Chapter 6 : 5 Characteristics Of A Godly Man, and 44 Verses To Help You Become One. - Watermark

They claimed God's way had failed, that God's way wouldn't get the job done and it just wasn't fancy enough. It seems obvious that Christians in general, and Baptists in particular, are still guilty of using the same old excuse for rejecting God's way.

Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; 1 Corinthians 2: The word flesh means: The physical body or the human nature, the earthly nature of man apart from divine influence, and therefore prone to sin disobedience and opposed to God. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh carnal mind cannot please God. Many people believe that these scriptures are only referring to the sinful nature of the flesh verses the holy nature of the Spirit. I am just going to point out a few that will help expound on the point of this teaching. It is an act of subtraction. You never subtract something and end up with more as a result. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you. How can you know for sure that there will be an increase as a result of giving, or that you will end up in poverty as a result of saving? It goes against logic! Can you be absolutely sure, that when you give, it will be measured back to you? Healing The way that Jesus healed several people is completely absurd to the carnal mind. And He took him aside from the multitude, and put His fingers in his ears, and He spat and touched his tongue. Then, looking up to heaven, He sighed, and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened. He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" which is translated, Sent. So he went and washed, and came back seeing. Who knew that sticking fingers in ears, spit, and clay could heal deafness and blindness!! Would they get healed? God is not a cookie-cutter God. It seems that every time He does something, He does it differently than before. It is because He wants us to seek Him for direction, every moment of every day. Jesus only did what He saw the Father doing This should be our pattern; to seek God. Not formulas, but an intimate relationship with the Lord, every moment of the day, being sensitive to the leading of His Spirit. If our Father God spelled everything out in a formula, we would never need to seek Him. We would just follow the formula. He wants our time, our trust, our obedience, and especially our love and devotion. I believe that is one of the reasons why His ways do not make any sense to the carnal mind. His ways also require complete faith in Him. Why would we need faith if obedience to His word was logical? Victory in the Battle There are some bizarre ways the Lord instructed the Israelites to do battle. There are some bizarre ways battles were won. It seems that every battle was won in a different way. Then Joash the king of Israel came down to him, and wept over his face, and said, "O my father, my father, the chariots of Israel and their horsemen! Then he said to the king of Israel, "Put your hand on the bow. And he said, "Open the east window"; and he opened it. Then Elisha said, "Shoot"; and he shot. And he said to the king of Israel, "Strike the ground"; so he struck three times, and stopped. And the man of God was angry with him, and said, "You should have struck five or six times; then you would have struck Syria till you had destroyed it! But now you will strike Syria only three times. I think Joash only struck the ground three times because, in his carnal mind, it all seemed so silly to him. He probably felt incredibly foolish as he banged those arrows on the ground! He probably only followed through a bit just to appease the prophet Elisha. Does that make sense? What would our nation think if President Bush started striking the ground with a raffle during this time of war? In Joshua 6, you probably know what happened to the Wall of Jericho. They marched around the city wall 7 times, priests blew trumpets, they shouted, and the wall fell down flat, giving them access to go into the city and win a great victory. Is marching in a circle around a city 7 times, blowing trumpets, and shouting, the logical, rational, wise way of demolishing a wall to the ground? Think for a moment about a construction

demolition team marching around a building 7 times, blowing trumpets, and screaming to get the building to fall to the ground, instead of using heavy equipment and hard labor. What if they were led by God to do that very thing? What would people, who were standing by, think? They would be laughing them to scorn! They would think they were complete idiots! What if he asked you to walk around a building worshiping and praying out loud, and then give a shout? It is your will to obey. But most would not do what they want to do "obey" because of the carnal mind that is contrary to the Spirit I believe this is the number one reason why we are not seeing many miracles today. Remember, the word "flesh" in this scripture, in the original Greek language, can also be translated "carnally minded". Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ. Have you ever shared the gospel with someone who replied by saying they are a good person? It is foolishness to them, if you inform them that without Christ, their goodness will lead them straight to hell. It is especially foolish to them if you inform them that a murderer who has received the Lord will be in heaven, while they who are "good", who have rejected Jesus, will be in hell. How about Jesus, a man "but also God in human form, being raised from the dead, who is still living over years, and seated at the right hand of the Father? It has to be received by revelation from the Holy Spirit and faith because it is contrary and foolish to the carnal mind. In my heart of hearts, I desire to be led by the Spirit of God daily, obeying even when it seems foolish, without fear of what people will think. Let us together, daily take our cross destiny, denying ourself our plan, and follow Christ His plan. It is when we lose our lives, we will find our lives. How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! My next letter will build upon this one with a teaching about what it means to be the greatest in the Kingdom of God. All comments are welcomed and appreciated.

Chapter 7 : Knowing God's Ways | cfcindia, Bangalore

15th Sunday after Pentecost. Proper Matthew "Man's Way vs God's Way" 21 ¶ From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.

Does the Bible teach this? How to find your specifically created partner is the issue and many people go astray in this stage of life. Worldly way of finding a husband or wife Because every person needs a partner at some point in life, the world has provided its ways of finding a husband or wife. The world, Satan, is a snare to Christians and many have fallen to its deception. It teaches and gives you everything you need but it neither promises nor guarantees a perfect heavenly partner. Many churches are preaching and teaching how to find a husband or wife the worldly way. Satan main agenda is to take Jesus Christ away from this world. Should a Christian Search for a Husband or Wife To answer this question correctly, lets us go back to creation for answers. God created first Adam and He put him in the Garden of Eden. And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. But God knew that at a certain time, Adam will feel lonely and start looking for a helper or companion; he will need a partner. Therefore, God saw that it was not good for Adam to be alone. God took steps to make Adam a helper. He did not go directly to give Adam his helper because Adam was comfortable and satisfied in his state of loneliness. Therefore, God had to make Adam feel lonely, feel the need. He gave Adam a task to perform. God created all animals and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: Realize that verse 18 comes before verse 19 and this is not a mistake. And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him. The animals were in pairs and Adam gave them all names e. At that point Adam felt his loneliness and in need of a partner. After Adam realized his loneliness, God did not give him a chance to look for a companion. It is God who created and brought a woman to man Adam not Adam searching or looking for his wife. God did not tell Adam to go look for a partner. Just from the first look at the woman, Adam realized that she was his perfect partner. Because Adam saw bone of his bones, flesh of his flesh. Reason he named her woman because she was taken out of him. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed. When you were created, and put in the Garden of Eden the world , you did not feel lonely in need of a husband or wife. Being young, you had no need of a opposite sex partner and you did not even know anything about the opposite sex but God knew there is a time you will need a partner of the opposite sex. Like Adam, you lived in the Garden of Eden, the world, comfortable satisfied and feeling complete; no loneliness. Even before you were created, God knew it is not good for you to be alone and He is in the process of making you realize your loneliness. God knew when creating you that a time will come when you will feel lonely and need a partner. Like Adam, He gives you a task and in the process you realize your loneliness. It is until God intervenes and makes you feel lonely when you realize that you need a helper. It is until God triggers your hormones in the body, or like Adam He gives you a task to perform, for you to realize you need a partner of the opposite sex. He gave Adam the task of naming animals and to you and me, He also gives us a task to perform to realize our loneliness. It may be going to an event, walking seeing couples happy together, etc or He may trigger your body hormones. When you feel lonely, needing a husband or wife, do not go to search but instead sleep. Going out to search or find your helper is ungodly; unbiblical. The time you are asleep like Adam, it is the time when God creates your exact match. Sleeping means that you do not go to search or act in anyway but letting your mind soul and body sleep on this issue. By sleeping, you allow God do His creation which He began and He will accomplish by giving you your exact heavenly made husband or wife at the right time and place. God does not give His own a chance or allow them to search for their husband or wife. If Adam was allowed to find, what could he come out with as a helper, a partner, a companion? An ape, a monkey, a gorilla, a cow, a goat; straight an animal. When you go out to search for a helper, a companion, a

partner, husband or wife, without allowing God to create one for you, you come out with an animal. Many people even Christians have disobeyed God reason marriages are not marriages because we have gone out to search, came out with an animal and married an animal. It is God who brings the perfect match He has created to you. You just have to sleep and your Godly Heavenly created perfect husband or wife will be brought to you at the right time and place. Go on with your life as though there is nothing you need, like you do not feel the need. People who have stuck with God and obeyed Him, they have found their God created partners. The answer is Yes! Wait for God, you can wait! Therefore fellow Christians and every person who will come across this teaching, learn to obey God. Sleep and wait for God to create and bring your perfect partner at the right time and place. He will definitely do it at the right time. Going out to search or find a husband or wife is going against God plan of creation; creating you. For those who went out as the world teaches, searched and married see when you marry the wrong person Jesus is Coming.

Chapter 8 : God's Way versus our ways

God's way of salvation is also foolishness according to man's wisdom. 1 Corinthians For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Wells The eighth chapter of 1 Samuel tells a very familiar story. From the time of their beginning until the time of the event recorded in this chapter, the Israelites had lived under a theocratic type government. The dictionary tells us that a theocracy is a government recognizing the immediate sovereignty of God. They were continually to look to Him as their King. In this chapter a strange thing happens. Israel demands a king!! Many reasons were advanced for this action. Samuel had made his two sons judges in Israel and they had corrupted the office. Secondly, the nations bordering on Israel now gave signs of renewed uprisings to threaten Israel. The people were fearful of the situation as it stood and they clamored for a strong king with a strong army. Thirdly, they wanted to be like the nations around them. They coveted the grandeur, pomp, regality and power of the surrounding nations. These, then, were the excuses Israel gave for demanding a king. Bear them in mind. Seemingly no effort has been put forth even to invent new excuses. Jesus Christ established the church and until He comes again God has chosen to accomplish His work on earth through the churches. His program for evangelization, maintenance of the ordinances, teaching, benevolence, etc. They have continually rejected the church and tried to build something better and, as has been said, they still use the same old tired excuses! We will confine our remarks to Baptists. It is reasoned that individual Baptist churches would never get the job done-- there must be some powerful, central government holding these churches together. Again, Baptists have reasoned, if we were all bound together in a real organization we would be so much stronger, so much better equipped to oppose the enemy. By organizing all the Baptist churches together, it is argued, a great force is presented, elaborate publications can be sent forth, missionary boards formed, great schools built, etc. Regardless of how good the purpose is, it is a grievous wrong to reject God and His plan. Again, the same bug that bit Israel has bitten Baptists. The majority of Baptists desire the pomp and grandeur of other religions. Prosperity and popularity which the world will accept has become the goal of many. The amazing thing is that this is so obvious, and yet is so vigorously denied! It would be amusing, if it were not so tragic, to listen to one organized group of Baptists condemn another organized group for being organized! Is all this important? Does it make any difference how the job is done? Notice the expression in verse 7 where God speaks, "They have rejected me. For local Baptist churches to bind themselves together in unscriptural organizations is to reject God! Christ is the head of each local church, but headquarters are changed in large organizations of churches. Through Samuel God warned Israel concerning an earthly king. In verses 11 through 18 conditions under such a king are described. The king would ride with great pomp and dignity in a chariot. There would be chariots and horsemen which would ride in great style before the king. Can anyone fail to see how this picture not only fits what was going to happen to Israel under a king but also what happens to Baptists under organizational rule of denominations, conventions, associations, fellowships, etc.? Saul, riding in all his pomp and glory, is a fitting picture of the convention, association or fellowship president! The picture is too clear not to fit! Is there anything more costly or more demanding upon the churches than the support of the machine? Every year a greater percentage of the money given is needed to run the machine and less gets to the work! Under David and Solomon the nation reached great heights. It is also well to note that nearly every Baptist organization of churches that has ever existed started out well! Great things are accomplished--for a while! Israel did fine as long as David was on the throne. It continued to do well under Solomon, but when these two passed on the trouble began. So it has ever been with Baptist machines. Strong men with strong personalities will bind Baptists together and flourish for a while, but with their passing, lesser men can only fight over the remains! After the temporary success in Israel, the decline and decay began. They made treaties and intermarried with the pagan nations around them. Idolatry again reared its ugly head. Compromise and cowardice were on every hand. Israel lost its purpose! They divided and died! Israel has never come back. Her glory will only be restored when she again accepts her rightful King! Temporary success nearly always comes in the attempt to organize Baptists. Just like Israel of old, however, decay and

decline begin almost immediately. When Baptists become successful in their organizations, success itself demands compromise: Compromise becomes a necessity. They lose their purpose! They divide and die! They never come back! Almost without exception every organized group of Baptists will recognize the truth of what has been said thus far. However, most of them will prefer to remain blind to the fact that what has happened to others is also happening to them! As editor of this paper *The Central Contender* and author of this article I would like to digress from my usual procedure and interject a personal word or two. For several years now, through this paper and my pulpit, I have been humbly trying to show the error and danger of Baptists organizing themselves into conventions, associations, fellowships, etc. The response in the majority has been favorable! There have been some, well, not so favorable! Not one single time has anyone from any organization even attempted to deny the truth we have published concerning this error! Those who have vigorously protested, however, almost without exception, made the same accusation. They seem to think that machine Baptists with their missionary boards are the only ones getting missionaries on the field and that true, independent Baptist churches are not getting the job done. I submit the following truths: One of the biggest of these organizations requires over churches to get one missionary on the field. Another organization, new and aggressive though it be, still takes over of the churches to get one missionary on the field. Hundreds of unsung and unheralded, independent Baptist churches all over this country are easily beating that kind of record and many others would equal it! God has a plan of salvation and it makes a difference whether we follow that plan. God had a plan for the ark and Noah was expected to follow. It made a difference when Moses disobeyed. It made a difference how they came. It made a difference. God gave minute instructions for building the temple and tabernacle. Our humble prayer is that God will touch hearts with the kind of conviction that will cause Baptists to return to Bible methods.

Chapter 9 : Lesson My Way Or God's Way? (Genesis) | theinnatdunvilla.com

God's Word Is True Teaching The Way Of God Honesty Way, The Jewish Sects Christ Telling The Truth Flattery Christ Teaching And they sent their disciples to Him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are truthful and teach the way of God in truth, and defer to no one; for You are not partial to any.

This shall never happen to you. You are a hindrance to me; for you are not on the side of God, but of men. Or what shall a man give in return for his life? Even the characters of some commercials have a way of living far beyond even the product itself: It is like that for me with the old Charmin commercials. Whipple has lived on and, on even though the commercial has changed, his presence has lived with that product for years. His Charmin commercial, I think, has a lot to say to us also about this-text and our lives. You remember the commercial: Whipple who appears very shy has to call a halt to all the women shoppers who find Charmin tissue so irresistible that they feel compelled to pick it up and squeeze it. Whipple finds many different ways to catch the ladies in their act of squeezing. But in the end Mr. Whipple, with great embarrassment, finds himself guilty of squeezing the Charmin also. Remember last week, Peter was the hero of our lesson because he confessed that Jesus was the Christ, the son of the living God. Jesus had asked the disciples who do men say that I am? The disciples gave him many different answers, then he asked them, "but who do you say that I am? Jesus was the Son of God who came to this earth to show and to tell the people of God, the Israelites, about God in a very real and personally way. Peter had put it all together for that moment at least, he knew who Jesus was. Peter changes so quickly in fact, that Jesus equates him with the devil when he says, "Get behind me Satan" you are tempting me, you are hindering me you are trying to make me change my mind about the course that I am suppose to take. What did Peter do so wrong to change so quickly from the hero to a ghost in just a few short minutes? Peter in our gospel text this morning is like that Charmin tissue, he is being squeezed by the forces of tradition, the forces of his own human nature, the forces of his own ideas. Peter is trying to tell Jesus that suffering, pain, and the cross are not part of the plan for the Messiah. Jesus told the disciples that he would suffer at the hands of the religious rulers, he would in fact be put to death by these ruler, but God would raise him on the third day. Jesus was explaining the concept of the suffering servant, the suffering Messiah to the disciples, and Peter out of love and respect, out of his own ideas about the Messiah, out of his own sense of glory and righteousness took Jesus in his large arms and said, "God forbid, Lord.