

Give Us Something Practical

Intro: We often hear the cry to give us something practical relative to our teaching and preaching. Any expressed thought—good or bad—is likely to be repeated many times, because most people do not think for themselves, they are merely led by others. This statement is being used in an attempt to get away from the fundamental items of the faith. Its usage spells danger.

I. THE MEANING OF PRACTICAL.

- A. It means that which is capable of being turned to use or account, useable.
- B. Scriptures.
 - 1. There is a practicality in every scripture.
 - 2. 2 Tim. 3:16-17 “All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: ¹⁷That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.”
 - 3. One verse may be more practical at a particular time for one person than for another, but every verse is practical.

II. SOME THINK DOCTRINAL TOPICS ARE NOT VERY PRACTICAL: GOD THOUGHT OTHERWISE.

- A. **Mat. 15:9** “But in vain they do worship me, teaching *for* doctrines the commandments of men.”
 - 1. False doctrine renders worship vain.
 - 2. Thus, true doctrine is practical.
- B. **2 John 9** “Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.”
 - 1. False doctrine keeps one from having God.
 - 2. Thus, true doctrine is practical.
- C. **1 Tim. 4:16** “Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.”
 - 1. If one must take heed to doctrine to save himself and others.
 - 2. Then, that doctrine is practical.
- D. **Rev. 22:18-19** “For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: ¹⁹And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book.”
 - 1. If adding to or subtracting from the Bible will cause a man to be lost:
 - 2. Then sticking to the Bible is practical.
- E. **1 Cor. 16:13** “Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.” **Eph. 4:14** “That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;” **Jude 3** “Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort *you* that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.”
 - 1. If we are indoctrinated so that we will not be blown aside by false doctrine:

2. Then we have been given something practical.

III. IT IS PRACTICAL TO HEAR THINGS AGAIN; EVEN THOUGH YOU ALREADY KNOW IT.

- A. **2 Pet. 3:1-2** “This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in *both* which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: ²That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:”
 1. It stirs up our minds.
 2. Brings it to our remembrance.
- B. **It feeds the soul; 1 Pet. 2:2** “As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:”
- C. **It enables one to learn a lesson well enough to teach it to others.**
 1. **2 Tim. 2:2** “And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”
 2. **Heb. 5:12** “For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which *be* the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.”

IV. TEACHING SOULS TO BE SAVED IS THE MOST PRACTICAL THING IN THE WORLD.

- A. **Mat. 28:19-20** “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: ²⁰Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.”
- B. **Even though you know the truth, you should rejoice when others are learning them.**
- C. **You do not grow tired of hearing that which you love.**
 1. Examples
 - a. Your child climbs into your lap, gives you a hug and says, “I love you.”
 - b. The husband who says to his wife: “I told you I loved you when we got married and if anything changes, I will let you know.”
 2. We should have that type of love for the truth.
- D. **If you love truth, you rejoice to hear error rebuked; Psa. 97:10** “Ye that love the Lord, hate evil: he preserveth the souls of his saints; he delivereth them out of the hand of the wicked.”