

WAR OF THE WORLDS –#4

Genesis 3:1-4 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of **every tree** of the garden, **v2** And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; **v3** but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die, **v4** Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die.

Notice --The serpent told Eve that she would **NOT** die if she ate of the fruit of the Tree.

Certainly, God is not so restrictive and narrow, she must have thought! The serpent said: Indeed, did **GOD say that** 'You shall not eat from **any tree** of the garden?

Did you CATCH that - Did God say that? – Oh no, God didn't say that you couldn't touch it - God said you could not eat from it, "**Lest you die.**"

Notice how Eve ---is already falling prey to the serpent's progressive temptation, saying "...Yeah, you know, it's really just one tree - but **Eve** says that **God said** we shouldn't eat from it and that **we shouldn't even touch it.**" (adding to God's Word)

Rev 22:18- "For I testify to everyone who hears the Words of the prophecy of this Book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add on him the plagues that have been written in this Book. **v19** ...if anyone takes away from the Words of the Book of this prophecy, God will take away his part out of the Book of Life.

God warns against distorting His Word in any way, whether through additions, subtractions, falsifications, alterations, or intentional misinterpretations.

Proverbs 30:5-6 contains a similar warning to anyone who would add to God's words: he will be rebuked and proven to be a liar.

Well, my, my, my! Welcome to the 21st Century Battlefield!

Both Adam and Eve had a clear, concise command, just **ONE prohibition** - It wasn't hard to understand!

As soon as someone, be it a preacher, the Pope, or some denomination, who does not completely & wholeheartedly, without reservation, trust in the inerrant, infallible, all-sufficient Word of God as true, as **BEING** the only source of our highest joy and fulfillment – **The Supreme Court, the Final arbitrator, or authority.**

This is where the fall began - it didn't happen when **EVE** took a bite of an "apple" and ate; it happened when **EVE** thought, believed, that **GOD** is narrow, restrictive, that God is withholding something good, that **GOD** was not telling **EVE** the truth, but the Serpent was!

Eve then agreed --that the **ONE prohibition GOD** had given was unnecessary, too narrow, and too restrictive, and untrue!

What does EVE do next? She makes the problem worse by adding to what **GOD** has said, **"Or touch it."**

What are the Consequences when God's Word --has been compromised, tampered with, manipulated, and judged as being unacceptable to her? **That God's Word** is too narrow, limiting, and restrictive...

This warning --reflects the sacredness of the Bible, which is described in **2nd Timothy 3:16-17** as being 'God-breathed' and useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness.

The act of altering God's Word --not only distorts its intended message but also leads to spiritual lawlessness, a theme echoed in **Matthew 5:19**. "So then, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do likewise will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever practices and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

The integrity of Scripture --is paramount, because it is the foundation of faith and doctrine, guiding believers in their walk with **GOD**.

In a world increasingly --influenced by secular ideologies and political correctness, postmodernism, and progressivism, the call to uphold the truth of the Bible remains vital.

Hebrews 4:12 reminds us that the Word of God is alive and active, sharper than any double-edged sword, discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Our reverence for the Scriptures --is essential, ensuring that believers remain anchored in the unchanging truth of **GOD'S** revelation.

Progressive Christianity—this term sounds so positive. The word “progressive” suggests new ideas, creative methods, or a “cutting-edge approach” to ministry — it may be seen as “out-of-the-box” thinking.

Instead of being a positive –something to be adopted, progressive Christianity is in complete opposition to the beliefs of orthodox Christianity.

Today's Progressivism stands as an ungodly alternative --to the truth

Heretical doctrines frequently arise from the misinterpretation of Scripture, putting personal experience above Biblical truth,

Denominationalism — is a false unity through division — it is an oxymoron – Because being divided does not result in unity

Churches that claim -that miraculous **gifts continued beyond the apostolic age**, that signs, wonders, and miracles were divine interventions in the natural laws of the universe, and not the hyperbole (the extravagant, exaggerations) we use today.

- **The sick, the blind, and the lame were healed;** the dead were raised, and water was turned into wine.

- **Miracles ceased**-- after the apostolic age, because their sole purpose was to authenticate, affirm both the message and the messengers.

We are not justified by faith (only) -when the only place we find the words "faith" and "alone" (or "only") together ---is in James, where we read that justification is "**not by faith alone.**" You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only" **James 2:24.**

We are justified by faith --apart from works of the Law, but genuine faith always results in good works— **See Hebrews 11:**

Claiming the Bible is not inerrant or authoritative -Whoever falls for this heresy must deny what the Bible claims for itself, that the words of Scripture are inspired ("They are God-breathed"), accurately protected by the Holy Spirit, and not of man's own interpretation.

Denying the authority of God's Word does not nullify its power to guide us in righteousness as a perfect standard and path to eternal life.