

Eisenhower Church of Christ

That's Just Your Interpretation

Imagine that you, and hundreds of citizens like you, pick up today's newspaper and find the following advertisement for Lowe's on page 3:

- Free Kobalt Carpenter's hammer (valued at \$25) to the first 50 customers who come in the store on Saturday, January 26th.
- Customer must present this ad upon entering the store
- Limit one hammer per customer
- Store opens at 7 a.m.

Question: Would it be possible for everyone within the local community, assuming they can read and understand English, to look over this very same grand opening promotion, and then come to the exact same interpretation? Could we expect unity of understanding pertaining to this ad? Consider:

- ◆ According to the ad, what is to be given away? When will these items be given away? How many will be given away? How many gifts can one customer expect to receive?
- ◆ What if a customer forgets to bring the newspaper clipping/ad with him when he enters the store on Saturday? Will he receive a free hammer?
- ◆ What if a customer brings the newspaper ad with him, but is the 51st customer through the door? Can he expect to receive a free hammer?
- ◆ What if a customer brings the newspaper ad to Lowe's on Friday, April 25th, rather than Saturday, April 26th? Will he receive a free hammer?
- ◆ What if a customer brings the newspaper ad to Home Depot on Saturday, April 26th, instead of Lowes? Will he receive a free hammer?
- ◆ What if a customer brings the newspaper ad to Lowe's on Saturday, April 26th, receives a free hammer, then immediately gets back in line again in order to try to get another one?
- ◆ What if the customer is the 14th patron to enter Lowe's on Saturday, April 26th, holds the newspaper clipping in hand, at 7:01 a.. And yet Lowe's insists that he pay for the hammer instead of giving it to him? He might be inclined, and rightfully so, to go to the store manager and show him the newspaper ad. Now, what if the manager glances over the ad and then simply replies, "Sir- that's just your interpretation. We're not giving any hammers away today. You have to pay for everything in the store."

Every individual with the ability to reason logically can correctly interpret an advertisement. Assuming the customer goes to the right store, on the right day and time, armed with the right ad and if he is one of the first fifty customers, he can expect to receive a free hammer valued at \$25.00.

Now, if hundreds of local citizens can consume the same information about the gift of hammers, correctly interpret what has been put into print, and then rightfully expect the same outcome, why can't we also do the same thing with the gift of salvation (Romans 6:23; cf. 5:16)?

- ◆ Wouldn't you agree that God is powerful enough to communicate so that all can understand (cf. 1 Timothy 2:4; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Romans 1:16; Titus 1:3)? Hasn't God communicated clearly in his Word how individuals might receive the free gift (cf. 1 Corinthians 2:12-13; Matthew 10:19-20) he offers?
- ◆ Is it possible for us to read God's Word and correctly understand what He said (cf. Ephesians 5:17; 2 Timothy 2:15; Mark 7:14; Luke 8:11; Matthew 13:19-23)?

Brethren and friends, don't ever buy the false idea of "that's just your interpretation" (Luke 10:26' 24: 25-28; Acts 17:2-3 & 11; 1 Timothy 4:13).

—Mike Benson

Sympathy

Our condolences go out to Sylvia Campos and her family in the loss of her mom, **Petra Baca**, who passed away on May 11th at her son's home. Her services were held last Saturday at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Petra was 95 years old.

Concerns Update

Cathy Eastwood's foot surgery on May 17th went very well. She was able to go home that day. Cathy is having a lot of pain. Please keep her in your prayers for a speedy recovery.

Caimee Anne Mooney has been diagnosed with strep. We need to pray that both she and her mom will be well soon.

Prayer List

Maria Anaya; Wayne Anderson; Betty Branson; Betty Brooks; Bill & Mary Brown; K. C. Caulder; LaDonna Chism; Jon Cooper; Andrew Durfee; Jazmine Duron; Dana Erwin; Hattie Gilmore; Irma Gomez; Paul Gunn; Cody Guynn; Doug Guynn; Phil Halbert; Liz Leach; Mildred Lee; Betty Leeth; Miguel Lozano; Alex & Barbie Martinez; Ezekiel Martinez; Glenna McCarty; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Bruce & Trina Plyler; Jackie Rex; Corina Rodriguez; David Ryan; Diane Salinas; Gary Schwulst; Bill Tate; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Terresia Weaver; Janet Wesson; Charles Wood; John Wood.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Roberta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley and Marilyn Upshaw.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question ... (Sentence Completion)

Romans 8:28 is one of the most comforting of all verses of Scripture. It states, "And we know that all things work together for good..."

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer ...

"Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows" (Isaiah 53:4) The Apostle Matthew applied this verse to the healing ministry of Jesus. (Matthew 8:17)

Events Watch "*In Search of the Lord's Way*" Sunday mornings at 7:30 am on KWES TV 9.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Roberta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley and Marilyn Upshaw.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Office News

We have been invited to the “**Marriage of Stephen Easlon & Beth Ann Warren**” as they exchange their wedding vows next Saturday morning at 11:30 a.m. at their home: 12662 West 61st St., Odessa, TX 79764. Allen Weakland will assist them as they are united in marriage. Food will be served.

May 30th is our “**Fifth Sunday Service**”. We will have a Potluck Luncheon after the A.M. service followed by the P.M. service in the auditorium.

Different Interpretations?

Is each person entitled to their own interpretation of the Bible even though their interpretations are different? Many religious people believe they are, but, is this true? Does God allow all men to differ on the Bible?

First, where in the Bible are we taught that God allows different interpretations? Find the passage (s) that teach, “men can believe the Bible differently and please God” - if you can. Prepare for a long and fruitless search.

Second, if everyone can have different interpretations then what is the purpose of having the Bible? You might as well discard the Bible and make up your own religious rules. David Karesh made his, the pope makes his, most every television evangelist makes up his and so does every religious conference, council and convention. If they want women to preach publicly, they just make up an interpretation which explains away 1 Timothy 2:11-12. However, this approach will not please God and those who do it, will be lost (Matthew 15:8-9; Galatians 1:6-9; Revelation 22:18-19).

Third, notice the emphatic statement of 1 Cor. 1:10. If every Christian must “speak the same thing” then interpretations may not differ. If Christians must be “perfectly joined together” then division over interpretations is not allowed. This passage requires believers to have the same mind and the same judgment. This verse will not allow different thinking and conflicting viewpoints on doctrinal matters. God’s word is clearly refuting the idea that different interpretations can be held.

Fourth, Peter, Paul, James and John did not go **around** teaching different interpretations of God’s word. Thus, neither should any man living today. Where there are differences between two views of the Bible either one of them is wrong or both are wrong. But both cannot be right. Of course, God is ultimately right. Every man must endeavor to bring his thinking in line with God’s. All of us will be held personally accountable (2 Cor. 5:10).

—Tommy Moore

May 23, 2021

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer

A.M.

Jeff Wesson
Oliver Hernandez
Allen Weakland
Jeff Wesson
Jackie Perkins
Jaxon Straw
Jr. Munoz

P.M.

Jeff Wesson
Cody Wesson
Allen Weakland
Jeff Wesson
Tom Sorenson
Scot Straw
Charles Wood

Lords Supper

Scripture Reading: Josh Weakland

Craig Wesson

Communion

(In Library)

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Jeff Wesson 556-5547 – *Deacon:* Bill Ryan 352-4871 – *Pulpit:* John Wood 413-7444 – *Table:* Craig Wesson 934-4633 – *Song Leaders:* Larry May 638-3990 – *Recording Sermons:* Tommy Garcia 312-5332 – *Collections:* Tommy Garcia

Sunday AM

“Demonstrating Love”

(Philemon 1:8-16)

Sunday PM

“Conversion of the Ethiopian Eunuch”

(Acts 8:26-40)

Our Records

Bible Class... 34

Morning Worship...89

Evening Worship...54

Wednesday...52

Contribution...\$4,445.00