

MATTERS OF DISTINCTION

1 Peter 1:13–17; 2:9–10; Titus 2:11–14; 2 Corinthians 6:17–7:1; Romans 12:1–2

1 Peter 2:9–10 (NKJV)

⁹ But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; ¹⁰ who once *were* not a people but *are* now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

Titus 2:11–14 (NKJV)

¹¹ For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹² teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, ¹³ looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works.

2 Corinthians 6:17–7:1 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Therefore *“Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you.”* ¹⁸ *“I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the Lord Almighty.”* ¹ Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Romans 12:1–2 (NKJV)

¹ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is your reasonable service.* ² 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.

1 Peter 1:13–17 (NKJV)

¹³ Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest *your* hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; ¹⁴ as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, *as* in your ignorance; ¹⁵ but as He who called you *is* holy, you also be holy in all *your* conduct, ¹⁶ because it is written, “*Be holy, for I am holy.*” ¹⁷ And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one’s work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay *here* in fear.

MATTERS OF DISTINCTION

AS HE WHO CALLED YOU IS HOLY, YOU ALSO BE HOLY IN ALL YOUR CONDUCT



- We are to be DIFFERENT (1 Pet 1:13-16; 2:9-12; 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1; Titus 2:11-14).
- Not to be “conformed” but “transformed” (Rom. 12:1,2; Col. 2:8,9; Eph 2:2).
- Affections should not be on “worldly” things, but the things of Jesus (1 John 2:15-17; Col. 3:1,2; James 4:4).
- We can only have one master at a time (Mat. 6:24; John 8:34).

MATTERS OF DISTINCTION

AS HE WHO CALLED YOU IS HOLY, YOU ALSO BE HOLY IN ALL YOUR CONDUCT



- Not a matter of being different just to be different (*a thing is NOT wrong because the world or denomination does it*).
- Our distinctiveness is in following God's pattern, obeying His word, transforming our minds, attitudes, and deeds to be in harmony with God's will (Rom 12:1,2; John 15:3; 17:17; 1 Pet. 1:13-17)

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The video claims that the “church” is in decline BECAUSE of ITS DISTINCTIVE TEACHINGS AND PRACTICES.

STANDARD: “Devoted to a Biblical pattern, ... Opposed to all manmade traditions ... No Creed but Christ, no book but the Bible”

ORGANIZATION: “no organizational structure ... local church autonomy”

ONE BODY: “Exclusive salvation ... only churches of Christ are saved”

ONE BAPTISM: “Baptism, immersion in water in obedience to Jesus’s authority, is essential for salvation ... all other forms of baptism are wrong.”

WORSHIP: “The Lord’s supper is to be observed every Sunday” / “A cappella singing only, because musical instruments are not specifically authorized.”

MATTERS OF DISTINCTION

AS HE WHO CALLED YOU IS HOLY, YOU ALSO BE HOLY IN ALL YOUR CONDUCT

THE DISTINCTIVE STANDARD



Matthew 21:25-26

From Heaven

Mt. 21:23-27

1 John 4:4-6

Gal. 1:6-9

Col. 2:6-10

2 Thess. 2:15

Only Two
Possible
Sources

From Men

Mt. 15:1-9

1 Cor. 4:6

Gal. 1:10-17

Col. 2:8

2 Thess. 2:2-4

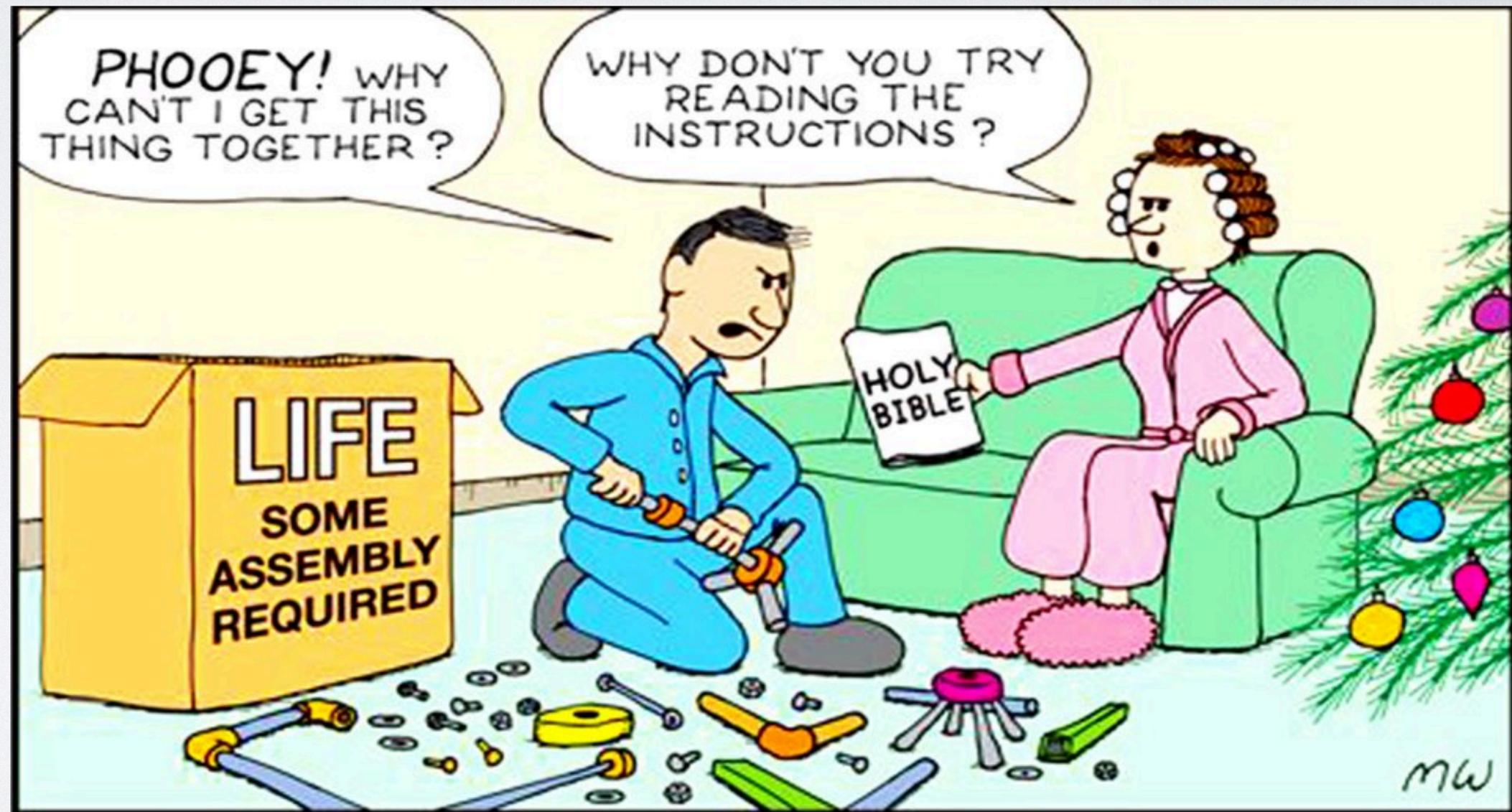
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THE DISTINCTIVE STANDARD

Proverbs 14:12
(NKJV)

12 There is a way
that seems right
to a man, But its
end *is* the way of
death.



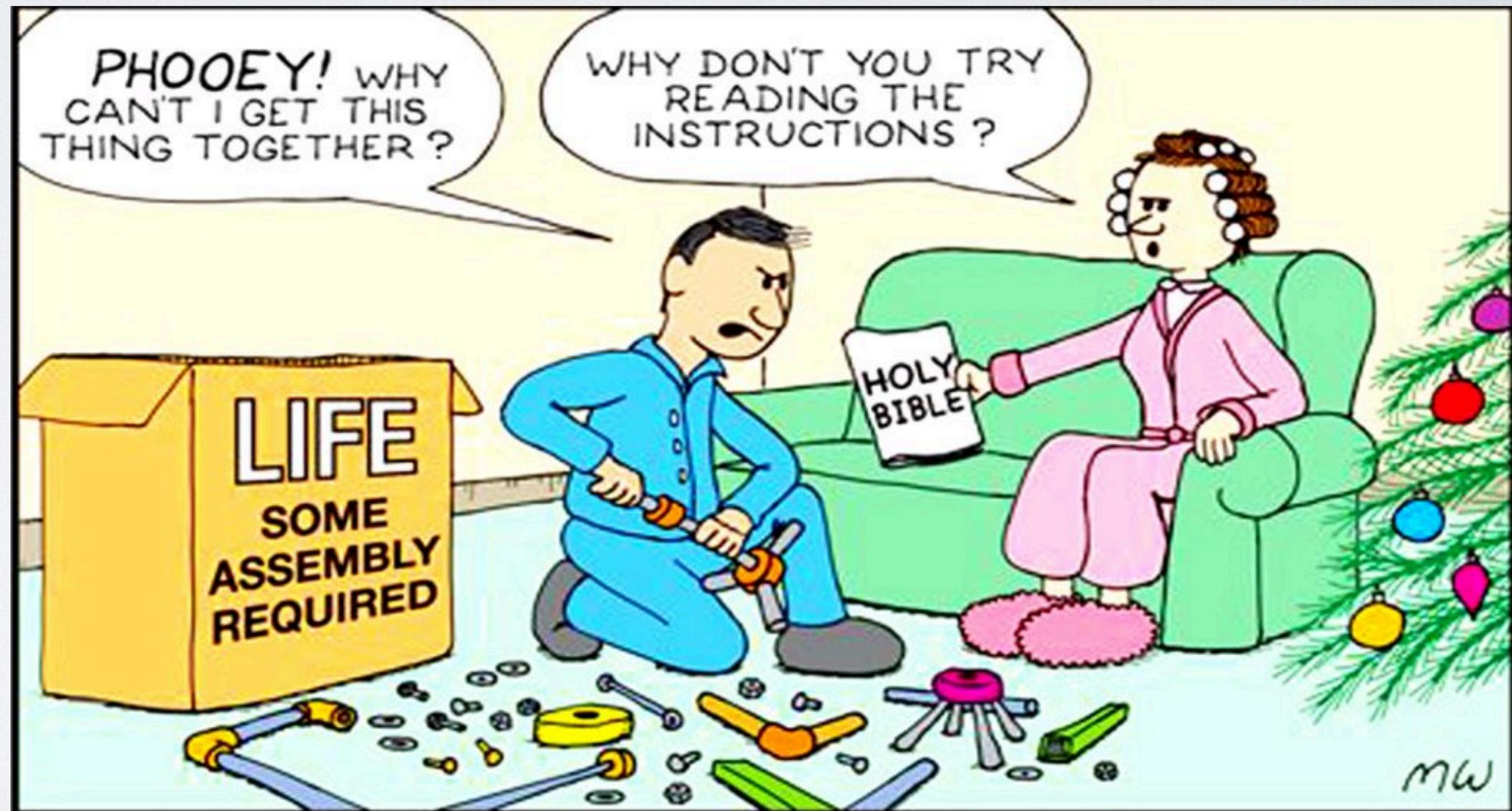
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THE DISTINCTIVE STANDARD

Jeremiah 10:23
(NKJV)

23 O Lord, I know the way of man *is* not in himself; *It is* not in man who walks to direct his own steps.



MATTERS OF DISTINCTION

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THE DISTINCTIVE STANDARD



2 Timothy 1:13 (NKJV)

¹³ Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

Titus 1:9 (NKJV)

⁹ holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.

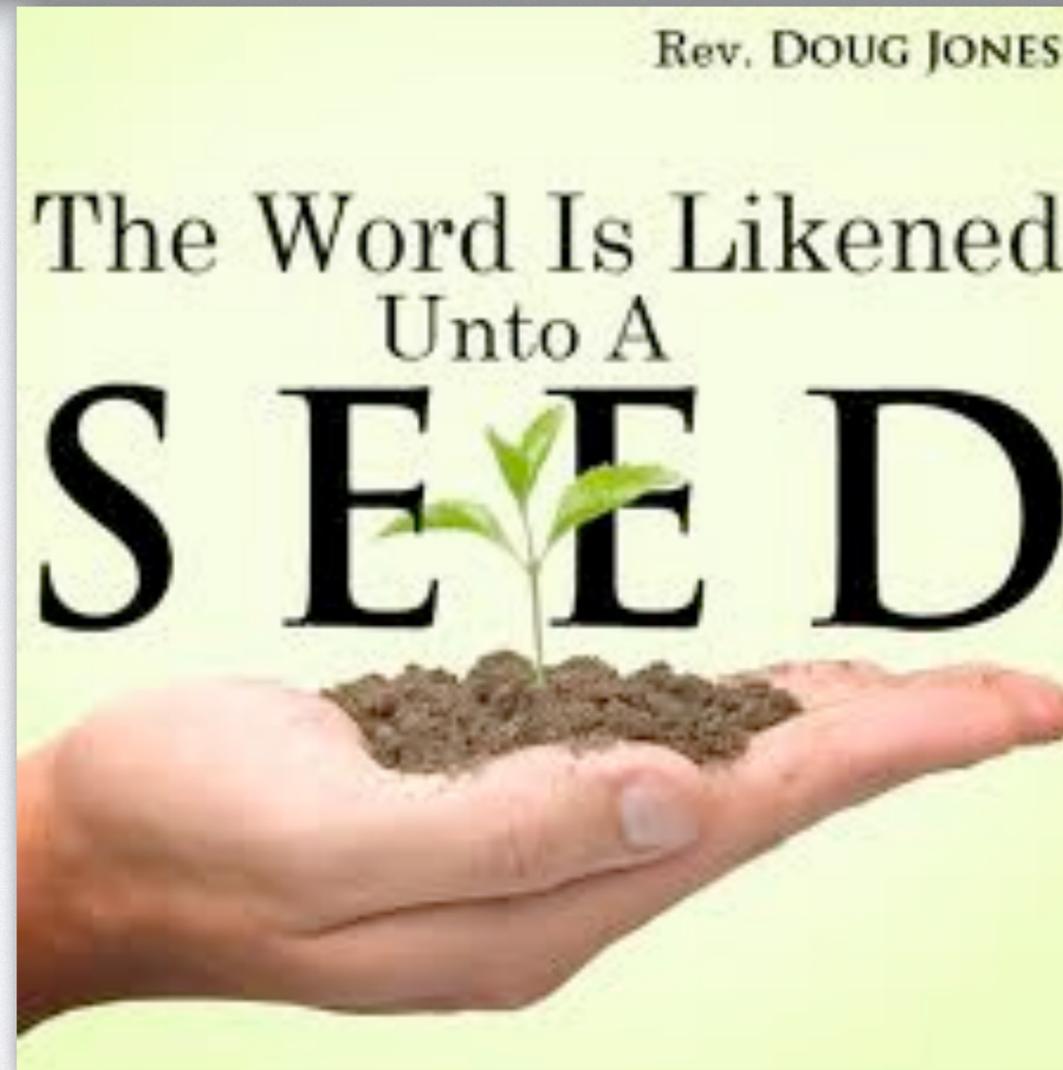
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AS HE WHO CALLED YOU IS HOLY, YOU ALSO BE HOLY IN ALL YOUR CONDUCT

THE DISTINCTIVE STANDARD



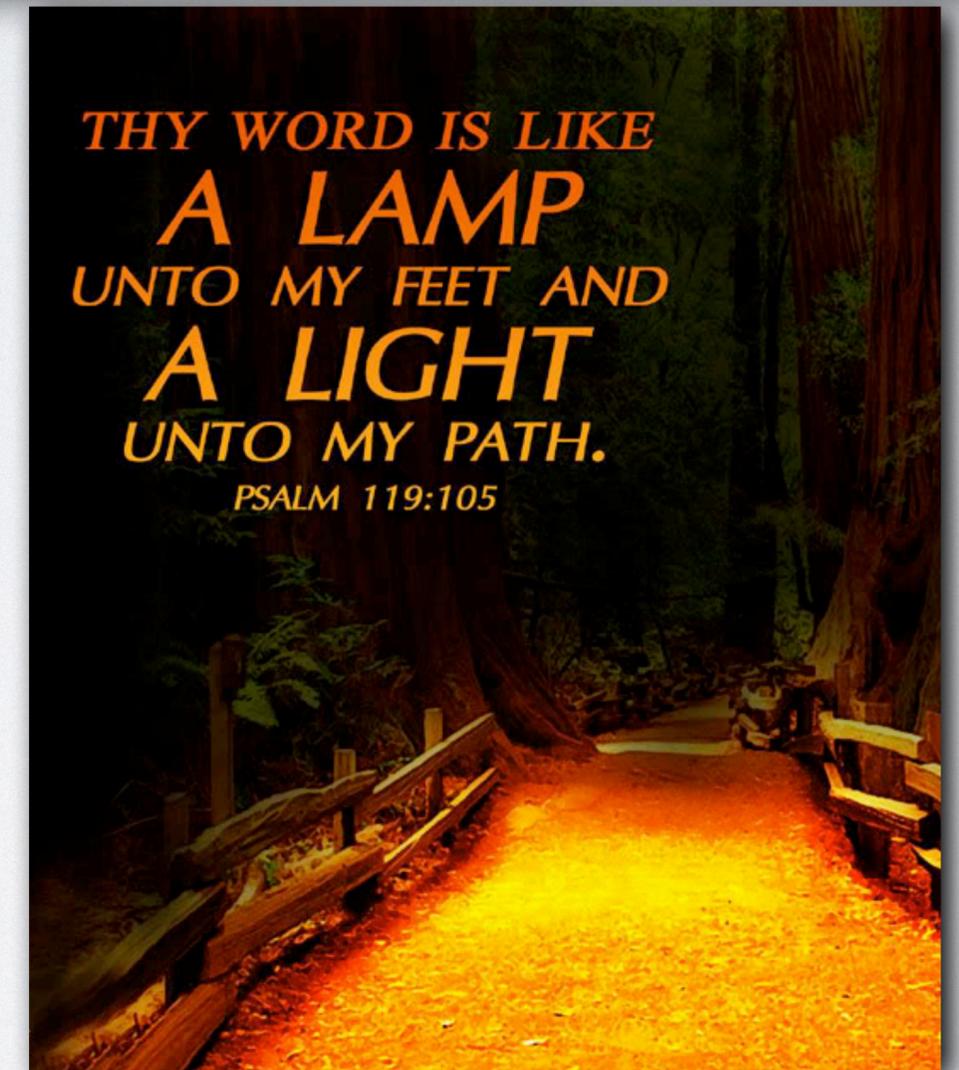
2 Timothy 1:13



Rev. DOUG JONES

The Word Is Likened
Unto A
S E E D

Luke 8:11-15



THY WORD IS LIKE
A LAMP
UNTO MY FEET AND
A LIGHT
UNTO MY PATH.

PSALM 119:105

Psalms 119:105

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THE DISTINCTIVE STANDARD



2 Timothy 3:14–17 (NKJV)

¹⁴ But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*, ¹⁵ and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

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2 Timothy 3:14–17 (NKJV)

¹⁶ All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

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THE DISTINCTIVE STANDARD

We cannot know the mind of God except through revelation

1 Cor 2:10, 11,14

Eph 3:3-5

Isaiah 55:8,9

Faith comes by hearing the word of CHRIST

ROMANS 10:17

God has revealed everything He wants us to know & do –

2 Pet 1:3;

2 Tim 3:16,17

Jude 3

Walking by faith means walking by what God has said

2 Cor. 5:7; 1 Cor. 4:6; Gal. 1:6-9

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THE DISTINCTIVE STANDARD

THE WORD OF GOD IS THE STANDARD
BY WHICH OUR EVERY WORD AND DEED
IS TO BE MEASURED.

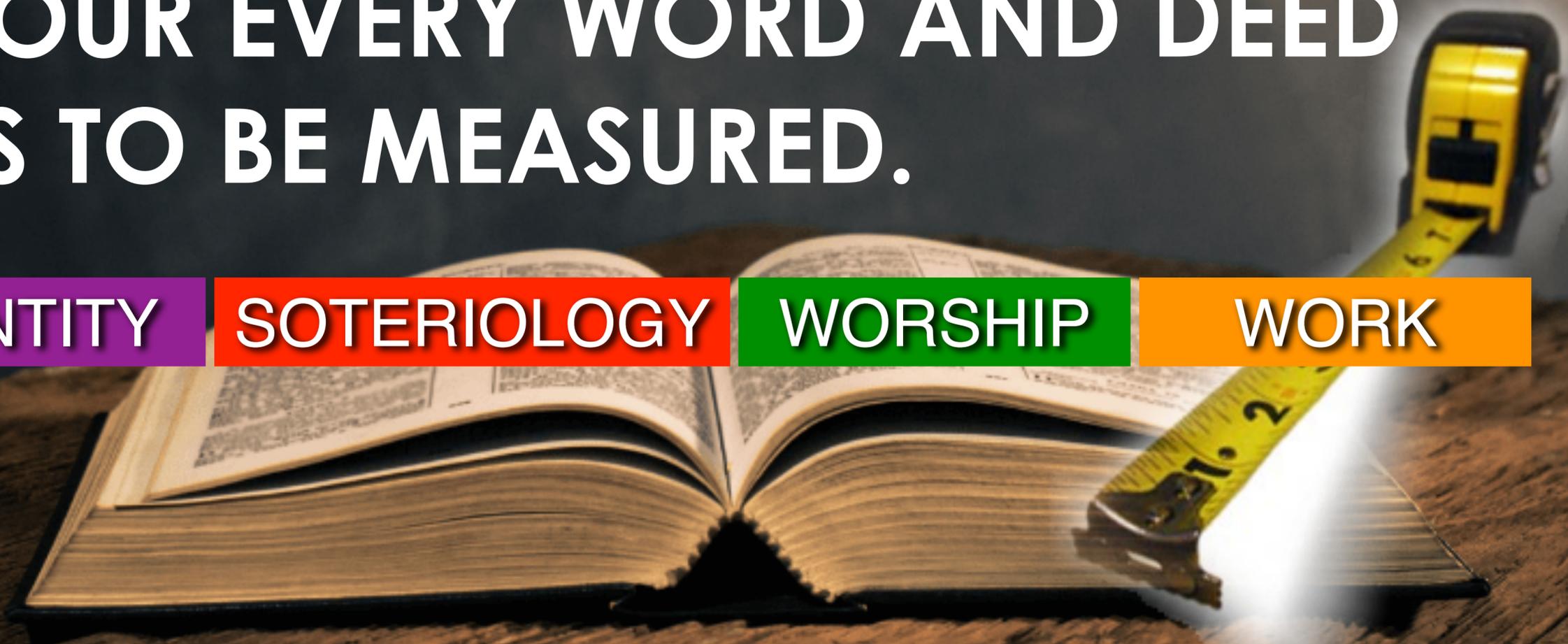
ORGANIZATION

IDENTITY

SOTERIOLOGY

WORSHIP

WORK



MATTERS OF DISTINCTION

AS HE WHO CALLED YOU IS HOLY, YOU ALSO BE HOLY IN ALL YOUR CONDUCT

THE DISTINCTIVE PREACHING



- In stressing the importance of distinctiveness, we are referring NOT to style, but to substance (Acts 18:24; 1 Cor. 1:17; 2:1; 2 Cor. 10:10; 11:6; 1 Cor. 3:5-9).
- Gospel preachers are to proclaim the word of God (2 Tim 4:2; Acts 20:20; 1 Peter 4:11)

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THE DISTINCTIVE PREACHING



- Preaching & teaching must be clear, precise, understandable, unambiguous, and unmistakably rooted in the Word of God (1 Cor. 14:6-12, esp. vv. 7-8; Jer. 6:16-19; Ezek. 3:16-19).
- The TRUTH must be spoken in LOVE (Eph 4:15; 1 Cor. 8:1; Acts 8:4)

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- As the chosen people of God, we are to be DIFFERENT (1 Pet 1:13-16; 2:9-12; 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1; Titus 2:11-14).
- We are not to be “conformed” by the world in our thinking, teaching or deeds (Rom. 12:1,2; Col. 2:8,9; Eph 2:2).
- Our distinctiveness comes from following God’s pattern, obeying His word, transforming our minds and deeds to be in harmony with God’s will (Rom 12:1,2; John 15:3; 17:17; 1 Pet 1:13-17).

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- Have you purified your souls in obeying the truth? (1 Pet 1:22, Acts 2:38)
- Are you living a holy life in service to God? (Rom 12:1,2; Eph 4:21-24)
- If the answer to either of these questions is no — receive the cleansing the blood of Christ provides, and begin living your life for Jesus, who died for you (Romans 6:3-19; Colossians 2:12,13; 3:1,2)

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SEPARATE

1 Peter 2:4–12 (NKJV)

⁴ Coming to Him *as to* a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God *and* precious, ⁵ you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, “*Behold, I lay in Zion A chief cornerstone, elect, precious, And he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.*”

1 Peter 2:4–12 (NKJV)

⁷ Therefore, to you who believe, *He is precious*; but to those who are disobedient, *“The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone,”*

⁸ and *“A stone of stumbling And a rock of offense.”*

They stumble, being disobedient to the word, to which they also were appointed. ⁹ But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

1 Peter 2:4–12 (NKJV)

¹⁰ who once *were* not a people but *are* now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy. ¹¹ Beloved, I beg *you* as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, ¹² having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by *your* good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.