

“Dispelling the Darkness of Ignorance”

2 Cor. 4:3-6

Introduction

- I. Let us be upfront and straightforward: ignorance abounds in the world today.
- II. The average person knows little to nothing about the Word of God.
- III. We need to do our parts to help ignorance fade (Matt. 5:13-16).

Discussion

- I. Are we motivated properly to dispel ignorance?
 - A. Paul was upset with the amount of ignorance that existed in Athens (Acts 17:16; cf. Jer. 20:9).
 - B. He took the opportunity to remove the ignorance in Athens (Acts 17:17-18).
- II. In order to remove ignorance, we have to start where a person is.
 - A. Paul knew that Athens was filled with idolatry, and he had to start somewhere (Acts 17:22-23).
 - B. Likewise, we need to start somewhere with those in our lifetimes.
 1. Paul identified the true God (Acts 17:24; cf. Rom. 1:20-21).
 2. God is the giver of life (Acts 17:25; cf. Psm. 100:3).
 3. God is in control (Acts 17:26; cf. Rom. 13:1ff.).
 4. God is to be worshipped (Acts 17:27)
 5. Paul even used some of the Athenians' poetry to address the ignorance (Acts 17:28).
 6. God is greater than any idol (Acts 17:29; cf. Isa. 44:16-17).
- III. Once one is presented the light of God's Word, what must he do to come out of the darkness of ignorance?
 - A. Repent (Acts 17:30-31; 2 Cor. 5:10; cf. Rom. 1:4; Rev. 1:5).
 - B. Not all will do such, but we must continue to let the light shine (Acts 17:32).

Conclusion

- I. Ignorance is not acceptable.
- II. As “light bearers”, we should be doing all that we can to dispel the darkness of ignorance (Eph. 4:15; 1 Cor. 2:2)