

Taking God At His Word

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Because of a failure to understand God's purposes as outlined in the Scriptures some have felt it necessary to alter many of the plainest statements of God's Holy Word. Supposing that God could not have meant exactly what He said, they have concluded that these things must be interpreted in a "spiritual" sense.

Actually, there is nothing spiritual about failing to take God at His Word and seeking to explain away difficulties by arbitrarily altering what He has plainly said.

First, this would leave us at the mercy of theologians. If the Scriptures do not mean what they say, who has the authority to decide what they do mean? And how can we turn to the Word of God for light if it does not mean what it says, and only trained theologians can tell us what it does mean?

Second, this altering of the Scriptures affects the veracity (accuracy) of God. It is a strike at His very honor. If the obvious, natural meaning of the Old Testament promises are not to be depended upon, how can we depend upon any promise of God? Then, when He says: "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Rom. 10:13), He may also mean something else instead of what He actually says.

Third, this "spiritualizing" of Scriptures endorses apostasy, for it allows men to alter the meaning of God's Word according to their will.

The path to a true understanding and enjoyment of the Bible is not in altering but in "rightly dividing" it as the verse below tells us to.

2nd Timothy 2:15 KJV "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Those who have resorted to the "spiritualization" of the prophetic Scriptures because they cannot account for their lack of understanding, will find the solution to their problem

in a recognition of the unique character of Paul's apostleship and message. Recognize "the mystery" revealed through Paul and there would be no need to alter prophecy.

Ephesians 3:9 KJV "And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:"

The Apostle Paul, tells us in this verse that "**the Gospel of Grace**" was **hid in God** from the beginning of the world **until it was reveled to him** by the Risen Lord Jesus Christ.