Do The First Century Teachings Still Apply Today?

Brent Moody · Matthew 28:16–20

INTRODUCTION

- Christ is King. He is the authority, and all is to be submitted to him.
- We have to choose whether to bow to the authority claimed by the Son of God, or whether on our own authority to discount a part of his teaching.
- The first century teachings, are they still applicable today? I mean, is the Bible actually sufficient?

1 Ways People Envision Scripture

- There's some who are very held to tradition, and so you have the Bible, but then you also have the ways we've always done things.
- We just have a little better knowledge of science and history and psychology and sociology, and so certainly some of those things in the Bible aren't really accurate.
- It's very easy to want to go to certain passages to defend what I already think.

2 The Apostles Were Given Special Authority

Acts 1:1–8; Acts 1:22

- Everyone knows who reads scripture carefully that the apostles were given special authority by Jesus Christ.
- There needs to be this fundamental reality that we take scripture on its own terms.
- You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.
- They were hand selected for this purpose as chosen witnesses with authority, given authority by Jesus Christ to speak on his behalf.

3 Guided Into All Truth

John 16:12–14; John 16:7

- When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears, he will speak.
- This is a conversation that primarily is happening between Jesus and his apostles.
- This is the very specific thing that was going to be done for them.
- This is a very specific circumstance and setting that involves these twelve men that he chose for this purpose.

4 Teaching Them to Observe All That I Have Commanded

Matthew 28:16–20

- Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always to the end of the age.
- If suddenly the apostles' doctrine and teaching is no longer applicable or valuable for us today, when did it stop being that way?
- But his word is constant. And what he has revealed is still relevant and still applicable. And the authority that he gave to his apostles still remains today.
- It's not like when Peter says something, it's less weighty than what Jesus says.

5 The Apostles Understand Jesus Has Given Them Authority

Romans 1:5; 1 Corinthians 7:17; 2 Thessalonians 2:15

- The apostles also understand that Jesus has given them authority.
- When we're reading the writings of the Apostle Paul, they are the teachings of Jesus Christ that he has given through the Apostle Paul.
- Stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word, or by our letter.
- These are traditions that are handed down from God and from his workers, not human tradition.

6 The Same Message in All the Churches

2 Peter 3:1–2; Acts 2:42; 3 John 9

- Shouldn't that message be consistent? And the same sorts of things being done?
- You should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles.
- They continued in the apostles' doctrine and the breaking of bread, fellowship, and prayer.
- We need to have this fundamental understanding that Jesus gave authority to the apostles. They speak on his behalf.

THE CHALLENGE

Which Christianity are we going to choose? The one that espouses to the authority of Jesus Christ and what he says? Or to the spirit of our age, changing it as we see fit to make us comfortable.

MY NOTES