The Joy of Study

Brent Moody · 2 Timothy 2:14–19

INTRODUCTION

- We enjoy this process. It's hard, it's difficult, but at the end of it, we've gotten something out of it, and we've gained something.
- Truth seeking is not afraid of being challenged. It's not afraid of dialogue. If I'm seeking truth, I'm not afraid to alter my beliefs.
- I want us to understand that joy and delight come from pursuing truth honestly, and not just mere validation seeking.

1 Do Your Best

2 Timothy 2:15

- When I go to scripture, when I'm looking for answers, I should do my best. This is not something to be taken casually. It's not something to be done halfway.
- Present myself to God as one approved. That means one who has been tested.
- I'm allowing my thoughts and my beliefs to be tested and tried and then come through the fire and see what remains. That's doing my best.

2 A Worker Who Has No Need to Be Ashamed

2 Timothy 2:15; 2 Timothy 2:17–18

- The goal is that we can present something to God, that we handle the word of God rightly and accurately in such a way that we aren't ashamed by the things that we've come up with.
- If we truly value the word of God, we will do the same thing with the word of God.
- We better make sure we've done our due diligence, that we've studied and we've done our best before we start making claims about the things that we believe.
- Check sources. When we're actually doing academic work, check primary sources. Make sure the text really proves what you claim it proves.

3 Approach This With a Humble Mindset

Luke 6

- Let's also have a lot of grace. It's very easy to take something like that and run with it and not realize a mistake has been made.
- Important as we read and study to approach this with a humble mindset.
- What they also learn is there's a lot more they don't know than what they do know. That's just a reality of good study.
- Don't listen to just me and take what I say. You got to go learn it for yourself.

4 As Much About the Journey as the Destination

Psalm 19:14; Acts 17:11; Romans 12

- With study, it is as much about the journey as it is about the destination. You will learn so many things you never even imagined you would learn.
- Let the word of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight. The psalmist is after truth.
- We are willing to pay the price of barren day after barren day until the meaning is clear. This process revolutionizes our lives.
- They search the scriptures daily. They examine the things that he's saying to see if what Paul is saying is actually true.

5 Security and Fruitfulness, Like a Tree

Psalm 1:2–3; Colossians 2:6–8

- Those who truly delight in God's word, who seek truth, and that's what they're after, they have security and fruitfulness, and they are full of life.
- He is like a tree planted by the streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither.
- There's joy and firmness and confidence that comes through humble delight in the word of God and in diligent study.
- Good study brings depth. It brings stronger roots.

6 Joy in Transformation and Communion With God

John 15:9–11

- Joy comes through the changes that happen in our life when we go through this process.
- There is joy in communion with God. A deep relationship with him.
- These things I've spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.
- The true source of happiness is being connected to God.

THE CHALLENGE

That we find this sense of joy that comes through a deep study of God's word and desiring the truth that he offers for us there.

MY NOTES