

THINGS NEEDED FOR RESTORATION

I. Some things need to be opened.

- A. There needs to be an open Bible.
 - 1. I am taking a class called Family and Society and our professor asked us to discuss what it will take for families to get back to where they once were.
 - 2. The answer is simple: families need to open their Bible's.
 - 3. The same is true religiously.
 - 4. In order to return to God's pattern, one must know what that pattern is.
 - 5. This was true in Old Testament times (2 Kings 22:8, 13)
 - 6. This is true in New Testament times (John 8:32; 15:3; 17:17).
- B. There needs to be an open mind.
 - 1. One of the great problems caused by denominational doctrines is that it has so clouded peoples minds.
 - a. They have been influenced so much that they won't listen to anything else.
 - b. Man's doctrines have closed their minds.
 - 2. Just because there is an open Bible we are not assured another's mind will be open.
 - 3. I have talked with people and they said I see what it says but I don't believe it.
 - 4. Our minds must be open to accept truth (Isaiah 1:18;1 Thessalonians 5:21).
- C. There needs to be an open heart.
 - 1. Once the Bible is opened, the mind is opened there then needs to be the willingness to obey.
 - 2. Many people have said I see what it says and I believe it, but I can't change my life like that.
 - 3. Others have said I know the truth but to keep peace I need to stay where I am.
 - 4. Hebrews 5:8-9; Galatians 3:1.

II. Some things need to be rejected.

- A. The Old Testament as a standard of authority.
 - 1. At one time, this was God's standard of authority.
 - 2. However, that law was nailed to the cross (Colossians 2:14).
 - a. Jesus fulfilled that law (Matthew 5:17-18).
 - b. It served its purpose of bringing man to Christ (Galatians 3:24-25).
 - 3. There is only one law or standard of authority today - the gospel (Hebrews 1:1-2; 10:8-9).
- B. Latter day revelations.
 - 1. There are advertisements on tv all the time about getting a book that is another revelation of Jesus Christ.
 - 2. This is completely contradictory to scripture.

3. God's standard of authority, the gospel, is God's final revelation to mankind (Jude 3; 2 Peter 1:3).
- C. Traditions of men.
1. The gospel is the only source of salvation for mankind.
 2. It is vain to do that which man teaches (Matthew 15:9).
 3. Colossians 2:8; 1 Peter 1:18-19.
- D. Error.
1. God's standard excludes differing doctrines.
 2. There is no personal interpretation of the scriptures (2 Peter 1:20).
 3. 2 Peter 3:17; Galatians 1:6-9.
- E. Emotions.
1. God's standards are superior to what we desire or feel.
 2. Jeremiah 10:23; Proverbs 16:25.
- III. Some things need to be accepted.**
- A. The authority and all-sufficiency of the gospel.
1. The gospel is man's only true guide to heaven.
 2. Romans 1:16-17; John 12:48.
- B. Truth.
1. God's word is truth (John 17:17).
 2. If God's word says it, that settles it.
 3. Psalm 119:160.
- C. The power of the gospel.
1. Nothing but the gospel of Jesus can save mankind.
 2. God gave us nothing else to save us.
 3. Hebrews 11:6; Romans 10:17; 1 Corinthians 1:18-24.
- D. The pattern found in the New Testament.
1. God's word is a pattern for living (Hebrews 8:5; Romans 6:17).
 2. Following this pattern produces fruit, which we are to do (John 15:1-2).
- E. The silence of the scriptures.
1. To follow God's pattern, one must understand and follow the silence of the scriptures.
 2. This goes back to the sayings of the restorationists, Speak where the Bible speaks and be silent where the Bible is silent.
 3. 1 Peter 4:11; 1 Corinthians 14:37; Revelation 22:18-19.
 4. The principle is shown us in Hebrews 7:14.
- F. Jesus as Master and Lord.
1. If we are going to be obedient to God, we must recognize and respect the authority of His Son Jesus.
 2. Ephesians 1:22-23; Colossians 1:18; 1 Timothy 6:13-16.

Not an original outline, source unknown.