



Don't attempt to put God in a box ***March 6, 2017***

1 JOHN 3:1 NKJV – (1) Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

As the prophet of God, Hosea, speaking as an oracle of God said, "My people (meaning the people of God) are perishing (being destroyed, lacking, always sick, always broke) because they are lacking knowledge." (**Hosea 4:6**) Pastor Jim Jones led almost one thousand believers of Jesus Christ to their death by convincing them to drink Kool Aid mixed with cyanide. However, Pastor Jones did not kill those folks. In actuality, their deaths were a result of their lack of study of the word of God. Their ignorance made them puppets to an evil puppet master. Scripture is clear - "Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD." (**Jeremiah 17:5**)

If people could speak directly from the grave, they would share these words of wisdom - "Put on the whole armor of God and declare the word of God against the enemies of your destiny and God's declared end for every area of your life." In other words, "GET UP OFF OF YOUR DUFF AND BEGIN SPEAKING CONSISTENTLY THE WORD OF GOD AGAINST THE DEVOURERS OF YOUR DESTINY IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST!" Whether you believe it or not there is an invisible army of darkness fighting your destiny and the destiny of your loved ones every step of the way and unknowingly, through our ignorance, we often assist them.

Please note there are three ways we attempt to put God in a box:

- **Ignorance**
We often put God in a box through our misunderstanding of Him and His nature. We have a responsibility to know and believe what He has revealed of Himself in the Scripture.
- **Human Wisdom**
We box in God by creating or assuming knowledge of Him that He has not revealed to us. Once we understand our limitations, we must conclude that there are some things simply too wondrous for us to comprehend. There are some areas where we need to understand and believe what Scripture tells us, but probe no deeper.
- **Sola Theologica**
Sola (by faith alone) and Theologica combined is a Christian theological doctrine that distinguishes most Protestant denominations from the Catholic Church, the Eastern Orthodox Church, as well as some parts of the Restoration Movement. We put God in a box by making theology an end in itself. In our flawed, limited understanding of God, we make an idol of theology. Rather than studying God with a view of making theology a practical outpouring of the wonder of who He is, we succumb to theology-ology, or "the study of the study of God." This study leads only to puffed-up knowledge with little practical application. An unbeliever can study the study of God as easily as a Christian, for it does not depend on the Spirit to apply the words to our lives.

When we study the Bible we must understand that God's Word is not given to us so that it might restrain or contain God. On the contrary, the Word is given to restrain and contain us!

SCRIPTURE READING: ACTS 17:30-31

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: When God puts you in a position that doesn't make no sense, He wants you to see He is God!