

Silencing Scripture

Selected Scripture

- I. The Cultural Expressions: How Is It Trending?
 - A. Rejection: concluding Scripture is an outdated, human document with no legitimate authority and, therefore, worthless or even harmful.
 - B. Contextualization: treating the meaning of Scripture as relative to individual or corporate context or even unknowable and, therefore, uncertain.
 - C. Marginalization: demoting Scripture solely to matters of personal faith and, therefore, rejecting it as a legitimate source in public debate.
 - D. Re-interpretation: using contemporary viewpoints to interpret Scripture's meaning and, therefore, ignoring authorial intent.
 - E. Dereliction: discounting the value and importance of Scripture and, therefore, ignoring its authority and teaching.
 - F. Substitution: trusting in other sources of authority for guidance on moral issues and, therefore, replacing divine revelation with human reason.

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- I. The Cultural Expressions: How Is It Trending?
- II. The Spiritual Foundations: What Is Its Source?
 - A. An inherited predisposition against the truth (Jn. 8:44)
 - B. A darkened mind about the truth (Eph. 4:17-18)
 - C. Satanic deception regarding the truth (Eph. 2:2)
 - D. Their own sinful suppression of the truth (Rom. 1:18, 32)

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III. The Biblical Correction: What Is the Truth?

A. Psalm 1:1-3

1. The Righteous Abandon Every Human Way (1)
2. The Righteous Embrace Only God's Way (2)

B. Proverbs 3:5-6

1. Accept God's Word as our Final Authority (5)
2. Obey God's Word as our Practical Authority (6a)

C. Romans 12:2

1. We must reject the thinking of our age (2a)
2. We must embrace the will of God (2b)

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IV. The Practical Ramifications: Why Does It Matter?

- A. Unbelievers are not a reliable source of authority for a single moral issue.
- B. Believers must never start with any source of authority other than Scripture.