

BITS & PIECES
CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH
ROLLAND C. STARR, PASTOR
WWW.CORNERSTONEBAPTISTMETROBOSTON.ORG
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NON-ESSENTIALS IN THE BIBLE

“I have heard Christians refer to certain precepts in the Scriptures as non-essentials. But we may rest assured there are no non-essentials in our Bibles. ‘The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.’ When people talk of non-essentials in regard to anything concerning that which God has revealed His mind, it’s well to ask, ‘Essential or non-essential to what?’ If it be a question of the soul’s salvation, undoubtedly the one great essential is faith in His blessed Son, whose finished work alone avails to put away sin and procure peace with God. But if it be a question of what is essential to the enjoyment of communion with God -- essential to obtaining the Lord’s approval at the judgment-seat of Christ - it’s well to remember that in everything the believer is sanctified to the obedience of Christ.” -H.A. Ironside, Book of Daniel. It’s common today to hear even among *Fundamental* Baptists that such things as dress standards, music styles, associations and Bible versions are non-essentials and not worth standing for. One wonders if they have any understanding of spiritual things.

PUT IT TO THE TEST!

We are sometimes asked by Christians whether a certain activity or philosophy is right or wrong. Here is a simple test: Can you kneel down and in the presence of God, ask His blessing on it? If God can’t bless it, it is wrong. **“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”** ~*I Corinthians 10:31*. You may say, “That’s too narrow.” Well, kneel down and ask God about that; it’s His rule not mine! Why is it so many Christians want to know how close they can get to the world rather than to see how close they can get to God?

TRUTH OR TREASON?

“My very soul boils within me when I think of the impudent arrogance of certain willful spirits from whom all reverence for revelation has departed. They would teach Jehovah wisdom: they criticize His Word and amend His truth. Certain scriptural doctrines are discarded as dogmas of the medieval period...Paul is questioned and quibbled out of court, and the Lord Jesus is lauded and then explained away.” - C. H. Spurgeon. Amen and Amen! We wonder what the man would say if he saw all the modern perversions of the Bible? They have taken away scores of verses, perverted hundreds of others, and literally turned the Word of God upside down. Surely, there is no fear of God before their eyes.

WHEN EXERCISE IS WRONG

Someone has said, “The only kind of exercise some people get is jumping to conclusions, running down their friends, sidestepping responsibility, and pushing their luck.”