

“The Restoration Movement: Its Continued Validity”

By: Michael R. Hughes

Text: I Peter 4:11

Theme: To emphasize the Restoration Movement

Introduction:

1. Briefly recount what the idea of the “Restoration Movement” is.
2. It’s connection with the truth - Hebrews 2:1 - Galatians 3:8,9.
3. Truth is eternal - Psalm 100:5; Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 24:35; I Peter 1:23,25.
4. The continuing validity of the Restoration Movement can be seen in the asking of five questions.

Discussion: The Five Questions

- I. Is there a body of saving truth set forth in the scriptures?
 - A. Yes.
 - B. Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15,16; Luke 24:46,47; John 8:31,32; II Timothy 3:16,17; II Peter 1:3; Jude 3.
- II. Was it necessary for people in the first century to be obedient to this body of truth?
 - A. Yes.
 - B. Matthew 7:21; Luke 6:46; Acts 2:37-41; 3:19; mention Acts 6:7; 8:1-12,35-39 (Acts 22:16; 9:18);

Hebrews 5:8,9; James 1:22; 2:24;
Revelation 22:14; Acts 10:48 -
commanded.

III. Was there a departure from this body of truth?

- A. Yes.
- B. Acts 20:28-31.
 - 1. Ephesian church later went into gnosticism and other errors.
 - 2. I Timothy 4:1-3; II Thessalonians 2:3 - These things certainly came to pass in Catholicism.

IV. Do we have the power to restore that body of truth?

- A. Parable of the sower - Matthew 13; Mark 4; Luke 8.
 - 1. We have sowers, the seed (Luke 8:11), and the soil.
 - 2. Since we have all three, we can have restoration.
- B. We have the same power to preach that message, believe it, and obey it.
 - 1. Certainly God did not provide salvation for first century people and forget posterity.
 - 2. Romans 2:11; Acts 10:34,35.
 - 3. Philippians 1:17 - We can defend that same gospel today, it is relevant.

V. Is it necessary and desirable that we restore this body of truth?

- A. If one wants to glorify God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the church, and the Bible.
- B. If one wants remission of sins, peace with God, membership in the church, home in heaven.
 - 1. Some today say- "Accept the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior"
 - 2. But compare that language with Acts 2:38 (Romans 8:16 - must be restored).
- C. If the Restoration Movement is dead, so might as well be dead God, Jesus

Christ, Holy Spirit, the Bible, the church, the plan of salvation, the hope of reward.

Conclusion:

1. We have gone through a lot to get to where we are today.
 - a. Mention times of persection, especially in the 1st and 19th centuries.
 - b. Mention examples of dedication and sacrifice.
2. Many recent battles have been fought over instrumental music, divorce and remarriage, open fellowship, baptism, etc.
3. The movement is a great heritage, one of which we ought not to be ashamed

Invitation: